

A WHITE PAPER FOR PASTORS, CHURCH LEADERS, AND CHRISTIAN CITIZENS

Justice as Christian Stewardship

Why Churches Should Teach the Simple, Lawful Rules and Tactics that will Empower Christian Citizens to Be Heard in Court and Obtain Redress

Proposal for civic literacy and peaceful defense of conscience, family, and community

Summary

Churches can empower people to use the civilizing rules of justice to peacefully present matters of Christian concern to local courts, to have their concerns heard and reviewed officially, and to compel rulings that restore reason, fairness to all parties, and require permanent changes in society that fulfill Christian responsibility.

Informed Christians sense that institutions influencing children, families, speech, work, and public life are increasingly moving away from moral and ethical convictions once woven deeply in our nation's heritage. Concern alone, however sincere and impassioned, rarely changes entrenched institutional conventions. Faithful prayer without action is incomplete. *James Chapter Two*.

Action without knowledge, however, is also incomplete and destined to fail. We are urged to get wisdom and with it get understanding. *Proverbs 4:7*. Understanding is that which empowers us to act wisely! We are called to be at war with wickedness, to tear down strongholds, to stand for God against those who work iniquity. *Psalms 95:16*. This proposal calls Churches to equip the saints to do that work in court.

The strongholds of wickedness infecting society at this hour are manifold. Increasingly they are endorsed by laws and ordinances that should never have been enacted in the first place and will not be sustained as Churches equip the saints to rise up *in court* against the evil that we can drive into hiding by using the sacred rules designed for us by our forebears to be used securing Justice for the innocent and making civilization possible for every living soul.

These simple rules are like tools in a carpenter's toolbox. Each has a purpose, and each is easy to teach and learn. They can be taught quickly to every person wishing to be an instrument for Peace. After all, the fruits of righteousness are for a purpose: they are sown in peace by those who promote Peace. *James 3:18*.

We are called to be peacemakers. That's why our God implants the Prince of Peace in our hearts.

For Christianity to survive the onslaught of evil, however, Christians must rise, as Jesus did, against the evil spirits that rule unjustly, rob the poor, destroy innocence, and promote anathema against God.

This calls for special people who will commit to learn the toolbox of simple rules and teach others until every church is a beehive of activity, a beacon lifting the light of goodness and truth for all too see, a powerhouse of strength restoring reason and goodwill for everyone, even for those who do not now know Him but will be won to our Savior's fold as they witness our mercy and strength overcoming wrong.

Every courthouse door can be opened with the key that is a 2-3 page pleading easy to write. Once inside that venerable door, we can call witnesses, cite precedents, and require production of documents and things to serve as evidence in support of our causes. Those who oppose us must obey those same rules!

We can ask the highest powers in the land, "By what authority are you doing this?" and require answers under oath on the public record. We can demand that wrong be righted. We can obtain what we seek: a better world for every living soul as Christ works through us, our Paraclete, our guide, the Law Giver, the Wisdom from above. *James 3:17*.

No political power or other institution conceived by man can accomplish any good unless it is submitted to the government of Him at work in every heart to secure Liberty and promote Justice for *absolutely ALL*.

The power of words is part of God's plan for us, that we should use them wisely with courage in unity to make straight in the desert of confusion and doubtful disputations a highway for our God to work in us as we reset landmarks to guide generations not yet born to honor Truth and practice Mercy. *Isaiah 40:3*

Those special rules are not tricks to evade law. They are disciplines of ordered liberty to restrain passion, require truthfulness, and shine light where darkness otherwise will continue flourishing.

We propose a modest church-based educational ministry: teach adults the foundations by which good government can be restored and the rules of evidence and procedure that are the lawful non-violent voice of the people too seldom exercised in these troubled times so much in need of Christian reasoning and Christian courage guided by His Spirit within our hearts and those sacred rules in our hands and pens.

They are easy to learn and use.

The Pastoral Question

What should a church do when its members believe that decisions made by schools, government agencies, corporations, and other powerful institutions threaten conscience, parental responsibility, religious exercise, due process, or other lawful interests? The Church should do what belongs uniquely to the Church: form character, teach truth, cultivate courage, restrain vengeance, reconcile where possible, and insist that every person—including opponents to Christ's Church—be treated with dignity but without apology.

The power of the people is the Mind of Christ within us, and when that Mind operates to move mountains through meaningful action in court to establish Justice, the Will of God is done. *Isaiah 1:26*

American Justice Foundation® will help in any way and every way we possibly can.