

## Jesus and the 12 Apostles

### Model for the Spirit Led Christian Jury System

By Kenneth W. Lent 8/13/12

(A Brief Overview of The Pentecost Influence on Hebrew Law administration)

*YAHWEH'S LAWS HAVEN'T CHANGED BUT HE HAS CHANGED US.*

In coming to terms with the Divine Law as it was administered in the “Old Testament” days compared to the “New Testament” times we must realize one very significant change, not in the Law, but in the people of God Almighty. That divinely planned change, which cannot and must not be downplayed or ignored, is what occurred on the day of Pentecost after the ascension of Christ to take power at the “*right hand of God*”. (Mat.16:19) On that day as Christians were celebrating the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) in the upper room, God’s presence in the Holy Spirit was given into the inner most being (the “hearts”) of the disciples of Jesus. With this event a change in the positioning of the Law, but not the “doing away” of it, took place. On this the Scriptures are emphatic:

Hebrews 8:10 *“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith Yahweh; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:”*

The Law would now be within our very mental, emotional, and spiritual inner makeup, instead of being merely on parchment and stone as under the Old Covenant era.

Heb.10:15,16 *“Whereof the Holy Spirit also is a witness to us: for after that He had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith Yahweh, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;”*

This change in positioning of Yahweh’s Laws heralded with it a graduation from the Old Testament administration of those Laws to that of the “Spirit Filled and Guided” growth in the Faith into the Commonwealth of Israel taught by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 2:12-21, and related verses. The old Kingdom had literally been absorbed into the more mature Commonwealth administration, and along with this administration developed the true Christian jury system centered around the example of Jesus Christ (judge) and the 12 Apostles (jury) in the deciding of certain lawful debates. Just as Jesus added the foot washing command to Passover that we must wash each other’s feet as a sign of serving each other (John 13:14), so with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit have we now more than ever become servants to the brethren. In being servants to help each other

in truth and love, Christians also serve in government duty and in jury duty to judge matters of great concern.

Many historians have contended about the ancient origins of the jury system in American law and in Saxon law in general. However only by realizing that Yahweh Almighty had not only brought Israel on a many centuries' long trek from "Palestine" into Western Europe, then to America, **but** that He has guided us on a 6000 plus years training program to mature us in administering His law -- can we ever understand how the Christian jury system fits into the equation. That maturing of our race, as far as His law administration goes, has progressed from the Adamic/Patriarch age; to the era of Judges, then to the Kings of Israel period; and now into the New Testament Commonwealth government of Ephesians chapter two with its rise of the Ecclesia governments of the First Century Christians. The gift of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit among all believers on the day of Pentecost brought to fruition the promise mentioned by the prophet Joel and recorded in Acts chapter two.

*" But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:"* (Acts 2: 16-18)

Instead of the divine Law being external to the citizen of Israel, it had become an internal presence to all believers. Instead of revelation being only reserved for the office of the Old Testament prophet, it now is seen in believing sons, daughters, young and old. So also we shall see that a needed modification in the method of governing God's Laws would occur with the House of Israel that improved upon the earlier form of government of the Old Testament. Remember, it is not the Law that ever changes, but the method of administering those Laws among the people is certainly a flexible option which Yahweh had exercised in the past and which He can adjust at any time He sees the need. God's Word teaches us that guided growth is the plan that Yahweh always *had planned* for His people from the beginning. The true Christian jury system is part of that divine plan, deriving its authority from the example of the 12 Apostles and directed from the "mind of Christ" now given to the Pentecostal body as an indwelling ability to govern properly.

The *true* Christian jury system is part of the Pentecost experience of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, ***which our ancient Israelite ancestors had not yet received.*** But beware with reservation, please do not compare the present American Bar Association "legal" jury system with that of the lawful Biblical Apostolic jury calling.

History has well established the connection between the ancient Welsh and the ancient Israelites, even to the format of their shared languages. In Woodward's 'History of Wales from the Earliest Times,' accounts are given of several sovereign Welsh princes and kings of the name of *Morgan*. With a bit of historical cross reference work we can trace the Israelitish/Welsh/Christian implementation of the jury as a long held sacred principle of law. The jury was then considered ***an example*** of following Christ and the

12 Apostles (The King/Judge, with jurors) which example we know the Bible instructs us to emulate in securing blessings for our society. Paul had told the believers to style their lives after the example pattern of Christ and the Apostles. “*Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.*” (1 Corinthians 11:1) “*Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us (Apostles) for an ensample.*” (Philippians 3:17) This command and advice of Paul to the believers not only applied to the structure of their common lives but also to their practice of law as we see the development of the Ecclesia jury system among white European nations.

In “The Chronotype — an American Memorial of Persons and Events” — New York, April, 1873. Vol. I. No. 4 — we find on page 117, the following in a comment about Welsh Kings and juries:

*“To one of these ancient kings — Morgan of Gla-Morgan — about A. D. 725, is accredited the invention and adoption of the Trial by Jury, which he called ‘the Apostolic Law.’ ‘For,’ quoth our regal and pious namesake, ‘as **Christ and his twelve Apostles were finally to judge the world**, so human tribunals should be composed of the king and twelve wise men! And this, it seems, was a century and a half prior to the reign of Alfred the Great, to whom is generally accredited the honor of originating this form of trial.”*

Actually, the calling for Christians to judge matters existed even before the Welsh King Morgan of Gla-Morgan had adopted it. However the Welsh Kings were certainly vocal about their obedience to Paul’s command of Philippians 3:17, and expressed it as much in their Christian usage of the jury. They were following Christ and the 12 Apostles, just as Paul directed, and they so stated.

We read in the Scriptures about the significance of the number 12, remembering the 12 tribes, 12 stones, 12 manner of fruit on the tree of life, -- but the pinnacle of this sacred number is in the number of Apostles Christ had chosen to witness for the Gospel and to judge – 12.

The Israelite Welsh Christian jury usage was over 1000 years before the writing of the U.S. Constitution and its preservation of trial by jury. Those who condemn the Christian jury system of early America must also condemn the Israelite Welsh Christian Kings and other Saxon Christians who considered Trial by Christian Jury to be, not a man made devise, but of Apostolic origin. Knowing that Divine Providence was and is our family’s originator of white racial history, it was ultimately the Holy Spirit of God that was leading the circumstances of building the Western civilization of Christian greatness. To no small degree, the Apostolic jury system played a major role in the historical fairness of law that accompanied the rise of that very Christian civilization. Our Father blesses and watches over the house of His children.

Why did our ancestors consider Trial by Christian Jury to be Apostolic in nature? Because what happened at Pentecost **changed everything** as far as ancient Israel maturing from its shadow of administrative law into the true justice of guidance by the Holy Spirit in all matters in law and fairness. Yahweh’s Laws haven’t changed but WE HAVE.

**He** has changed **us** as the body of Christ on the day of Pentecost. To deny the work of the true Christian jury is to deny a glorious work of the Holy Spirit among and within the House of God, His Christian National Commonwealth.

Unlike today's sham of a jury, the early American jury could only be comprised of 12 reputable Christian men known to be pillars of the Faith in the community. These would be jurors of a Christian life's walk working together to decide the truth of a matter. This is Scriptural since the indwelling of the Holy Spirit has arrived. Christians are judges in the household of Yahweh. Note the Apostle Paul's instructions to us on our judging matters as Spirit filled believers: "*Know ye not that **we** shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?*" (1 Corinthians 6:3) Yes, Christians are to judge, and in this matter Paul considers himself (an Apostle) and the lay person believer as being "we" in equality. In other words, lay Christians are to judge the same as Paul has authority to judge, because of the Spirit of Truth within. "*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth*" (John 16:13) In this light the Welsh Morgan Kings were right on target with Paul in viewing our judging in "this life" to be an Apostolic duty (12 jurors with the Judge) derived from the New Testament Commonwealth of Jesus Christ.

We need to remember that the true and mature Christian today has received the promises that our ancient Israelite ancestors only longed for but never attained. (Rom.11:7) We have been given "*the mind of Christ*" (I Cor.2:16), and the lawful American Christian jury system calls for unanimity for trial decisions. (Even the corruption of the jury today still holds this premise in court)

*"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Master Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."* 1 Corinthians 1:10

*"For who hath known the mind of Yahweh, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ."* (1 Corinthians 2:16)

The Bible teaches that the Kingdom laws of ancient Israel are now to be found within the New Testament Christian Commonwealth of Ephesians 2:12-21. As sons and daughters of God Almighty it is thankfully appropriate to appreciate that Yahweh has spent over 6000 years to train us and mature us to this level. We are not in the Old Jerusalem any longer but we are in North America, the New Jerusalem of divine promise, and we must bring to mind the Christian experience of Pentecost to guide us, if we would but look to the Commonwealth and administer it as did the Colonial Americans. The Divine laws still apply but they are now not only external as in the old administration of ancient Israel, but they are also internal as we are "*a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people*" (I Pet.2:9) God forbid that we repudiate our centuries' long training program from God our Father by wanting a return to the type of administration of our carnal Israelite ancestors who did their best to live by the letter of the law but without The Spirit in their hearts.

We now have been given much more than they by the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the true Christian jury system of 12 honest Spirit filled Christian men (Apostolic) has awarded our race with the most precious way of determining guilt or innocence at trial, using Bible law as the foundation. In actuality this work is a work of the Holy Spirit who the God's Word reveals is the Mind which is doing the convicting or absolving. Jesus says in John 16:7,8 *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"*

Let's notice how a *judgment* decision "at law" was made by the Ecclesia concerning a matter of Hebrew law. This incident, although not dealing with an injury to a person directly (as in a crime) nevertheless was in judging a matter about a lack of faith concerning salvation. Anything that is not of faith is sin (Rom.14:23), and sin is transgression of the law (I Jn.3:4). Therefore a "breaking of law" at a spiritual level is indeed the focal point here. In Acts 15, certain men at Antioch had insisted that only by the law of Moses in being circumcised could a person have salvation. Paul and Barnabas were called to Jerusalem to help decide the matter. Was a single man to judge the issue? One may symbolically say so only if we realize that the elders and apostles together anointed in the Spirit are now "one man", the Body of Christ (Col.3:15), since the ancient Israelite judge was a "type of Christ" at that previous time. But Acts 15 is clear about who this "one judge" would be: *"And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter."*(v.6) When testimony was then heard by several witnesses the decision by the "jury" assembled was thus: *"Then pleased it the apostles and elders (jury), with the whole church (people), to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren: And they wrote letters (verdict) by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia:"* (v.22,23) Those assembled to judge the matter stated that they made the decision unanimously, *"It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord --"* (25) [this aspect was for later Christian juries too], and that their decision was directed by the Holy Spirit, *"For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us --"* (28). Representatives were chosen by vote, being Judas and Silas, along with Paul and Barnabas. These four returned to Antioch with a letter containing the decision that circumcision wasn't needed for salvation and that the "Gentiles" (dispersed Israelites) are saved by faith as well as those living in Jerusalem.

Yahweh had changed the manner of our administering His laws in the past, and so he has again with the Christian jury system being a needed addition to help with that administration under the growing Commonwealth of advancing our Western civilization. Let's repeat that although God's laws don't change, He has indeed in the past changed His people to fit the circumstances' need. Moses administered rules in the wilderness until he was over burdened, upon which a change was made with 70 men being chosen to help with the cares of government (Num.11:16,17). The Almighty devised a change again and raised up judges to rule Israel from the death of Joshua to that of Samson (Judges 2:6 – 16:31). Then a change was made in administration of the law by our going

through the period of men Kings, beginning with Saul (I Sam.10). Again, much later after Christ's ministry, the Apostles commissioned the Commonwealth administration of Ephesians chapter two, which grew into the Ecclesias of the Greek nation states (Gentiles). Later as Roman Catholicism smothered these governing bodies, Yahweh's Spirit rekindled them in yet again, invoking the determined Compact Ecclesias of the pilgrims and the early American Christian colonists in order to fulfill Scripture prophecy of bringing Saxon Israel to America. "Compacts" (covenants/constitutions) belong to the Bible law of contracts and are based on the virtue of Promises, which virtue begins with the holiness of Yahweh Himself. In all these divinely inspired happenings God's Law did not change, but the plain truth is that He has adapted a useful change of His people *in the way they were to implement those laws* within the body of believers. The "Potter" does not change but the clay does as it is transformed from a lump into a useful container. In the case of our race, the "Potter" has been shaping us for millennia. The fact that He does change us as a specific situation arises is a spiritual truth which history has shown to be a fact. He has planned it so, as the historical need had risen. Growing from the lesser nation of ancient Israel into the massive extent of Western civilization required an appropriate modification in the way God's Laws would affect that monumental growth.

*"But now, O Yahweh, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."* (Isaiah 64:8) This statement in itself confirms that Yahweh views us in a changing way as He molds us both individually and collectively as a nation. We are constantly moving onward into the fullness of His Kingdom.

Just as the administration of Moses was modified by adding 70 elders to help him govern, so in the latter day has the Christian jury system been added to the judge to help him rule. In fact after Christ had first commissioned only the 12 Apostles, He too modified that format to spread the Gospel and build governing bodies by adding yet 70 more faithful disciples to carry the burden.

Luke 10:1 *"After these things the Master appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither He himself would come."*

Jesus had prophesied that He would set up "groups of twelve" as His Kingdom expanded, but that this system would be attacked by the wicked of the world who seek to destroy His rule.

Luke 6:13 *"And when it was day, He called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;"* (Recall that these 12 were authorized to judge – Lk.22:30)

Luke 11:49 *"Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets (law teachers) and apostles (groups of twelve), and some of them they shall slay and persecute:"* [ This is not simply saying that Christians will die for the Faith. It is a direct reference to New Testament Kingdom commonwealth government installed by law (prophets) and juries (apostolic judges of 12) in the latter times, and that the world would hate its jury system unto death. Do you know of a Christian commonwealth nation where its people's law are (or were) guarded by jury nullification, and that system has been under attack by the world system to destroy it? ]

Acts 19:1,6,7 *“And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, --- And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve.”*

This type of divine modification (or growing) in assistance of judging to aid a judge is totally in step with the maturity of God’s law administration, exactly as modern firearms used today did not add to or change God’s laws on the ground that only swords were the weapon of choice in the Scriptures. Jesus only advises us to use swords, and never mentions our “gun rights” (Lk. 22:36), but we know that He is speaking of appropriate weaponry. The bottom line is that the Kingdom laws are still in effect, but have been transferred to the Commonwealth New Testament administration which is better equipped to deal with a huge and massive society as on the North American Continent. This is the calling and the purpose of God Almighty Himself for His family in the Earth and it is clearly set forth in Scripture. Pentecost changed us, and has enabled all true Christians when gathered to judge matters for the glory of our Father in heaven. Before all is done we have yet another change coming, that being into our resurrection unto immortality, which will involve yet another step in adjusting our method of administering God’s non-changing laws. But for now the Apostolic New Testament true Christian jury is part and parcel of our level of growth as children of God. It has served us well and is in need of being refurbished properly until the Coming of Christ reveals our next instructions. *“Occupy till I come”* (Luke 19:13)

The work of the Holy Spirit involves much, from giving us words to witness for the Gospel, to deciding personal matters of life, to guidance in judging at law. The true Christian jury is patterned after Christ and the 12 Apostles in the duty of judging a matter,

In 1789, Thomas Jefferson wrote in a letter to Thomas Paine:

*“I consider trial by jury as the only anchor ever yet imagined by men, by which the government can be held to the principles of its constitution.”*

Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, wrote in that document, among other grievances: *“The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury:”*

In speaking of Trial by Jury, our U.S. Supreme Court has stated, *“Those who emigrated to this country from England brought with them this great privilege 'as their birthright and inheritance, as a part of that admirable common law which had fenced around and interposed barriers on every side against the approaches of arbitrary power.”* Thompson v. Utah, 170 U.S. 343,349,50 (1898), quoting 3 J. Story

Here's what Christian patriot Patrick Henry said about the jury: *"By the bill of rights of England, a subject has a right to a trial by his peers. What is meant by his peers? Those who reside near him, his neighbors, and who are well acquainted with his character and situation in life."* Patrick Henry, (Elliot, The Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution, 3:579).

Patrick Henry also knew that originally the jury of peers was designed as a protection for Neighbors from outside governmental oppression. Henry states the following, *"Why do we love this trial by jury? Because it prevents the hand of oppression from cutting you off...This gives me comfort - that, as long as I have existence, my neighbors will protect me."* (Elliot, 3:545, 546)

In summation when it comes down to it, the jury system of one's peers equates to love and protection of your neighbor, which is directly related to God's laws. *"For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."* (Gal.5:14)

As the Scriptures inspired our Christian liberty in the hearts of the Colonists in 1776, it was Magna Carta (at times spelled Charta) of 1215 that gave intellectual underpinning to the American Revolution with Christian Americans claiming the right to trial by jury to be an inherent right as Saxons. The barons of England gathered at Runnymede in 1215, put a sword to King John, and made him sign Magna Carta to secure their rights as freemen. Of all those rights, it was Magna Carta's declaration of trial by jury that became the banner of Christian liberty and a guard against tyranny of the State. Magna Carta restated the Apostolic doctrine of the Welsh Kings and their Christian view of the jury. Magna Carta of 1215 is the historical testimony document of the Christian jury system based upon Christ's 12 apostles.

But more amazing is that Magna Carta, the jury trial, the Holy Bible, Christ's Kingdom government of the Christian Commonwealth, and the American Constitutional jury experience, are all tied together in a divinely inspired program by the hand of God. The timing of events and the numbering of history's years are of extreme importance as a witness to boost our faith that God Almighty has everything under control. The "seven times" punishment for Israel (2520 years of Lev.26:18), Daniel's 70 weeks (Dan.9:24), the 42 months in Revelation (Rev. 13:5), and more sacred appointed times, all hold great significance to the Bible student seeking confirmation that America's destiny was guided by the Divine Hand. Amos 3:7 tells us, *"Surely Yahweh GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."* The secrets are there if we have eyes to see what the prophets were showing us.

Paul directs us in Colossians 3:17 *"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Master Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him."* This is much more than a surface meaning of doing our daily chores to the glory of God. It was also prophetic. This was a blessing bestowed upon the Saxon race in their advancement westward in building the government of our King. The name "Lamb Christ Jesus" is eternally bound to the events of the centuries following His resurrection, even tied to the monumental dates of Magna Carta 1215 A.D. (the jury document), and the Declaration of



Independence 1776 A.D. (reaffirming the jury). As Paul had admonished our ancestors to do “*all in the name of Jesus*”, they surely did so knowingly and much unknowingly, as they established the white Christian nations of Europe then colonized and built America the Beautiful. The Holy Spirit had them doing exactly what they were supposed to be doing – and leaving a divine historical trail all along.

In the first century Greek language, the original written text of the New Testament, the Greek alphabet letters were also used as their numbers. That is “A” (Alpha =1), “B” (Beta =2), “G” (Gamma =3), “D” (Delta =4), etc all had numerical values. The name “LAMB CHRIST JESUS”, in which all things were to be done, has mathematical and historically prophetic attributes for the Saxon Christians traveling westward on their journey through time and events. Designating that Jesus is the Lamb tells us that He is the true Messiah, the Lamb of God. The individual letters of the word LAMB (from I Pet.1:19 of the “*unblemished Lamb*”) when added together hold the numerical value of 561 in Greek. The word CHRIST (from Mat.26:68, where He was struck), in Greek holds the value of 1215. The letters of Greek Name JESUS add up to 888, the triple number of resurrection, “8” being the first day of a new week after 7. The American Colonists fought the Banker run British government under the slogan “No King but Jesus”. To establish that Jesus is beyond doubt the King of our American nation requires testimony of the double witness (Mat.18:16; II Cor. 13:1). Christ has, of course two “comings”,  $888 \times 2 = 1776$ , the number of His Kingdom nation. Magna Carta was signed in the year 1215 which is CHRIST numerically. (Christ meaning ‘anointed’) Adding the 561 “LAMB years” to the year that reaffirmed the Apostolic jury (that is, Magna Carta of 1215) we have  $1215 \text{ plus } 561 = 1776 = \text{Jesus' Kingdom nation}$ , and the signing of the Declaration of Independence of America, our documented remembrance of the jury. Yes, the jury New Testament system is very important in God’s plan for the latter day Kingdom. So much so that His hand has signed it in history.

“*Doing all in the name Jesus*” we see the power and direction of Yahweh God in causing the events of the year of Magna Carta to prophetically occur with its forcing of King John to honor the Christian jury. Then bringing that Commonwealth jury system onward into our American law heritage by the LAMB working for us, *HIS 561 years in effort*, when ultimately America was born in 1776. Jesus said, “*I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself*” (Jn.14:2,3) King Jesus is coming to America, His nation, and it has been He all along who had His working hands in the events of Magna Carta and the Declaration of Independence, the documents which reflect His station with the Apostles, the original jury of the Christian Commonwealth Nation. The very number of His Name is stamped upon the manifestation of these organic law documents of our beloved Christian nation. This is the sacred Scripture mathematic prophetic story of the Christian jury and why it came to be honored to the extent it is in the Constitutions of the original States and the original 1787 USA Federal Constitution. We have the jury system because Yahweh Almighty *caused it to be*, by His controlling historical events all in the name of the LAMB CHRIST JESUS, chronologically, mathematically, historically, and spiritually speaking that is. The Christian Commonwealth Republic shall prevail. Blessings to the Remnant.