



'All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.' II Timothy 3:16-17

The Bible can be studied in the context of being the believer's constitution and as with any constitution there are several laws in place to guide the effective running of the territory. The thing about laws is that they are universally applicable and have the same consequences either for following or breaking them. For example, the law of gravity is universal regardless of race, nationality or creed. If a baby drops an item in China it will automatically fall to the ground, likewise if an adult does the same in Liberia.

This is the same thing with the laws we have in the Bible, they are applicable to all mankind and the outcome of being consistent in following or breaking a spiritual law is almost always predictable. Almost always because there are times a superior law can be applied to counter an existing law. For example, the law of aerodynamics is superior to the law of gravity in keeping things in the air rather than have them automatically drop to the ground.

Are there spiritual laws we are breaking that are keeping us bound? If we reflect on our lives has it been relatively predictable or haphazard and inconsistent? Do we know what laws to apply per time and per situation or are we mixing things up?

This month we are looking at some of the laws in the Bible and how following or breaking them can significantly alter the trajectory of our destiny.

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### Day 1 Identifying Laws

'Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.' Psalms 89:14

The kingdom of God is extremely orderly and run by principles and structures. These are in place because God is righteous and just so for Him to be fair, the same fundamental laws must be in place for all. The thing about any law is that it isn't a respecter of ignorance – the fact that a person doesn't know it exists doesn't exclude the person from its consequences good or bad.

'for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.' Colossians 1:16

The unseen realm functions according to several principles, hierarchies, and structures, which all impact what we see with our natural eyes, therefore it will be to our benefit to understand and identify what these laws are. We must also recognize that the Bible is a mixture of prophecies, promises and principles. It's important that we are able to identify the laws in the Bible as there may be times when we mix up instructions specific to a people group and try to apply them as a universal principle. So how do we identify a spiritual law? We will see that it runs throughout the Bible and isn't limited to a person, people group or specific circumstance.

The Bible is broadly divided into the Old and New testaments and then generally divided into additional categories which are listed below:

#### **Old Testament:**

Pentateuch (Genesis to Deuteronomy) History (Joshua, Judges, 1&2 Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, etc) Major prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel) Minor prophets (Hosea, Joel, Zechariah, etc) Songs/poetic voices (Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Solomon)

#### New Testament:

Gospels Acts of the Apostles Epistles Revelation

Why is this important? When searching for a law, we will find that it shows up at least once in all these categories. We may not see it literally written out as law of ABC, but we will see the principle running through these books. Having laid this foundation tomorrow we start with the Law of jurisdiction.

**Prayer:** Father we thank You for opening our eyes to Your ways so we can align with You. Open our minds so that as we receive understanding and the ability to implement accordingly.



# Day 2 Law of Jurisdiction

"The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's; But the earth He has given to the children of men." Psalms 115:16

Though All powerful, God doesn't automatically step into situations and change things. The Bible tells us clearly that God has given the earth to Mankind, which makes Man the only legal authority to function on earth (Gen 1:26-28). The Law of Jurisdiction tells us that Man determines the outcome of what happens in the earth realm, meaning God will Not intervene in our life unless we invite Him to and this invitation takes place through the engagement we call prayer. When Satan wants to do something on earth, he also needs a human being to work through (Matt 12:43-44) so there's a constant war going on regarding who will influence the decision Man makes. Bottom line if we want God to do anything we Must ask Him to do so.

"Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it." Colossians 2:15

The essence of the transaction between Satan and Adam and Eve was to cunningly usurp Adam as the legitimate authority on earth so the fall of Adam wasn't just about sin but also giving Satan legitimate right to subject Man to his influence. Jesus physically came to earth to restore believers authority through His victory over Satan which is why he is the last Adam (1 Cor 15:45).

"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy..." Luke 10:19

Prayer keeps us close to our power source: the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49, Phil 1:19). He is the One who reveals Jesus to us and transforms us to be more like Him. Our ability to legislate the matters here on earth (Matt 18:18) is limited to the extent of our understanding of the power we carry through Jesus. The more we understand who Jesus is the more we become like Him and the less room we give the enemy to manipulate us and things around us.

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus help me understand who You are and who I am in You so I can execute my dominion mandate.

Satan doesn't have authority in the life of a believer, however due to his cunning nature, he will harass believers who are not aware of the authority they carry on earth and its impact in the spiritual realm

# Day 3 Law of Honour

... But now the Lord says: 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed. I Samuel 2:30

The Hebrew translation of honour is fixing value to something, meaning when we choose to honour, we attach a measure of significance or value to that person/thing. Honour starts from the heart and is reflected in our attitude. It's up to us who we choose to honour and the one we're to always give maximum honour to is our Lord God (Ps 96:6). Sadly He notes that there are times we treat Him disrespectfully (Mal 1:6), yet expect Him to pour out favour etc. upon us. It can't work that way.

'Render therefore to all their due... honor to whom honor.' Romans 13:7

The law of honour functions as a catalyst to elevate us because as we value someone, we are given to serving and praying for that person from our heart and God uses that as a means to transfer graces on the lives of those we honour to us, enabling us to attain much more than we ordinarily could on our own. It is impossible to be like someone you dishonor because you cannot draw from what you do not value.

In honouring people, we aren't to hero worship them rather we're to recognize and acknowledge the grace they carry. There's no honour without giving, service and sacrifice. True honour comes with a cost so it's something we must make up our mind to do.

'He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward...' Matthew 10:41

A critical element of honour is the right perception (2 Kgs 4:8-10). We may inadvertently dishonour those God has planted in our lives and honour those who may be damaging to us if we don't correctly perceive why they're in our lives (Mtt 7:6). So we need the Holy Spirit to guide our perception. If there's a grace you want to attract to your life ask God to help you locate the right person who's already functioning at the level you're trying to attain and ask God to show you how best to honour that person.

**Prayer:** Lord I ask for for a fresh revelation of honour and for a right perception so I don't honour amiss

#### Day 4 Law of Permission

"One day the members of the heavenly court came to present themselves before the Lord, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them" Job 1:6

Satan also shows up at the heavenly council where all the affairs of the lives of men are discussed to accuse believers before God. Nothing happens on earth without God being aware of it, but because He has given the earth to men, we need to raise our voices in prayer to counter what the accuser says concerning us and deny him permission to influence our lives. Not praying leaves us open to the machinations of the enemy.

"Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8

"...For the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth— the one who accuses them before our God day and night." Revelation 12:10

Satan is constantly bringing accusations against believers and when we don't rise in the place of prayer, by default we have given him permission to do what he wants in our lives. The devil isn't all powerful and he cannot devour everyone, so we shouldn't make it easy for him to have us.

And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you...' Luke 22:31-32

'Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.' Acts 12:5

Many times, when an accusation has been brought against a believer the Holy Spirit prompts us to pray, though we may not know at the time what the reason for the prompt is. The prompt may not necessarily be for us specifically, as we could be interceding on behalf of others, granting or denying permission for something to happen here on earth. There are several examples in the Bible of people praying for themselves or others to change the direction of their lives (Gen 18:16-32, 2 Kgs 20:1-6, Ezk 22:30, Matt 18:18). Bottom line: silence is consent, we must make sure we are constantly praying for ourselves and all that's been put in our care SO we permit only God's plan for our lives.

**Prayer:** Lord, help me be spiritually alert and always responsive to your promptings to pray.

# Day 5 Law of Spiritual Justice

'Vengeance is Mine, and recompense; their foot shall slip in due time; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things to come hasten upon them.' Deuteronomy 32:35

God loves justice (Jer 9:24) and is always fair in His dealings. Throughout the Bible we will not find a single episode where God has supported injustice of any kind. Rather He gives an opportunity for those who have done wrong to repent, however if that doesn't happen then justice will be meted out accordingly. One person who truly understood spiritual justice was David.

'Let the Lord judge between you and me, and let the Lord avenge me on you. But my hand shall not be against you.' I Samuel 24:12

'Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord.' Romans 12:19

While God makes it clear to us the He will avenge us, the challenge we have is that we often want to take God's place and avenge ourselves, especially if we have been hurt deeply. Someone who could have tried justifying taking matters into his own hands was David. Although Saul kept trying to kill him for no reason, David didn't take advantage of the opportunities he had to kill Saul (1 Sam 24-26). David understood spiritual justice so he kept his own side of the requirement by not attacking Saul, trusting that the Lord would vindicate him and the Lord did.

'See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.' I Thessalonians 5:15

God doesn't function like man so we may be tempted to try and hurry things along for Him. If we do so we're saying that we want to be God in that situation, and He will step back totally from it. God delights in justice for His children and will always play His part. It may not look like it at the time we're going through the issues, but God is always at work on our behalf.

**Prayer:** Father it's not easy not striking back at those who have hurt me, so I ask that You give me the grace to turn the situation over to You and depend on You to exercise justice in my favour.



## Day 6

## Law of Diligence

"The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, but diligence is man's precious possession." Proverbs 12:27

We tend to think of diligence within the context of working for pay (Prov 22:29), but by God's pattern diligence is supposed to be a way of life for the believer. Every area should be handled with diligence: accessing God, studying, parenting, working, giving, good works. The dictionary defines diligence as "careful attention, persistent endeavour", which means God's pattern doesn't give room for laziness as there's a level of intentionality and focus that's required to walk with Him and to rule in the affairs of life. The higher the level of our diligence, the higher we go in Him, the more authority we carry, the more we are able to subdue external circumstances and the more the Holy Spirit is able to transform us to be more like Jesus. Diligence shouldn't be an option for a believer who doesn't want to be a victim of life's circumstances.

"Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth." Deuteronomy 28:1

"... for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:6

There's also a heart aspect of diligence. Some may do what needs to be done, butgrudgingly and with complaint, to the point that it's almost better they didn't get involved at all, while others are greatly commended for the attitude as well as the output (Rom 12:11, Prov 13:4, 2 Peter 1:5). How can we be diligent? It's a day by day and step by step commitment to do something well daily. There's an expertise to life that can only come by diligence – in our walk with God, understanding ourselves, our family, the marketplace, finances. Note also that God promotes/expands us based on our demonstrated capacity to diligently manage what we may already have. So it's not something to be taken lightly if we ant to live a life that counts.

Prayer: Lord give me a diligent heart and help me rise above my areas of weakness.

## Day 7

## Law of Giving

"The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself." Proverbs 11:25

When we hear 'giving' we think of money but giving isn't just about finances. God loved the world, so He gave us Jesus unreservedly (Jhn 3:16) x. This is the same way He expects us to give of ourselves to others, especially to driving the agenda of the kingdom. Giving our time, experience, expertise, encouragement or substance, we all have something to give.

"Give generously to the poor, not grudgingly, for the Lord your God will bless you in everything you do." Deuteronomy 15:10

Caring for the poor is lending to the LORD, and you will be well repaid. Proverbs 19:17 CEV

If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail." Isaiah 58:10-11

Giving is a heart affair and once our hearts are opened to give in one area, it's easier for the Holy Spirit to help us 'unlock' other areas. Once we start giving our time, it's easier to give our substance because we see the needs around us and our heart will start to yearn for a way to meet those needs. Sadly we've turned giving to a transactional process rather than a way of life. In our hearts we often secretly expect something to come back to us almost immediately in material form. And if we don't see that we think God has failed us. But if we're really to be like Jesus we would give of ourselves from a place of love.

'But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully' 2 Corinthians 9:6

The wonderful thing is that God IS a rewarder and He will reward us in due season (Gen 8:22) according to the measure that we have given others (Luke 6:38). Meaning the proportion to which we give determines the proportion of reward we receive. Proportion doesn't mean the amount that's given, but the extent to which we want to make life better for others. This tells us that when we give, our focus should be on improving the lot of others and not ourselves.

**Prayer:** Lord give me a selfless and generous heart.

## Day 8

## Law of Service

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

For us as believers service isn't only related to Church ministry, but we're to serve wherever the Lord has called us to function. Everyone walking this earth is gifted with something that can impact their current and possibly future generations and everyone was created to add to the improvement of the world in some way. Service isn't just about activity, it's an attitude and a lifestyle.

'No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord...Says the Lord.' Isaiah 54:17

Armed with the understanding that our wealth of gifts, experience, substance, etc. is to serve the kingdom of God how then do we serve? The Bible guides us in this showing us that we should serve with humility (Acts 20:19), good character (2 Peter 3:11), willingness (1 Cor 9:17), diligence (Lk 2:37) and fervency (Rom 12:11). We see that the greatness of the kingdom of God is in the simple things, not in one-off activities. Our service should also be in line with God's and not our own agenda. To help keep ourselves on track, we should consistently reflect on which agenda of God we are executing per time.

'Only fear the Lord, and serve Him in truth with all your heart...' I Samuel 12:24

"If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures." Job 36:11

"For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." Galatians 5:13

In God's model of elevation He selects from people that are choosing to serve from their heart. Moses had many leaders and his own biological sons, but Joshua is the only one that always stayed on after he had left the temple. Elijah had other prophets he was training, but Elisha was the one who refused to leave his side. Paul was committed to serving Jesus and wrote majority of the New Testament as he took the gospel to the world. These are just a few Biblical examples of people who chose to truly serve God. Regardless of what we're called to do, our service to God and man must be from a place of love and humility as Jesus taught us (Lk 22:24-29) and as we have learned, God is a great rewarder of those who serve Him.

**Prayer:** Lord help me serve you acceptably.

#### Day 9 Law of Investments

'Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.' Galatians 6:7

The law of investment simply means whatever we put out will return in multiples.

Throughout the Bible from Genesis to Revelation there are references and illustrations of the law of investment showing that what we plant today will surely bear fruit and reap a harvest in the future. Where and how we choose to make our investments of time, resources, words, actions speak to what we deem important and place value on. The thing about the law of investments is that we may not necessarily reap the rewards of our investments immediately, but they will surely come. So what are we choosing to plant/invest?

'While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest...Shall not cease.' Genesis 8:22

To invest in something involves deliberate, consistent action – it's not a one off. So when we invest in negativity such as discord in any form, lies, selfishness, etc, it means we are creating a pattern of these which will yield negative results either in the immediate or future for ourselves and others. If we choose not to take care of our personal health, over time the body will fall apart. If we choose to be superficial and transactional with people, we will not have credit in the goodwill account of others or relationships that have depth.

'Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.' Ecclesiastes 11:1

'And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.' Galatians 6:9

'Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap in mercy...' Hosea 10:12

Likewise, should we choose to invest in the things that count for eternity and help others, we are assured that we will certainly reap our good rewards in due time. As with any investment, the returns are generally higher over a longer period, encouraging us to keep doing good, investing in cultivating the right type of physical and spiritual atmosphere, wise counsel, financial discipline, etc as our lives will certainly yield the right results.

Reflecting on the past months of 2021, what right investments did you make that you should continue and what do you need to stop doing? Remember we are a product of our investments.

**Prayer:** Lord help me make the right investment decisions and sow in the right places.

Thank you for completing the study. We'll love to hear from you, connect with us on: <u>Instagram</u> <u>Facebook</u> <u>YouTube</u>

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