

LEARNING AND OBEYING

Knowledge from the word of God is the foundation of all other knowledge. Therefore, it is the most essential knowledge to teach the citizens of America, God's way.

For one thing, it provides our citizens with the worldview necessary for America to be God's way. According to the internet encyclopedia Wikipedia, a worldview "refers to the framework of ideas and beliefs forming a global description through which an individual, group or culture watches and interprets the world and interacts with it."

From that definition you can see how critically important the correct worldview is to everyone. That is why humanism is so deadly to a society. It blinds them to the social and psychological realities of the world; it corrupts their values; and it leads them to destructive interactions among themselves.

Knowledge from the word of God also provides the core information from which each man obtains genuine wisdom to become wise, wise not only in things spiritual but also in the ways to interact wisely with the world and other people in it. My book *King Solomon's Advice for the World* explains much of that wisdom.

Knowledge from the word of God also encourages the development in our hearts of a spirit, an attitude, and the motivation to live justly and righteously. It encourages us to trust God and strive to live productively as God has commanded us. For it gives us the hope of living in the wonderful world of heaven in our afterlife. As Peter said, **"But we anticipate a new heavens and a new earth according to his promise, in which righteousness dwells"** (Second Peter 3:13).

Therefore, it is absolutely essential for every citizen in America, God's way to be taught about the word of God, and to know the importance of obedience to it. And that learning should be a continuing process for every man, throughout his lifetime. That was something God commanded for his people Israel, and that is what we must do to become America, God's way. For the word of God is the great shining light to show us how to live successfully in this dark world, lest we be led astray into the morass of sinfulness as America is now.

Learn God's Commandments

Moses, the servant of God, said to the people of Israel that the laws of Jehovah were to be upon their hearts, and that could only be done by learning. Therefore, Moses said they were to be talked about and displayed frequently. For he said, **"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thy heart. And thou shall teach them diligently to thy sons, and shall talk of them when thou sit in thy house, and when thou walk by the way, and when thou lie down, and when thou rise up.**

Moreover, Moses said, **“And thou shall bind them for a sign upon thy hand, and they shall be for frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shall write them upon the door-posts of thy house, and upon thy gates”** (Deuteronomy 6:6-9, see also 11:18-21). Moses said it would multiply their days as the days of the heavens.

The laws of God, including the commands of Christ, should be so ingrained in the hearts of the people that they want to make them a part of their daily conversations—discussing what various scriptures mean, and suggesting to each other how best to apply them.

It is very common these days to wear clothing with words of various kinds on them. In America, God’s way those words would be from the word of God. Passages of scripture from the Bible, giving God’s commands for us, should also be displayed in every public place.

I groan that in America even in the churches of my fellowship, which has the highest regard for the Bible, it is rare when the members enjoy conversing about it. It is still taught in the pulpits, but that is the end it. Formerly in America there were many public debates about the word of God. But now what few debates they have are about the existence of God and the Creation versus the theory of Evolution.

Moses also commanded the Israelites to teach their sons the meaning of all the commandments of Jehovah. They were to teach them how Jehovah brought them out of Egyptian bondage with great signs and wonders to give them the land he promised their forefathers. And they were to tell their sons they were to fear Jehovah so that he would preserve them. It would be righteousness for them to obey all his commandments.

Moreover, Moses commanded the priests and the elders to read the law before all Israel at the end of every seven years **“in the set time of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles”** when they were all gathered at the chosen place. He said to them, **“Assemble the people, the men and the women and the little ones, and thy sojourner who is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear Jehovah your God, and observe to do all the words of this law, and that their sons who have not known may hear, and learn to fear Jehovah your God as long as ye live in the land where ye go over the Jordan to possess it”** (Deuteronomy 31:12-13).

Since books were rare and very expensive, and most people were illiterate anyway, it was necessary to have those commands read to them. And it would have been very convenient to read the law to them publicly while they were all gathered together during that time. There were no doubt very few copies of the law available, and being sacred documents, they would have been possessed only by their rulers.

But in the modern world such teaching to the people could be done in many other ways. For example, in America, God’s way our rulers could personally use our extensive communication media to proclaim, interpret, and suggest applications of the word of God. Such things are now done by

small groups who purchase broadcast time for that purpose, but those who hear them are a small minority of the population. And there is no way to correct for the errors they say.

Obey God's Commandments

It is not enough merely to learn the word of God; it must be obeyed. Many times Jehovah commanded the sons of Israel to obey his laws. Here is one example: **“And Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying, Speak to the sons of Israel, and say to them, I am Jehovah your God. Ye shall not do after the doings of the land of Egypt, in which ye dwelt, and ye shall not do after the doings of the land of Canaan, where I bring you, nor shall ye walk in their statutes.**

“Ye shall do my ordinances, and ye shall keep my statutes, to walk therein. I am Jehovah your God. Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my ordinances, which if a man does, he shall live in them. I am Jehovah” (Leviticus 18:1-5).

Jehovah warned the sons of Israel not to walk in the ways of the Egyptians and the Canaanites, nor to observe their statutes. They were to obey his statutes and ordinances, which were obviously at odds with those of Egypt and Canaan. His ordinances were for holiness and purity, for health and productivity, for order and justice, for love and kindness, for true righteousness.

The laws of America have changed radically since most of the people have rejected Christ and chosen paganism. In the past most of our laws were in support of the will of God. For example, adultery, homosexuality, and even wearing lewd clothing were crimes throughout the land. I remember those days. But now the laws are becoming more hostile to God's righteousness.

I could give many examples. Criticism of things such as homosexuality and false religions is now called a “hate crime,” although not yet in the legal sense in America (it is a crime in Canada and Australia, and perhaps in some other countries). Not hiring adulterers and other gross sinners, or allowing them to rent your property is called a crime of discrimination. It is a crime for public school teachers to teach anything about God or the Bible. It is now legal to be naked at some public beaches. All of those things are the opposites of what were done formerly in my country.

Three times in that short passage above, God said, **“I am Jehovah.”** And from that passage to the end of Leviticus those words are recorded forty-seven times. God was obviously emphasizing who he was to help them never forget; for he was their life. Indeed, without him no man can live. He is the source of all good things. And it is only by obedience to him that we can be saved for eternal life.

That is why it is such wicked madness that most of the people of America are now rejecting and opposing him. But alas, it will only be in the afterlife, when it is too late to repent, that they will learn the truth. And they will find

themselves cast into the outer darkness, where Jesus said, **“There will be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth”** (Matthew 8:12). Dear reader, be not caught up in their wicked madness, rejecting and opposing God, and embracing sin.

Jehovah said his people were not to be like the sinful nations that he was destroying from their promised land. He said, **“And ye shall not walk in the customs of the nation which I cast out before you, for they did all these things [the many wretched sins he listed], and therefore I abhorred them”** (Leviticus 20:23). They were to be a separated people, holy to him.

Notice Jehovah said he abhorred the people of those sinful nations. Beware lest God also abhor you and destroy you because of your sinfulness. Let not the devil deceive you. He wants everyone to be cast into hell because he hates us. For we alone have the potential to become sons of God for eternity, to eventually rule over him under the headship of God and Christ.

We as disciples of Christ must keep ourselves separate from the sinful nations of the world. Among the things Jesus said about his disciples in his prayer at the last supper was, **“I have given them thy word, and the world hated them, because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou should take them out of the world, but that thou should keep them from the evil. They are not of the world just as I am not of the world”** (John 17:14-16).

And if we want our country to be America, God’s way, then we must learn his will for us, which is now found only in the Holy Bible. And having learned his will, we must then obey him. That way God will bless us and protect us above all nations—if we truly become America, God’s way.