

Establishment:

Divine Establishment:

A few points of Introduction:

1. God has ordained certain laws for the survival and freedom of the human race (believer and unbeliever) during the course of human history. Anarchy exists when segments of society ignore these laws for the Laws of Divine Establishment provide the freedom to fulfill the divine plan as ordained in the divine decree under many types of government.
2. They operate from the fall of man to the Second Advent, as well as in the Millennium with some modifications in compatibility with perfect environment.
3. These laws directly affect freedom, civilization, authority, evangelism, spiritual growth, and the perpetuation of the human race. They are as important to us as is the Law of Gravity.
4. The Laws of Divine Establishment define freedom in terms of privacy, property and legitimate authority. There is no such thing as the enjoyment of life or freedom without the proper use of authority. All systems of freedom function under authority. Freedom without authority is anarchy; however, authority without freedom is tyranny.
5. The Laws of Establishment function through the four Divine Institutions: the individual, marriage, family, and nationalism.

The Divine Institutions: institution one, the individual; institution two, marriage established in the Garden; institution three, family established at the Fall; institution four, nationalism established after the Flood.

The First Divine Institution is the Individual with free will. The use of his volition is his authority, a component of the soul which is made up of self-consciousness, a conscience which must be filled with divine norms and standards, a mentality which operates through the biological brain, and volition as the authority of the soul.

The spark or breath of life is imputed to biological life at birth resulting in a soul having life which we call human life. Remember that in the Garden, God breathed into the biological life of Adam the breath of life, a spark of His own life which resulted in a soul having life aka human life. At the point of one's death, this soul having everlasting life will be transferred to an interim body until the Rapture at which time the soul having everlasting life will be transferred into the resurrection body.

Freedom does not imply equality. While people are not born equal or live in equality, they must have freedom of choice and the right to live in a free society pursuing a course of action compatible with their own aspirations or lack of the same. You have a right to go as far as your abilities and motivations will take you. If the individual uses his volition to adhere to the Laws of Establishment and avoids arrogance, he will develop great capacity for life, with humility and integrity. If he should be a Christian who has advanced spiritually all the way to spiritual maturity, he will be qualified for the next divine institution namely marriage along with the unbeliever who has developed his capacity from the Laws of Establishment only.

The Second Divine Institution is Marriage with the authority vested in the husband. Monogamy is a permanent relationship between one man and one woman as ordained by God to remind mankind that He has from the beginning a design. In other words, if God intends for a man to get married, he will bring the right woman to him at the right time as per Genesis 3:22-24, "and the rib which the Lord God had taken from the man he fashioned [literally built] into a woman and brought her to the man [The Lord brings the woman to the man at the right time]. (23) Then, the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh [the same

species]; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out from Man.’ (24) Therefore, a man shall leave his father and his mother [form their own corporation] and have sexual intercourse with his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”

Their relationship, established in the garden, was continued after the fall. It has never been cancelled in any generation. Thus, marriage is the most basic and fundamental organization in the human race. Even the unbeliever, whose life is a total failure, can have great temporary happiness by marrying the right woman, Ecclesiastes 9:9, “Enjoy life with the woman whom you love all the days of your fleeting life [describes the life of the unbeliever] which He has given to you under the sun; for this is your reward in life and in your toil [his occupation] in which you have labored under the sun.”

Marriage is the basis for stability in society and for the formation of civilization. Marriage rejects the theory of revolution, anarchy, promiscuousness, or communal living. It is the protection for the home where the parents exercise authority over the children.

The Third Divine Institution is the Family with the authority vested in the parents. God has provided certain divine laws, such as the authority of the parents, to protect, care, nourish, provide, train, and discipline children to prepare them for a normal life. Children must be trained to respect the privacy, property, and rights of others, not to abuse freedom, and to have respect for authority. Furthermore, parents must teach poise, objectivity, respect for police, patriotism, and their sons, the willingness to serve in order to protect national freedom. Christian parents must also evangelize and provide pre-doctrinal training for their children, Deuteronomy 6:6-9, “These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. (7) You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. (8) You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. (9) You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” It is the

responsibility of parents not only to instill respect for the Word of God, but also the recognition of the authority of their pastor-teacher.

The Fourth Divine Institution is Nationalism. If the entire human race were under one rule with the exception of the Millennial reign of Christ, it would self-destruct. To perpetuate the human race and bring history to its logical conclusion, God has designed the nation to protect the freedom and rights of its citizenry. The formation of the Jewish nation set up the perfect standard of what a national entity should be. The Biblical proof that nationalism is authorized by God is found in Genesis 10:5, “From these the coastland peoples spread. These are the sons of Japheth into their lands, each with his own language [formed at the Tower of Babel], by their families, in their nations.”

Since there was no nationalism before the Flood (circa 10,000 B.C., the approximate date of the Fall to 5,000 B.C., the approximate date of the Flood) evil spread quickly during the Prediluvian period. So, the Lord instituted nationalism for the post-diluvian civilization.

After the Flood, God’s policy was nationalism, but the descendants of Noah wanted internationalism. Genesis 11:1-9, “Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. (2) It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the Land of Shinar and settled there. (3) They [the descendants of Noah] said to one another, ‘Come, let us make bricks and burn *them* thoroughly.’ And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. (4) They said, ‘Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower [equivalent to the United Nations] whose top *will reach* into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth [as separate nations].’ (5) The Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. (6) The Lord said, ‘Behold, they are one people [one international community], and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do [a movement toward internationalism and centralizing world power], and now nothing which they purpose to do [in consolidating power into the hands of a few] will be impossible for them

[there will be no limit to their evil]. (7) ‘Come, let us [the Godhead] go down and there confuse their *one* language [by creating many languages to encourage nationalism], so that they will not understand one another's speech.’ (8) So, the Lord scattered them [via the introduction of languages] abroad from there over the face of the whole earth [for many languages encouraged nationalism and separation]; and they stopped building the city. (9) Therefore, its name was called Babel [the ancient United Nations’ building], because there, the Lord confused the *one* language [by creating many from it] of the whole earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth [via the introduction of many languages].”

Well defined Nationalism was on the basis of Israel and the Mosaic Law. Deuteronomy 32:8, “When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, When He separated the sons of man, He set the boundaries of the *Gentile* peoples [formed nations] on the basis of the number of the sons of Israel” [In the Old Testament five Client Nations came from Israel which Client Nations were a blessing to other nations such as Assyria via Jonah; In other words, everything revolved around Israel even when they were out of pocket, they were still a blessing to Persia.]

All nations who follow the norms and standards of divine establishment possess the following characteristics.

1. Interior protection of freedom is provided through a proper system of law enforcement, jurisprudence, and a system of law whereby a person is innocent until proven guilty, where only proper testimony is allowed and no hearsay is permitted, and where double jeopardy does not exist.
2. The exterior protection of freedom comes through a strong, well-prepared military.
3. A government of whatever category must protect the freedoms and rights of its citizens without interfering with those rights by the illegal use

of power for power can be used to seize property, remove rights and destroy privacy.

4. An economy must be based on free enterprise and capitalism for it is these that bring prosperity to a nation. Labor has no right to dictate the policy of management. Smart management always takes good care of its workers however. Government, labor, or criminals do not have the right to superimpose their policy on management. The separation of business and state is an important distinction.

5. There must be a system of common law which prohibits crime and thereby protects the freedom, rights, life, and property of individuals. It must be a system of law which does not overstep the law by using the law to try to solve social problems. Law, therefore, must always be objective. Subjective distortion of the law uses legislation to invade individual rights, to steal personal property, and to erode human freedom; all in the name of the common good.

6. There must be a common culture which reflects the spiritual life, morality, esprit de corps, nobility, patriotism, and integrity of a nation through its literature, art, music, and drama.

7. There should be a system of government which functions under its power without abusing its power to destroy freedom and establishment. There should be an administrative body to represent the functions of taxation, law enforcement, honorable jurisprudence, maintenance of the military, and enforcement of law and order without the destruction of human freedom.

The Decalogue, the believer's responsibility related to freedom; even though given to Israel only as per Exodus 20:1, it is for our instruction as well:

The Decalogue is found in Exodus 20:1-17 (Deuteronomy 5:6-21). As these commandments are written in our English Bible, they are prefaced

by the phrase, "You shall not," which is the imperfect tense in Hebrew used as the imperative. The phrase indicates the believer's responsibility in protecting human freedom through compliance with the Laws of Divine Establishment. The Decalogue doesn't deal with the subject of sin per se but with the subject of human freedom. It just so happens that certain sins are an attack on human freedom.

The Ten Commandments define human freedom in terms of attitude toward God, people, and property: just a brief statement about each.

The first commandment is not only a prohibition of idolatry, but national recognition that Jesus Christ controls history. "You shall have no other gods before Me."

The second commandment: While the first commandment prohibits mental or soul idolatry, the second prohibits overt idolatry, "You shall not make for yourself an idol." Demonism destroys human freedom, while overt idolatry destroys a nation.

The third commandment prohibits the use of taking the name of the Lord God in vain. This means to use God as a front for your lying, cheating, stealing, or perjury. God's name is used properly in worship, prayer, praise, thanksgiving, the expression of personal love for God, and doctrinal communication. God's name should not be used to persuade people into a false position. God's name is not to be used for human projects which allege the will of God. "It is God's will that we do this."

The fourth commandment is a memorial to the grace of God. The Sabbath recognizes that people who work for a living must have time to rest and time to consider the grace of God. Doing nothing is a reminder of grace. Just as the body needs rest for function, so man needs rest for freedom. Man with no rest becomes a slave. He has no opportunity to exercise his freedom and personal volition in relationship to time.

The fifth commandment establishes the principle of authority under the Laws of Divine Establishment. The first authority in life is that of parents. "Respect your father and mother that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives to you." Recognition of authority is the basic principle of orientation to life. Recognition of authority is the secret to a long healthy life and it all begins with respect for one's parents.

The sixth commandment emphasizes the establishment-principle of live and let live. "You shall not murder." Killing is authorized for capital punishment and for those in the military fighting for freedom. Murder on the other hand is not only a sin but the basic violation of human freedom. The right to live under God is removed when a person is murdered. If you intrude on God's right to take life in His timing, you violate the Laws of Divine Establishment and commit the worst overt sin.

The seventh commandment "You shall not commit adultery." Adultery is the voluntary act of sexual intercourse of a married person with someone other than his or her lawful spouse. Adultery refers to sexual activity outside the divine institution of marriage. Sex was designed by God to be an expression of love inside a marriage between a husband and wife. Therefore, adultery is both a sin and an attack on human freedom. Capacity for love and life is distorted and ruined, so that adultery not only abuses freedom, but destroys the possibility for happiness in life.

The eighth commandment emphasizes the right of private property under the Laws of Divine Establishment. Since a person's property is sacred, stealing is prohibited. Just because someone has accumulated wealth under the free-market system does not mean you have the right to steal either directly or indirectly via legislation. It belongs to them. There is nothing wrong with being wealthy, or successful. It is not anti-Christian. Some people will become wealthy under free enterprise. "You shall not steal." Thus, stealing is a sin, a crime, and a violation of the Laws of Divine Establishment. The command demands that government protect both the lives and property of those in the nation.

No one has the right to steal. Stealing is a basic disorientation to life. People who have accumulated things in life have a right to those things. When oriented to life, you never have to steal even to stay alive. When you are tempted to steal, that is a warning that you are not oriented to life properly. Legislators in governments steal through high taxes and through the dilution of their currency causing price-inflation. In effect these governmental officials are functioning as criminals.

The ninth commandment emphasizes the protection of human freedom through objectivity in the function of the law. "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." Laws of evidence demand truth in courtroom testimony. This verbal sin is sinful and anti-establishment. Hearsay is not admissible as testimony. You can't live and let live and gossip at the same time. Law cannot function objectively with perjury; society cannot live objectively where gossip and maligning goes unchecked.

The tenth commandment demands restraint on the lust pattern of the old sin nature. "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Establishment and Evangelism

1. None of these things would be meaningful without knowing that establishment was designed to allow evangelizing where positive volition exists, and to protect where negative volition exists.

2. Divine institutions and the Laws of Divine Establishment are designed to protect human freedoms for the purpose of true evangelism. Unbelievers must be free to accept or reject the Gospel without coercion or punishment.

3. Regarding the local church, as long as a government allows religious freedom and self-determination, such a government fulfills its

establishment norms. Therefore, the separation of church and state becomes a basic standard for human freedom.

4. The state must never adopt an official religion supported by taxpayer's money. All religion should be free from taxation and never be supported by taxes based on the Separation of Church and State.

5. A person's relationship with God or lack of it should be a matter of privacy and personal choice.

Establishment and Christianity should support each other

1. Romans 13:1-7, “All human beings [literally ‘every soul’], obey governing authorities, for there is no authority except delegated by God, that is, those which do exist have been delegated by God. (2) Therefore, those who resist the authority have opposed the ordinance of God [divine institutions]; in fact, they who oppose shall receive discipline [personal judgment or punishment] onto themselves. (3) For governing authorities [of an establishment type nations] are not a cause of fear for good function [those who follow the Laws of Establishment] but for evil function [criminality]. Really, do you desire not to fear the authority? Keep on doing the good [be lawful and obey the mandates of the Laws of Establishment] and you will have recognition from it [from the authority of an establishment-type of government]; (4) For he [the governmental authority] is a minister of God to you for the purpose of good [use your freedom to advance to maturity under the plan of God]. But if you do evil [the criminal] keep on being afraid for he does not wear the sword for nothing [the sword was used in the ancient world for capital punishment of crime]; for you see he is a minister of God for the purpose of divine wrath to him who practices the evil. (5) For this reason, it is necessary to be subordinate to governing authorities, not only because of punishment [literally wrath, in other words fearful of punishment], but also because of conscience [where your norms and standards are located]. (6) So, for this reason [an inference from the above verse] also keep on paying taxes, for they are public servants of God who make a career out of this same thing.

(7) Therefore, discharge your obligations to all: to whom taxes, taxes, to whom custom, custom, to whom respect, respect, to whom honor, honor.”

2. Matthew 21:22, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's [obey the Laws of Divine Establishment], and to God, the things that are God's [execute the spiritual life]."

3. 1st Peter 2:13-14, “Subordinate yourselves, because of the Lord, to every human institution [those in authority in the structure of a national entity] whether to a king [the system of authority in a national entity, common in the ancient world] as the one in authority, (14) or to governors [other forms of government: the Roman procurator] as sent by it [Rome] for the punishment of evildoers and the honor of those who do good.” [You became an establishment person the day you believed in Christ. So, you should be a true conservative as a Christian.]

You cannot have freedom, use freedom, enjoy freedom until you recognize the authority that enforces freedom/provides freedom. All freedom depends upon authority. There is no freedom where there is no duly constituted authority. Government represents the principle of authority. So, just because there are scoundrels in government, does not change the principle. Sooner or later the Supreme Court of Heaven will catch-up with the scoundrels. The same is true for police organizations. This organization may have a few scoundrels, but this does not mean that we should eliminate the police organization. Furthermore, it does not mean that we should take the law into our own hands.

The royal family-honor code includes duty to state or nation, patriotism as opposed to internationalism. Two erroneous extremes of Christianity: a) The state should be subordinated to the church which is erroneous. b) The church should be subordinated to the state which is also wrong. The correct view is separation of church and state. However, the government has the responsibility to protect the church in its civil rights, while the church sustains the state by the formation of a pivot of mature believers.

For example, Paul himself was protected by Roman authority from Jewish legalism in Jerusalem in 58 A.D.

All authority is delegated authority from God:

A few points for clarification:

1. Governmental authority does not derive its power from the people; the power is derived from God.
2. Whether hereditary kings or rulers in a republic their authority has one source namely the integrity of God.
3. What God has ordained the believer has no right to contradict.
4. All rulers at all levels are responsible to God for any abuse of their authority.
5. For example, God permitted the Russian revolution of 1917 because the Romanov rulers abused their God-given authority through anti-Semitism.
6. God does not sponsor revolution, but God permits revolution as the natural historical result where authority is abused without check. Even though a country is moving toward a revolution, it may not occur if there should exist a pivot large enough (a large group of mature believers) to offset such a catastrophe.
7. The Lord many times uses evil to punish evil. For example, even though Adolf Hitler was extremely evil, the Lord Jesus Christ who controls history squelched all the assassination attempts against this evil man. For you see, the Lord was going to use Hitler to punish the Germans for their anti-Semitism and the murder of millions of Jews. At the right time, He would remove this monster.

8. However, when civil power contradicts the Word of God, it subverts and denies the very source of its own authority.

9. Human arrogance and rejection of authority leads to anarchy. Human power in anarchy leads to despotism and tyranny.

10. The elevation of establishment and morality in compliance with the Laws of Divine Establishment via the intake of truth will accomplish more than revolution ever could, no matter how justifiable the revolution appears to be.

11. While military victory provides freedom for a nation that adheres to truth, establishment authority in obedience to the Laws of Divine Establishment maintains that freedom so that evangelization and spiritual growth can easily function within the national entity.

Establishment and National Discipline

1. This includes the concept of the Pivot (a group of mature believers), which when large enough, means that mature believers having maximum influence on their nation under historical impact and blessing by association. It also includes the concept of the five cycles of discipline, which occur when the pivot shrinks and becomes too small.

2. When divine judgment falls, it always comes in the form of historical disaster. Idiotic governmental policy is a warning that the end is near.

3. If the pivot of mature believers is large enough or there is sufficient numbers of *pleroma* believers (those who have successfully taken Evidence Testing), the nation will be delivered. If these groups are too small, the nation will be destroyed. Every nation also has relationship with the justice of God through the Laws of Divine Establishment.

4. Religion is the greatest enemy of a nation, because in the name of good, it produces great evil. For example, in the United States in the year of

2023, most Christians are trying to execute the spiritual life outside of God's plan which in effect becomes a religion.

5. Historical disaster separates the pivot from the spin-off (those in apostasy and reversionism), but the pivot is preserved, Isaiah 28:3-8, "That wreath, the pride of Ephraim's drunkards, will be trampled underfoot [in 721 B.C. by the Assyrians]. (4) That fading flower, his glorious beauty, set on the head of a fertile valley, will be like a fig ripe before harvest-- as soon as someone sees it and takes it in his hand, he swallows it. (5) In that day, the Lord Almighty will be a glorious crown, a beautiful wreath for the remnant of his people [protection for the advanced believers]. (6) He will be a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment, a source of strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate. (7) And these also stagger from wine and reel from beer: Priests and prophets stagger from beer and are befuddled with wine; they reel from beer, they stagger when seeing visions, they stumble when rendering decisions. (8) All the tables are covered with vomit and there is not a spot without filth [drunkenness was their national sin]." A nation which has gone mad is destroyed so that history and the human race can be perpetuated.

6. If the nation is preserved, there always follows a great period of prosperity. An example was Judah in B.C. 701. When the apostate believers of Judah were destroyed, the nation prospered. If a nation doesn't cleanse itself under the Laws of Divine Establishment, then the justice of God cleanses that nation if He intends to preserve it.

7. Historical catastrophe is designed to destroy the infection of apostasy and degeneracy so that a nation can be preserved.

8. Historical disaster as the cleansing of a nation is taught under the concept of the five cycles of discipline in Leviticus 26:14-38. The first four cycles are cleansing, the last one is eradication.

The following was penned by R. B. Thieme Jr.

Apostasy in the Land

In times of apostasy government seeks to control its citizens from the cradle to the grave. Free men are treated as criminals, and criminals are treated as free men. Freedom of thought, decision, and speech by which the Gospel and Bible doctrine are communicated merge into the shadows of tyranny and slavery.

The tentacles of socialism and bureaucracy strangle and destroy free enterprise. Freedom to succeed or fail in life through one's own motivation and decisions is neutralized.

Individuals no longer take the responsibility for their own decisions and actions. Apostasy and evil, along with dishonesty and hypocrisy, immorality and greed, power lust and racial prejudice, become the tools of politicians and the dissension of the hoi polloi.

The heritage of regeneration is traded for Esau's mess of pottage. The glory of God is exchanged for the arrogance of the social gospel.

These historical trends provide a system of temptation luring the born-again believer into that sphere of emotion combined with arrogance called Christian activism. The plan of God is buried in the potter's field of whitewashing the devil's world.

Believers in Jesus Christ are distracted from God's will, plan, and purpose for the Church Age by trying to reform Caesar and ignore God. Suddenly God's plan for the believer is covered with the spider webs of neglect and put in the mothballs of false doctrine.

Spiritual values related to Bible doctrine are exchanged for chasing butterflies whose gossamer wings carry the heavy burden of redistribution of wealth all the way back to the island called Utopia.

The Supreme Court of Heaven sends bolts of lightning in the form of the law of volitional responsibility and divine punitive action to the wayward children of God.

When this punitive suffering called divine discipline is ignored, and carnality is perpetuated, the loser-believer marches to the beat of a different drum and gets his bugle calls from the cacophony of heavy metal and hard rock.

What is the legacy to the generations of apostasy in this great dispensation called the Church Age? The sin unto death! They are entombed in the barren field of spiritual failure where once that fertile field of metabolized Bible doctrine produced the remnant according to the election of grace—invisible heroes fulfilling the will of God through the spiritual mechanics of the plan of God for the Church.

But now unbroken clods of human lust bury the loser-believer in the tragedy of lost opportunity for becoming winner-believers and invisible heroes.

The only bulwark against the onslaught of apostasy in the land is the believer advancing to spiritual maturity.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. (2 Peter 3:18)

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Based on the scholarly work of R.B. Thieme Jr.

I recommend downloading 'THIEME'S BIBLE DOCTRINE DICTIONARY' from this website: rbthieme.org