

The Law Verses Love

Walking In the Holy Spirit

When Jesus was asked which is the greatest commandment (greatest law) this is what He said: *37 Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets* (Matthew 22:37-40).

In the book *The Door to Sambucca*, the protagonist Nathan is having a conversation with Wong, his martial arts teacher. Wong asks him if he thinks there are laws in the Bible, and Nathan says that there are. And then Wong asks him, "If we truly loved one another would we need laws?"

Laws are necessary for the perpetuation of any society. Without laws there would be chaos, and the society would not survive. But Jesus made it clear that if we love God and love our brother, we would never need any laws. The laws of God are designed around the two great commandments to love God first and then love our brother.

There was a double homicide in Lansingburgh, part of Troy, NY on August 19, 2014. Two men entered a house at about 4 in the morning and beat the two owners of the house to death with objects. This is right in my own back yard. This

was done regardless of laws concerning murder, but would it have even been conceived if those two murderers had a Holy Spirit and were walking with God?

14,827 people were murdered in 2012 in America according to a FBI source. It is not possible to love another human being and murder him. The laws in our states and penalties for murder obviously do not prevent murder, at least not for the nearly 15,000 Americans in 2012. But if people got saved, were taught the Bible and learned the laws Jesus set up on how to love your brother, they would not need a state law and penalties against murder to prevent murder. The state does not teach us to love one another, it poses a law and law enforcement model that deals with behavior.

Some pastors drive new converts out of the church while preaching against their idiosyncrasies before the converts get a chance to learn critical Bible truths. Is the law being taught with love in this case? Other pastors have a

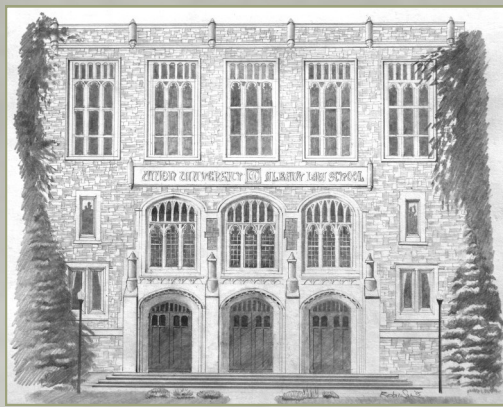
respect of persons and make friends with politicians without tending to the needs of the poor. The poor need the gospel preached to them, and they need to learn Bible truths.

Paul wrote scriptures at length about the law and love, and he told us in conclusion that we ought to walk in the Spirit, not in the flesh (Romans 8:1-26). Since God is love it is apparent that the more you walk with God the more love you will have for God and your brother.

The Pharisees had a law when Jesus came to be crucified. Their law said that one could do no work on the Sabbath day and they used this one law to the extent of persecuting Jesus for healing a man on the Sabbath. Here is what Jesus said about the Pharisees complaining about Him healing the man with the withered hand: *Is it*



Wong appears in the book *The Door to Sambucca* as a wandering spirit He quickly makes friends with Nathan, the protagonist, and Nathan finds out that Wong is from the martial arts temple that Nathan trained at years ago. Wong agrees to train Nathan for his resolution to his delusions, and in doing so he asks Nathan many questions. The most famous of these is, "If we truly loved one another, would we really need laws?"



This drawing I did of the Albany, NY Law School shows honor to the American legal system, but is that system being guided by God's laws? Does our American legal system uplift Jesus' commandment to love God and love our brother, or is it a scientific way of governing a society? God said to love the child in the womb, that it is a separate life of its own. The American legal system says that child is just an organ. This is what happens when a science of laws created by man governs a people without the love that comes from God alone.

lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace. Mark 3:1-6. The sorrowful philosophy of the Pharisees is that they were abusing the law because they had no love. Obviously they should have been rejoicing that the man with the withered hand was healed, not complaining about it.

In conclusion you see that laws only work so well at leading a society into peaceful living. And laws can be misused or be bias for certain people. Nothing can replace an authentic love for God and our brother. If you had true love, would you need any laws?

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For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.
Romans 10:13

Promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Inner City.

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One soul at a time