

## **Notes for: Conflation Confusion (Part 3)**

### **A Topical Study**

We have been calling our current topical study: “Conflation Confusion.” The concern throughout has been to clarify any confusion that might exist in our understanding of what it means to be a New Covenant Christian. The crux of the matter in applying this issue to our current generation has always been the proper interaction of New Covenant Christians with human government. Issues of conflation in regard to the dietary and ceremonial law in the Mosaic Covenant seem rather trivial by comparison. The reason is obvious. In recent years, our interaction with human government, in the New Covenant, has been corrupted through the unwarranted application of theocratic principles from the Old Covenant, meant exclusively for Israel, and not the Church. This is conflation confusion in its most dangerous form; since it undermines the priority task of New Covenant Christians in the Church Age: fulfilling the Great Commission mandate, issued by the Lord, to all of us as His disciples, in Matthew 28:18-20.

I have searched long and hard for even one single text of New Testament Scripture that would justify and validate this application. I have yet to find one. As a result, I am ready to submit to everyone the following conclusion: The proper interaction of the New Covenant Christian with human government should be submission and prayer as clearly taught in passages such as Romans 13:1-7 and 1 Timothy 2:1-6. However, I have become equally convinced that submission and prayer are not synonymous with cooperation and infiltration. That is a false equivalency, used by a group of evangelical pied pipers, to take New Covenant Christians well beyond the scope of what our interaction with human government should be. That falsehood is then magnified by promoting this strategy of cooperation/infiltration toward human government as the means by which the entire world can be “Christianized.”

Ironically, the world over the course of the last 2,000 years has been “Christianized.” But in God’s way and not man’s way. God’s way is commonly referred to as “Missions.” From the very first missionaries, Paul and Barnabas, sent out by the church at Antioch (Acts 13:1-4); to those being sent out today, the endeavor known as missionary outreach has been incredibly effective in establishing a witness for Christ throughout the world, by means of the formation of local church fellowships, even in the remotest parts of our planet. Through the success of missionary outreach, the world is being “Christianized,” God’s way! And if it is “working,” this is my advice to the evangelical pied pipers of our day: **stop trying to “fix” it!**

#### ■ **Our Contrast With A New Authority (Matthew 10:16-23; John 18:36; 19:11)**

>> a higher degree of accountability (Acts 4:13-20; 5:33-42; 7:51-60)

>> a greater degree of perspective (2 Timothy 2:8-9)

#### ■ **Our Comprehension of the Ultimate Purpose (Matthew 28:18-20)**

>> a higher sense of accomplishment (Acts 1:8)

>> a greater sense of priority (1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Acts 18:9-11)