

Authority: Need For

C	O	M	M	A	N	D	H	E	A	V	E	N
O	Y	W	A	T	C	H	Q	R	E	T	O	O
N	G	T	V	R	L	O	P	Z	N	I	K	I
D	N	C	R	E	A	T	E	D	T	H	U	S
U	I	O	R	E	W	N	A	A	J	C	Q	S
C	K	N	N	M	B	D	C	U	P	L	R	I
T	R	T	I	C	N	I	O	T	X	E	P	M
B	Y	R	A	F	F	B	L	H	B	A	N	R
E	X	O	R	I	G	H	T	O	T	N	K	E
G	E	L	T	R	O	U	S	R	M	E	N	P
D	L	S	S	M	O	D	S	I	W	N	M	W
U	U	R	E	W	O	P	G	T	J	U	E	F
J	R	N	R	E	V	O	G	Y	J	U	S	T

AUTHORITY	METHOD	RULE	LAW
JUSTIFICATION	GOVERN	PERMISSION	LIBERTY
POWER	KING	JUDGE	HEAVEN
MEN	CONTROL	CREATED	CONDUCT
RIGHT	WISDOM	CLEAN	RESTRAIN
WATCH	SOBER	COMMAND	JUST

VI. By What Method is the Rule of Law to be Determined?

- A. Rule - To govern the movements of things; to conduct; to manage; to control. That God rules the world he has created, is a fundamental article of belief. To manage; to conduct, in almost any manner.
- B. Method - An orderly procedure or process; a rational way of investigating or exhibiting truth; regular mode or manner of doing anything; characteristic manner.

V. Man's Standard of Justification:

- A. Prov. 14:12 – What seems right.
- B. Prov. 3:7 – Self wisdom
- C. Prov. 16:2 – What man determines to be clean.

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Welcome

It is a pleasure to have you with us this hour. Our endeavor is to worship God in Spirit and in Truth by adhering to the scriptures in all that we do and teach.

If you desire to have a private Bible Study at your convenience, let us know.

Website

Meeting Location

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY:

A.M. _____

Phone

P.M. _____

Bible Study:

Volume V

2023

03.05

0009

Let Us Not Sleep

Sleep! How wonderful it is to sleep, when you've labored long, and the weariness of duty has overcome the body! So, why would Paul tell the brethren, "Let us not sleep"?

There are three types of sleep, mentioned in the scriptures: Mark 4:38, Jesus "himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion:" – a restful, refreshing sleep; John 11:11, "Our friend Lazarus is fallen asleep:" sleep indicative of death. The third sleep is that of religious carelessness and inactivity.

In Paul's admonition to the brethren, he identifies his use of the term by using a contrast, i.e., "but let us watch and be sober."

One aspect of Paul's admonition involves being prepared as a soldier. Paul said, "since we are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for a helmet, the hope of salvation:" similar to what Paul told the brethren in Ephesus, concerning their warfare.

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Let Us Not Sleep
(Continued from page 1)

Paul was accustomed to using warfare as an analogy for the Christian walk. Paul instructed Timothy to “war the good warfare”, and to “fight the good fight of the faith.” Paul referred to Epaphroditus and Archippus as a “fellow-soldier.”

The nature of our warfare emphasizes the urgency of being awake. Paul told the brethren in Rom, “it is time for you to awake out of sleep,” and to the brethren in Corinth, “Awake to soberness righteously, and sin not.” In a war where the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh (Gal. 5:17), where “fleshly lusts...”war against the soul” (1 Pet. 2:11) we must give diligence not to become unconscious to the dangers we face.

Just as Paul admonished the church of the Thessalonians to “watch and be sober,” so Peter warned the sojourners of the Dispersion to “Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” In the world, individuals are warned to pay attention to their surroundings. Criminals are cowards at heart. They seldom prey on individuals that are aware of their surroundings. They prey upon those who are not paying attention, and so is the case with the devil: “Be subject therefore unto God; but resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (Jam. 4:7). Let us not be asleep to the devices of our adversary, who, “as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Pet. 5:8).

Alertness must also exhibit itself regarding our consciousness of sin. Being asleep to a consciousness of sin was addressed by the Hebrew prophet, saying, “Take heed, brethren, lest haply there shall be in any one of you an evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living God: but exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called To-day; lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” (Heb. 3:12-13).

The Psalmist Says

*I hate them that are of a double mind;
But thy law do I love.*
Psa. 119:113

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I. Authority Defined:

- A. Matt. 9:26 - From the meaning of "leave or permission," or liberty of doing as one pleases, it passed to that of "the ability or strength with which one is endued," then to that of the "power of authority," the right to exercise power (Vine's).
- B. Matt. 28:18 - "the power of rule or government," the power of one whose will and commands must be obeyed by others" (Ibid.).
- C. Jn. 19:10 - the "power" of judicial decision (Ibid.).
- D. Rom. 13:1-3 - one who possesses authority, a “ruler, magistrate” (Ibid.).
- E. Prov. 29:18 - Without law only chaos will prevail.
- F. 1 Tim. 1:8-11 - Law, connected with the power to judicate restrains evil.

II. Right to Rule is Worldwide:

- A. 1 Sam. 8:1-7 - Asked for a “king” — royal, to “judge” — that is, pronounce sentence (for or against)
- B. 1 Sam. 9:17 - The right to “reign” i.e., to inclose; by analogy to hold back; also to maintain, rule, assemble:”
- C. Esth. 9:29 - Authority may be expressed verbally or written, and both carry the same power.
- D. Matt. 21:12-13, 23-25 - From heaven or from men?
- E. Rom. 13:4-7 - The right of power and authority is given by God.