

EXACTNESS

2John 1:9-11

INTRODUCTION

- A. Disrespect for authority is now a part of the fabric of our nation. Schools, homes, societies are all affected.
- B. Cannot go into the street without being afraid. It certainly has its effect in religion.
- C. Some say we are not under law at all - anything goes, and it has - rebellion in the ranks (Rom 8:1,2; 1Jhn 3:4)
- D. Some say that we are "under grace and not law" therefore just do what you want to do and grace will cover it.
- E. Some are simply ignorant of the law, not interested in what God has said. Illus: marriage & divorce.
- F. This idea didn't come from Bible. God has always demanded obedience, exactness. Notice some examples: Rom 15:4

DISCUSSION

I. NOAH WAS TOLD EXACTLY WHAT TO DO IN BUILDING THE ARK Gen 6:13-17

- A. Noah did as God told him Gen 6:22; Heb 11:7
- B. Those in ark were saved 1Pet 3:20

II. NADAB & ABIHU MET GOD'S EXACTNESS

- A. Burn incense on the altar Ex 30:1-10 (note vs. 7)
- B. They burned incense in their own censer Lev 10:1
- C. "Strange fire" is fire that God had not commanded.
- D. God devoured them with fire Lev 10:2
- E. It does us good to renew our understanding of obedience under these illustrations

III. UZZAH'S DEATH SHOWS GOD'S EXACTNESS

- A. Specific instructions regarding construction and transporting ark of the covenant Ex 25:10-14
- B. Sons of Kohath were to carry it Num 4:15; 7:9
- C. David later learned he had not carried it according to law and Uzzah died because he touched it 2Sam 6:1-7

IV. JEROBOAM DECIDED TO CHANGE GOD'S WILL 1Ki 12:26-33

- A. A willful, deliberate decision to change the law – thus violating it
- B. An inspired record of a denomination being built and the thinking that went behind it. (denominate = to name so as to differentiate between)
- C. Violated law regarding the place of worship Deut 12:1-6
- D. Violated law regarding serving only Jehovah Ex 20:4-5

- E. Violated law regarding only Levites being priests Num 3:9-10

V. WE ARE TAUGHT THE SAME EXACTNESS TODAY

- A. Speak as oracles of God 1Pet 4:11; Don't transgress 2Jhn 9; Preach no other gospel Gal 1:6-9; Don't add to or take away Rev 22:18-19
- B. We serve the same God as those in the Old Testament
- C. Things written before were for our learning Rom 15:4

VI. REASON FOR ADHERING EXACTLY - GOD IS CREATOR, SAVIOR AND LORD.

- A. We are the clay, He is the potter. Isa 64:8; Jer 18:4; Rom 9:20,21
- B. He has design in mind, not only of the immediate work, but of future things. Let him be God.

CONCLUSION:

- A. God has a divine right to demand that we adhere exactly to His will.
- B. God also has a divine right to mete out punishment to those who will not adhere exactly to His will, because he is the creator and we are His creatures.
- C. Therefore, the only way one can expect to be the recipient of God's grace is to make every effort to adhere strictly to God's will.
- D. Certainly, being human and subject to fleshly desires and being imperfect being we will not adhere perfectly Rom 3:23, thus necessitating God's grace or mercy on our behalf which he extended in the giving of His Son as a substitute who died in our place.
- E. However, just because one died for us does not negate our responsibility to make every effort humanly possible to adhere strictly and exactly to God's will.
- F. The question, then remains, are you and am I doing exactly what God requires of us. (Note: you can't do it until you know it, therefore you have a responsibility to learn God's will so you can do it.)