

Unmasking Evil

Part 4

By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, and pleasant Sabbath wishes to you all. It's Friday afternoon here where I am on May the 8th of 2025, and this is part 4 of the Unmasking Evil series.

0:00:16

If someone was going to establish a church of a religion of any kind, what would the first order of the day actually be? Might it be a codification of a series of doctrines to which all that agreed might become part of?

0:00:43

If one was going to establish future sons of God, who are to be at one with the Father, what might be established? Should the focus be doctrine specifically? Or might it be a foundation or grounding in what that same God, our Father, actually is like? Would we want to know what our Father embraces, what He rejects, where does He state His will? And what is that exactly?

0:01:17

Christ gave us a rather definitive statement about who He regarded as His brothers and sisters actually were in a couple of places. We can go to the book of Matthew, Matthew 12, verses 48 – 50 where we are told, rather specifically, by Christ who He regards his brothers and sisters to actually be. Matthew 12, and we'll pick it up in verse 48.

⁴⁸But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" ⁴⁹And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! ⁵⁰For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

0:02:13

And it's basically repeated verbatim in Mark 3; Mark 3, and we'll just read verses 33 – 35. Same situation, .

³³But He (Christ) answered them, saying, "Who is My mother, or My brothers?"

³⁴And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! ³⁵For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother."

So, it says essentially the same thing.

0:02:40

Is it likely that it is our Father's will that His sons and daughters embrace evil, or rid it from their lives? The answer seems obvious, but for billions that profess Christianity today, if one actually looks about it what is, getting into harmony with this doctrine or that doctrine easily trumps whatever Yehovah or His Son might say. The contradictions between what scripture says, and actual practice should be easily seen, if one wants to look. Many, it seems, do not want to look.

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0:03:34

One of Satan's more powerful tools is, look here, don't look there. The concentration and focus on doctrine has blinded many to looking elsewhere to other things that are also in the Bible that are on par with doctrine, and very possibly supersede it.

0:04:00

If we go to Galatians 5, and let's take a look at that. Galatians 5, and we are going to read verses 14 – 23. Galatians 5, verses 14 – 23, where it says:

¹⁴For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

That might be a stated doctrine, but there is nothing there about the, "how to."

0:04:37

Going on, it says:

¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another,

Has anybody seen any of that?

beware lest you be consumed by one another! ¹⁶I say then: Walk in the Spirit,

One direction.

and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

There is a definition there, walking in the Spirit is not fulfilling the lust of the flesh, so we can understand that more clearly.

¹⁷For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

0:05:32

And then he describes what the works of the flesh actually are. As we've learned in the study, these are all presentations, or how evil presents itself in those who are led by the flesh.

¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit

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0:06:26

Walking in a different way, the abandonment of the things of the flesh, and the embracing of the things of the fruit of the spirit, produces:

is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

0:06:49

What do those things in verses 22 and 23 have to do with doctrine? I would submit; nothing. They have nothing to do with doctrine as one might reference the term from today's perspective.

0:07:16

Is it rather an address to need to be transformed by the renewing of your mind, is this not what this is addressing, a renewal of your mind, a rejection of evil, of verses 19 – 21? And the embracing of the good, the things of God. The whole idea of if you or I will just believe this or that, or just belong to the right organization, then verses 19 – 21 doesn't really matter. We've arrived as it were.

0:08:04

To imagine a world that has none of Galatians 5, 19 – 21 present, or in it, is an overwhelming endeavor, even to consider. Can you read that list, and actually look and say, what kind of a world would we have if none of those things were a thing?

0:08:27

The world that we live in is filled with those things. It is the normal, it is not the exception. We swim in it, a world where it's all displayed and exhibited in front of us. And it does not display the fruits of the Spirit of God. In fact, the fruits of the Spirit of God seem so distant and idyllic in comparison.

0:09:05

Yet, such a world is coming, a place where righteousness dwells. Now that we know living by every word of God leads to such a place, we can begin to see that conversion, rather than being exclusively what one believes, is a process where evil, as defined by God and not ourselves, comes into view. And one willingly jettisons that in favor of the righteousness of God, rather than the works of the flesh.

0:09:47

And that is a very, very personal thing. If we go to Matthew 6 we can see where the onus is on the individual. Matthew 6, verse 33. Who is Christ talking to? But the masses, where he said:

³³*But seek (as in, you seek) first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,*

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0:10:17

A world where none of those things of Galatians 5:19 – 21 even exist. Seek the kingdom of God, a kingdom where that isn't a thing.

and all these things shall be added to you.

Do we really want that? For many, it starts slowly, one piece of information at a time.

0:10:49

If we go to the little book of Nehemiah; and we'll look at Nehemiah 13:17. You know this might have been one of the things that some people have tweaked on, and it's just funny how these things come into play that maybe we didn't see before, or maybe we did when we started out our journey.

¹⁷Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said to them, "What evil thing is this that you do, by which you profane the Sabbath day?"

0:11:30

So, profaning the Sabbath day, in the Bible, in God's word, is viewed as evil. Did we notice that, or did we pay attention to that in the past, in the way it's quite clearly stated here? Does the Christian community, as a whole in the world today, recognize that scripture? You know, when somebody might have read that in Nehemiah and said, "Well, wait a minute, wait a minute, there's a problem." The violation of the Sabbath from God's perspective is, in fact, evil.

0:12:18

And we might have carried on in our own study and gone to Isaiah 56, and verses 1 – 7. Let's read that.

¹ Thus says Yehovah: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, for My salvation is about to come, and My righteousness to be revealed. ² Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who lays hold on it; who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

0:12:48

So, not only here is a violation of the Sabbath considered evil in the eyes of God, and it's broadened out to any evil, but it includes the Sabbath day.

³Do not let the son of the foreigner who has joined himself to Yehovah speak, saying, "Yehovah has utterly separated me from His people"; nor let the eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree." ⁴For thus says Yehovah: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, and choose what pleases Me,

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0:13:23

It is a good thing, the Father smiles on good things.

and hold fast My covenant, ⁵even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.

It is salvational to do so.

⁶“Also, the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to Yehovah, to serve Him, and to love the name of Yehovah, to be His servants—everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—⁷even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

0:14:12

So, it continues to expand, and this would be a shocking study, I think, to a lot of people who hold the Bible in high esteem. Have they ever read these scriptures and have they ever considered their violation of the Sabbath day as evil? If we go to Isaiah 58, let's take a look at verse 13.

¹³“If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, ¹⁴then you shall delight yourself in Yehovah; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of Yehovah has spoken.”

0:15:12

So, has God actually endorsed that? Has He put it into the word, and can we begin to see a reason why the Old Testament, as its known, is avoided by many? Because ultimately you have to confront those scriptures and deal with that, and many people do not want to do so. Conversion is a process going from a condition of evil, to a condition of becoming righteous, choosing God's way.

0:15:51

Just as a little bit of a sidebar here, Satan is called the Father of lies, pointing to a time before that, that in the creation of the day, there were no liars. The beginning of lies started with him. And God has stated that all liars go into the lake of fire. And notice Yehovah's words here toward the end of the biblical record that we have been blessed and given. What does He actually say. This is part of the sidebar. Revelation 21, verses 6 – 8.

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⁶And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

That is the Father.

I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God

God the Father is our God, He is also Christ's God.

and he shall be My son.

We are a brother to Christ.

⁸But (going on) the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

0:17:25

We see the exact same thing we processed in Revelation 22, and verses 14 and 15.

¹⁴Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

0:17:57

So, the biblical record is actually quite consistent from one end of the book to the other. Those who will do His commandments have the right to the tree of life. Those who will not do not have the right to eternal life.

0:18:17

What would happen to the Christian community if they read those scriptures, and believed them, and began to react to them and keep them? Do you see that happening? It happens in the ekklesia. Notice in Deuteronomy 30 and we'll look at verses 10 – 20.

¹⁰if you obey the voice of Yehovah your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to Yehovah your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

0:19:01

This is direction to Israel, does that not sound a lot like the direction to the ekklesia?

¹¹"For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. ¹²It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into

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heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’¹³Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’¹⁴But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it. ¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, ¹⁶in that I command you today to love Yehovah your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments,

0:19:56

I mean, to look up exactly what are those commandments, statutes and judgments.

that you may live and multiply; and Yehovah your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; ²⁰that you may love Yehovah your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which Yehovah swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.”

0:21:03

That’s rather definitive; and good is doing what Yehovah commands, evil is not doing what He commands. The ekklesia, to become one with Yehovah and His son, need to do this. Once we have the background in place, when we read evil in the biblical text, we know what it’s talking about.

0:21:35

We might also fully expect the influence from team dark to lead the ekklesia away from doing so. When we begin to look at how the Bible references evil, something I’ve never really paid any attention to in the past, where can we go with that? Let’s take a look at Proverbs 2, and we’ll read verses 11 – 15, keeping in mind what evil actually is. It says:

¹¹discretion will preserve you; understanding will keep you,

0:22:17

We’ve got to have understanding.

¹²to deliver you from the way of evil,

If we do not know definitively what good is, how can we perceive the way of evil?

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from the man who speaks perverse things, ¹³from those who leave the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness; ¹⁴who rejoice in doing evil, and delight in the perversity of the wicked;

0:22:56

Are there people who actually do that? And the answer is, of course.

¹⁵whose ways are crooked, and who are devious in their paths;

All of a sudden, once we kind of cotton on the idea of evil, what is that, a lot of these scriptures can take on a deeper meaning.

0:23:23

Proverbs 8:13

¹³The fear of Yehovah is to hate evil;

Our Father hates evil. If we have a fear of Yehovah, should we not do the same to be at one with Him?

pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate.

Says God.

0:23:52

If we go on to Proverbs 15 and let's take a look at verse 3, Proverbs 15, verse 3.

³The eyes of Yehovah are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

Nothing escapes God's view. If we go on to Proverbs 30; Proverbs 30, and verse 32, we get further admonition.

³²If you have been foolish in exalting yourself, or if you have devised evil, put your hand on your mouth.

0:24:41

And you know, there's lots of directives in this way. David, being a man after God's own heart, actually understood some of this, and wrote about it in a lot of places actually. But we are going to look at a few of them, just to see whether our attitude and our disposition, our spirit is similar to David's. Where David understood; if we go to Psalm 5, verse 4.

⁴For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, nor shall evil dwell with You.

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0:25:32

Do the ekklesia know this as well? Do they understand that? If we are to dwell with the Father, in a spirit condition for eternity, will we have any evil in us? Let's go on and look at some of David's musings on some of these things, where he actually looked at that. Let's read Psalm 15.

¹Yehovah, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill?

²He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart; ³he who does not backbite with his tongue,

0:26:27

And it's worth looking up backbite, just to see what that actually means.

(Backbite: to say mean or spiteful things about a person (such as someone who is not present. Synonyms: abuse, badmouth, calumniate, denigrate, gossip, lie, malign, scandalize, slander, spite, vilify, backstab.)

nor does evil to his neighbor, nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; ⁴in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear Yehovah; he who swears to his own hurt and does not change; ⁵he who does not put out his money at usury, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

0:27:09

If we go to Psalm 34. Let's have a look at Psalm 34 and see if we can pick up something. It says: (Psalm 34:11 - 22)

¹¹Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of Yehovah. ¹²Who is the man who desires life, and loves many days, that he may see good? ¹³Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. ¹⁴Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

0:27:41

There's the marching orders; the ekklesia have to leave evil once they come to understand and pursue the righteousness of God.

¹⁵The eyes of Yehovah are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. ¹⁶The face of Yehovah is against those who do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. ¹⁷The righteous cry out, and Yehovah hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. ¹⁸Yehovah is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit. ¹⁹Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but Yehovah delivers him out of them all. ²⁰He guards all his bones; not one of them is broken. ²¹Evil shall slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous shall be condemned. ²²Yehovah redeems the soul of His servants, and none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned.

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0:28:48

So, this is something that David came to understand rather deeply. Let's go to Psalm 36, and we'll read verses 1 – 4.

¹ An oracle within my heart concerning the transgression of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes. ²For he flatters himself in his own eyes, when he finds out his iniquity and when he hates. ³The words of his mouth are wickedness and deceit; he has ceased to be wise and to do good. ⁴He devises wickedness on his bed; he sets himself in a way that is not good; he does not abhor evil.

0:29:27

Psalm 37, we'll read verses 18 – 20.

¹⁸The LORD (Yehovah) knows the days of the upright, and their inheritance shall be forever. ¹⁹They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied. ²⁰But the wicked shall perish; and the enemies of Yehovah, like the splendor of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away.

0:29:58

We go to Psalm 50; Psalm 50, and let's look at verses 16 – 21.

¹⁶But to the wicked

Or evil, those words are very close.

God says: "What right have you to declare My statutes, or take My covenant in your mouth, ¹⁷seeing you hate instruction and cast My words behind you?"

There's a definition of the wicked for us.

¹⁸When you saw a thief, you consented with him, and have been a partaker with adulterers. ¹⁹You give your mouth to evil, and your tongue frames deceit. ²⁰You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son. ²¹These things you have done, and I kept silent;

0:30:49

God sit's back and He watches to see.

you thought that I was altogether like you; but I will rebuke you, and set them in order before your eyes.

There's going to come a day.

0:31:05

Let's go to Psalm 119, we'll look at verses 97 – 104. Psalm 119: and verse 97.

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And we used to sing this all the time, but I somehow think we just, I didn't get it, it was just words.

⁹⁷Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. ⁹⁸You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me. ⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies

0:31:40

What God says.

are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰I understand more than the ancients, because I keep Your precepts.

If we want understanding, keep the precepts of God. What did David do?

¹⁰¹I have restrained my feet from every evil way,

You have to know what evil is to do that.

that I may keep Your word.

You can see that they are direct opposites.

¹⁰²I have not departed from Your judgments, for You Yourself have taught me.

¹⁰³How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore, I hate every false way.

0:32:30

Is that our attitude as well? Would we want to actively seek out what it is, so we can take on a similar stance. Psalm 141, verses 1 – 4.

¹Yehovah, I cry out to You; make haste to me! Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You. ²Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. ³Set a guard, O Yehovah, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. ⁴Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men who work iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies.

0:33:20

And you know, when we read passages like verse 4 in Psalm 141, does that kick right into Mark 7, where it describes the things of an evil heart? Does that not fit and give us color as to what is actually being said here? Are these observations of David the observations of the ekklesia? With some of this as a backdrop again, let's look at some of the things spoken of by the God of the Bible, the ekklesia's God, and Christ's God.

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0:34:02

If we go back into Exodus 5; Exodus 5, and let's just have a look at, at least one of the stated reasons of why Israel was dragged out of Egypt. Let's read verses 1 – 6.

¹Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, "Thus says Yehovah Elohim of Israel: 'Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.'"

0:34:41

God wants to be worshipped; Satan wants to be worshipped as God. Notice Pharaoh's response.

²And Pharaoh said, "Who is Yehovah, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know Yehovah, nor will I let Israel go."

If you look into the Egyptian stuff, their god was Ra, the sun god, Satan. They had no knowledge of that, and if you stop to think about the world at that time, when God drug Israel out of there so that they could begin to know Him and worship Him, was there worship of God on the whole earth at that time?

0:34:49

Unless it was very specific individuals and in very specific locations, I think the answer would have to be no. God revealed Himself to a special people that He regarded as His son, and He began to show Himself to them.

³So they said, "The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please, let us go three days' journey into the desert and sacrifice to Yehovah our God, lest He fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword." ⁴Then the king of Egypt said to them, "Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people from their work? Get back to your labor."

0:36:10

You know, they're not listening to any of this

⁵And Pharaoh said, "Look, the people of the land are many now, and you make them rest from their labor!" ⁶So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their officers, saying, ⁷"You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves."

There is an immediate response from team dark when people begin to turn to God. And that was applied through the Pharaoh, Satan's actual servant of the day.

0:36:47

It was important to Yehovah that they keep a feast to Him, and that, you know, Pharaoh had no idea who Yehovah was, so, he just ignores it, increases their bondage and denies the request. Israel is considered by Yehovah as His son collectively, and we've

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looked at that in detail in the past. Yehovah, as Christ also said is looking for people who will worship Him; it is evil not to worship God, as we've hopefully come to see.

0:37:35

Yehovah is not silent as how He wishes to be worshipped. If He is the Creator and the true God, does that seem unreasonable to anybody? And I think we all know the passage, but let's take a quick look at Leviticus 23, where God lays out, in considerable detail how, He in fact, wants to be worshipped. And once we understand how he wants to be worshipped, and that we understand it is evil not to do what God commands, we can immediately begin to see the world for what it really is, filled with people who will not worship God as He commands that we do.

0:38:29

Our eyesight begins to get significantly better when we go there and we actually look at that. Israel was brought out of Egypt, a type of evil and sin, to worship Yehovah in spirit and in truth. And while we are there, I think we all know this, let's read Leviticus 23, verse 2.

² "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of Yehovah, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts.

0:39:14

So, what is taught in the misdirection, those are the Jewish feasts, when, in fact, they are Yehovah's feasts.

³ "Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation. You shall do no work on it; it is the Sabbath of Yehovah in all your dwellings.

And we read in Nehemiah where the violation of the Sabbath is, in fact, evil.

⁴ "These are the feasts of Yehovah, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.

0:39:51

So, God gets very particular here, what those times are, and what the religious observations actually are, and once we begin to look at that, where the whole earth did not have this, and then all of a sudden, this group gets that. You think there might have been a little bit of animosity along with a warning from God, don't do what the other nations would do. Why? Because that's evil.

0:40:32

If we go to Deuteronomy 16; Deuteronomy 16:16, we will see something again, where it says:

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¹⁶“Three times a year all your males shall appear before Yehovah your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before Yehovah empty-handed.

Going on just a few verses.

¹⁷Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of Yehovah your God which He has given you. ¹⁸“You shall appoint judges and officers in all your gates, which Yehovah your God gives you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with just judgment. ¹⁹You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous.

0:41:37

So, you know, going down here.

²⁰You shall follow what is altogether just,

God's ways are true and just.

that you may live and inherit the land which Yehovah your God is giving you. ²¹“You shall not plant for yourself any tree, as a wooden image, near the altar which you build for yourself to Yehovah your God. ²²You shall not set up a sacred pillar, which Yehovah your God hates.

And we see the world today filled with those kinds of things.

0:42:05

If we go to the book of Joshua, we are going to see a continuation of this. Let's go to Joshua, chapter 24; Joshua 24 and verse 2. Joshua 24 and verse 2.

²And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says Yehovah, God of Israel: ‘Your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the river in old times; and they served other Gods.

0:42:47

So, we know the background there, and they understood that God pulled them out of that, from worshipping demon gods actually, to worshipping the true God. If we go down to verse 13 of the same Chapter. God says:

¹³I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.’ ¹⁴“Now therefore, fear Yehovah, serve Him in sincerity and in truth (faithfulness), and put away the Gods which your fathers served on the other side of

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the river and in Egypt. Serve Yehovah! ¹⁵ And if it seems evil to you to serve Yehovah, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the Gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the river, or the Gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve Yehovah."

0:44:00

It's quite interesting and it's quite clear. Verses 23 and 24 of the same chapter.

²³"Now therefore," he said, "put away the foreign Gods which are among you, and incline your heart to Yehovah Elohim of Israel." ²⁴And the people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!"

Yes Sir, we are going to get right with that.

0:44:21

Verse 31

³¹Israel served Yehovah all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had known all the works of Yehovah which He had done for Israel.

0:44:37

But things change, let's go to Judges 4:1; Judges 4:1.

¹ When Ehud (one of the judges) was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD. ²So Yehovah sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in

Don't ask me to pronounce it.

Harosheth Hagoyim.

³And the children of Israel cried out to Yehovah;

0:45:07

We see that pattern again, and again, and again. And we get further color and definition of that. Let's go to Judges 6:1. The land had had rest in the time of Deborah. There's got to be a spark plug.

¹ Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian for seven years, Because of the Midianites, the children of Israel made for themselves the dens, the caves, and the strongholds which are in the mountains.

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0:45:46

It is evil to not serve God, and God will bring evil upon people or lands when they choose evil instead. We get further definition again in Judges 10:6.

⁶Then the children of Israel again

After God had sent a judge and cleaned up the mess. They

did evil in the sight of the LORD,

0:46:14

And here we have a definition.

and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths,

That's Easter, it's not hard to find these things out, you just have to look.

the Gods of Syria, the Gods of Sidon, the Gods of Moab, the Gods of the people of Ammon, and the Gods of the Philistines; and they forsook Yehovah and did not serve Him. ⁷So the anger of Yehovah was hot against Israel; and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and into the hands of the people of Ammon.

It's a repeatable story.

0:46:53

Judges 13, verse 1.]

¹ Again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of Yehovah, and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.

So, we see this constant repetition going on and on, where Israel did not want to worship God, they did not want God as their king, and we are just going to read I Sam 12 to show this progression.

¹ Now Samuel said to all Israel: "Indeed I have heeded your voice in all that you said to me, and have made a king over you. ²And now here is the king, walking before you; and I am old and gray headed, and look, my sons are with you. I have walked before you from my childhood to this day. ³Here I am. Witness against me before Yehovah and before His anointed: Whose ox have I taken, or whose donkey have I taken, or whom have I cheated?"

0:47:58

Samuel knew what evil was, and he avoided it.

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Whom have I oppressed, or from whose hand have I received any bribe with which to blind my eyes? I will restore it to you.”⁴And they said, “You have not cheated us or oppressed us, nor have you taken anything from any man’s hand.”

Samuel got it.

⁵Then he said to them, “The LORD is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand.” And they answered, “He is witness.”⁶Then Samuel said to the people, “It is Yehovah who raised up Moses and Aaron, and who brought your fathers up from the land of Egypt. ⁷Now therefore, stand still, that I may reason with you before Yehovah concerning all the righteous acts of Yehovah which He did to you and your fathers: ⁸When Jacob had gone into Egypt, and your fathers cried out to Yehovah, then Yehovah sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your fathers out of Egypt and made them dwell in this place. ⁹And when they forgot Yehovah their Yehovah, He sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the army of Hazor, into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab; and they fought against them. ¹⁰Then they cried out to Yehovah, and said, ‘We have sinned, because we have forsaken Yehovah and served the Baals and Ashtoreths; but now deliver us from the hand of our enemies, and we will serve You.’ ¹¹And Yehovah sent Jerubbaal, Bedan, Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side; and you dwelt in safety. ¹²And when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites came against you, you said to me, ‘No, but a king shall reign over us,’ when Yehovah your God was your king.

0:49:45

People don’t want Yehovah ruling over them. They do not want to accept good, they choose the evil.

¹³“Now therefore, here is the king whom you have chosen and whom you have desired. And take note, God has set a king over you. ¹⁴If you fear Yehovah and serve Him and obey His voice, and do not rebel against the commandment of Yehovah, then both you and the king who reigns over you will continue following Yehovah your God. ¹⁵However, if you do not obey the voice of Yehovah, but rebel against the commandment of Yehovah, then the hand of the LORD will be against you, as it was against your fathers. ¹⁶“Now therefore, stand and see this great thing which Yehovah will do before your eyes: ¹⁷is today not the wheat harvest?

0:50:35

So, we know what time of year that was.

I will call to Yehovah, and He will send thunder and rain, that you may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which you have done in the sight of Yehovah, in asking a king for yourselves.”

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0:50:48

They had rejected God.

¹⁸So Samuel called to Yehovah, and Yehovah sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared Yehovah and Samuel. ¹⁹And all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to Yehovah your God, that we may not die; for we have added to all our sins the evil of asking a king for ourselves." ²⁰Then Samuel said to the people, "Do not fear. You have done all this wickedness; yet do not turn aside from following Yehovah, but serve Yehovah with all your heart. ²¹And do not turn aside; for then you would go after empty things which cannot profit or deliver, for they are nothing. ²²For Yehovah will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake, because it has pleased Yehovah to make you His people. ²³Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against Yehovah in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way.

0:51:47

We have to know the good and the right way to teach it.

²⁴Only fear Yehovah, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. ²⁵But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."

0:52:02

And, you know, if we go to Hebrews we can see what a transformational thing it would be if the Christian community actually believed what is written in the scriptures. If we go to Hebrews 5 you notice. (Verse 14)

¹⁴But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

(Hebrews 6:1)

¹ Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ,

0:52:38

We can't stay in doctrine, doctrine, doctrine forever.

let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³And this we will do if God permits.

0:52:58

To go ahead.

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4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,

Not a defiled spirit, the Holy Spirit.

⁵and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

We've got to up our game from recognizing doctrine, to discerning good and evil, and move on to the next level. More in part 5.