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GOD'S AUTHORITY STRUCTURE

Gary Larson , July 2021

It might be good to first take time to ponder and consider that all earthly lawful 'authority' is delegated authority. None of us have lawful autonomous authority. Yeshua said that He was given ALL power and authority from the Father. With that in mind, how much power and authority does that leave us? It leaves us NO power or authority except He delegate His power and authority to us. That power and authority is delegated to His people via His Law Word. If we choose to exercise authority outside His Law Word, we are usurping lawful authority. USURPED AUTHORITY IS SIN. To usurp lawful authority is to have no authority at all. Authority that is usurped does not require obedience. If a person (or persons) has lawful authority, that lawful authority can be delegated to another if it is done according to Law. With this in mind, please give due consideration to the following.

What is the meaning of the terms father IN LAW, mother IN LAW, daughter IN LAW, and son IN LAW; and how are they vitally important in the marriage ceremony, and how are they applied?

Obviously, they must have something to do with LAW. Did this ceremony come down to us from the "state" as secular law or did it come down to us from the Christian God? Again, the answer should be obvious...this is a Christian ceremony that has come down to us by Christian tradition normally performed in a Christian church by a Christian pastor. However, like most things "Christian", we have, over time, done it by rote and over time, in our backsliding, we have lost the meaning, significance, and purpose.

Now, as we are trying to "come out of her my people" the Spirit of God is leading us to renew our knowledge and application of God's Laws, His ways, and His purposes...and they are all PERFECT and we have been already led to understand His perfection! However, that does not mean they are always easy to accept, especially if we find ourselves crosswise to those Laws, ways, and purposes.

So just what is God's Law in the "IN LAW"? In the marriage ceremony one of the first things asked is "who gives this woman to this man"? That is the first part of the "in law". It is the "giving" of a daughter. That comes from Jeremiah

29::6 (and other places) where it says “Take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters, and multiply there and not decrease”. So far, we have learned that the woman is “given” (by her father and mother) to a husband, and the husband’s father and mother have “taken” a “woman” for their son who becomes their daughter (in law). God’s purpose for this is that they bear sons and daughters and not decrease. This would be in keeping of the “dominion” purpose of God for His people.

The brides’ father and mother have transferred their “covering” over their daughter to her husband...that part should also be obvious...that is part of the “in law”. But the part that has been forgotten (or avoided) is who did the “taking”, and what is God’s purpose for the “taking”? The brides’ father and mother have relinquished their lawful “dominion authority” over their daughter and have transferred it to not only the husband, but also the husband’s parents! More “in Law”! In the marriage ceremony, no covenant has been made that changed the relationship of the groom (son) and his parents. That relationship did not change when the new couple departed the ceremony. No mention was made in the ceremony of a change in the “authority” relationship of between son/father, mother.

However, the relationship of the bride’s birth parents does change. When the bride departs the ceremony, her family name has changed. She no longer carries the family name of her parents, but now carries the family name of her husband...and his parents...more “in law”. Another thing has changed in the marriage ceremony. The groom’s parents went into the ceremony with a son and left the wedding with a son and a daughter (in law). What is God’s purpose in this? Dominion authority. The bride’s parents enter the ceremony in dominion authority over their daughter, but leave the ceremony having transferred that “dominion authority” to the husband (and his family...her new “in Law” parents). They have gained a son (in law) but not for the purpose to exercise dominion authority over him. That would defy logic...to give their daughter’s dominion authority to the husband and then take “dominion authority” over their son in law? This would invite tragedy in the marriage. This could essentially make the son in law a slave for their self interest in their daughter.

Clearly, all in God’s perfect Law is not “equalitarian”. Man and woman are not “equal”. Each have their own function and purpose. God’s order of authority

is that man is to be the head...under Christ. The woman's purpose and authority is to be a helpmeet. Children are to honor father and mother...always...no exceptions. Children are to obey their parents, IN THE LORD. Fathers are God's power of attorney IN THE LORD. Mothers are God's co-regents IN THE LORD. Even though we all seem to want to fight God's order, it is clearly paternal. (Patriarchal has come to be a bad word.) God's authority is delegated authority administered through FATHERS. A man is not only a father, but he is a son as well. A mother is not only a mother, but she is a daughter as well. God's power of attorney authority is governed by these facts. We are all sons of God when we are in obedience to our Heavenly Father. We are bastards when we are not. God's authority structure is perpetual...it never ends. Sons (and daughters) are born to fathers (and mothers) and fathers (and mothers) are in authority over them IN THE LORD. Their sons (and daughters) marry and have children and become fathers (and mothers), even though they remain sons (and daughters) to their parents...a dual role...fathers and mothers, yet children. This is why Scripture says to rise up before the grey-headed...the elders pull rank!! This is God's perfect perpetual authority structure. What is its purpose? It's all about dominion...perpetual ongoing dominion and the authority structure to take that dominion. Elderly parents either become incapacitated or die. Their children assume their parents dominion authority over the family at large...continuity is unbroken...God's dominion grows and grows.

When a son or a daughter enters the marriage covenant, they are entering uncharted waters for them. To keep them on course in their "voyage" through life, both sets of parents of a new couple are the "compass" to aid and assist them through these uncharted waters. They have gone there before. However, the "in Law" purposes of the bride's parents and the groom's parents are not identical. The groom's parents still have dominion authority IN THE LORD over their son and assume dominion authority over their new daughter "in Law" IN THE LORD. Is it too great a stretch of the imagination to say that they are (both father and mother "in Law") in a "husband" relationship in regard to the overall family? Is it also too great a stretch to say that the brides' parents assume a "wife" (helpmeet) relationship in regard to the overall family?

Hand in hand with authority is inheritance. In fact, inheritance proves authority. An inheritance is a blessing. If we get out of order with God, we disinherit ourselves...he will spew us off the land. He has done it before, He can

and will do it again. God does not bless evil behavior. Likewise, if our sons (and daughters “in Law”) refuse to honor their parents (an unconditional requirement) or refuse to obey their parents IN THE LORD, are we, possessing God’s power of attorney authority authorized to bless evil behavior? To do so would be to dishonor our God and put ourselves in disfavor with God. Will He then bless us? Will he then bless our children? Stop to consider how this might affect the children’s children generationally down the line. They will be cut off as well! (Selah) The sins of the fathers visits the 3rd and 4th generations. If the children are allowed to ‘assume’ “authority” by overruling their parents (usurping their God given authority), can they not expect THEIR children to ‘assume’ “authority” to overrule them in their time? What goes around comes around. You will be ruled by woman and children will become “the Rule”.

Do you begin to understand the FEAR of God? How does this play out in the generational family at large. It is a two edged sword. If we allow our children (and children “in Law”) to dishonor us, we are allowing rebellion in the family. Our God has given us that authority to expect honor and obedience IN THE LORD from our children. If we don’t exercise that God given authority, WE are in rebellion to our God and his dominion mandate. Likewise, if our children (and children “in Law”) refuse to grant their parents (and parents “in Law”) honor and obedience IN THE LORD, are they not in rebellion to God’s dominion authority as well?

If the bride’s parents retain authority over their daughter (and exercise authority over their son “in Law”), do they not find themselves in rebellion to their God. They “gave” their daughter. If they exercise authority by mandating “guidelines” for the parents of the groom to live by, do they not find themselves in rebellion to God. They received no such “authority” from God. They are usurping and resisting the dominion authority structure provided by our God.

All this might seem harsh and offensive to “the world” and what has become “politically correct” thinking today. Let me ask you, are we taking dominion today or are we losing dominion? Are we ‘winning’ the battle or is the enemy prevailing? The family is God’s chosen vessel to achieve dominion...the family of Adam. I don’t have all the answers. I am searching. I just know that the family ‘order’ is out of order.

It is single family oriented, not multi-generational. It is short sighted, not future driven. It is 'me' not 'our'. It is what is best for me, NOW; not how will my actions NOW effect future generations. It is feminine, not masculine.

The feminine is nurturing, present security, nesting, comfort, orderly. All good traits...but cannot be dominant. The masculine is liberty, justice, dominion, pioneering, future oriented...All good traits as well...but must be dominant over the feminine. I believe it was Benjamin Franklin that said something to the effect: "If you desire present security more than liberty, you shall have neither security nor liberty". Our 'world order' today is feminine in nature. It will fail. Likewise, our marriage 'order' today is feminine in nature. It too is failing. God help us!

Let's briefly go a step farther. Where do Godly civil rulers come from? Consider the Christian requirements for leadership. Are they not disallowed if their family is not in order? Is a young newly married man qualified to rule over other families? Does it not require that an older (elder) man with a proven track record of experience be in authority...an elderly 'paternal' man? If he can't properly govern his own "house", how can he be expected to govern someone elses' "house". God's 'order' is vitally important! Family (generational) government is the first required step before church governance can be even attempted, much less regional and national governance. No wonder we cannot produce "the kingdom" in it's fullness...