Scriptural Government - Kingdom of **YHWH** (Yahweh)

There are many misconceptions about "Scriptural Government". In fact it can be one of the most debated subjects in Scripture. Some suggest a hierarchy of priests and officers is necessary to keep the "unwashed masses" from corrupting themselves. Others demand that any form of governmental structure is "carnal" and that each man should simply do what his heart tells him to do. Some insist that the "priesthood" has been done away with, and all we are left with is "civil" government. Others insist all governments of the world are corrupt, and only the church is the "representative of YHWH on the earth". The truth is that if each of these positions is studied carefully, they will all be shown to contain a measure of Truth. Sadly though, each of these is only *partial* truths. If we are to get to the bottom of the subject we must disregard all of them and rebuild from the beginning! The importance of the subject is self-evident, for the government we seek is the Kingdom of YHWH

**YHWH the Sovereign over All**

"*In the beginning was the expressed reasoning (logos)*..."

So begins the Gospel called John 1:1.

Most Theologians assert the term "The Word" solely refers to Yahshua (aka Jesus). Some even suggest that the term was exclusively a "New Testament" creation; a totally new concept. These beliefs are false. Yahshua was "the Word (oral expression) that came into his being (flesh). He was therefore the perfect Tabernacle (a skinned tent) for a representation of the Word, but Yahshua himself was NOT the word (oral expression). YHWH is and was always the "word" (i.e., the logos) see: John 1:1 corrected. The term "logos" has a much broader application as well. While the life of Yahshua has been called the beginning of the "First Century" era, the term "logos, i.e. the Word" was used regularly in the "Tan'akh (Hebrew Scriptures)" centuries before his birth. It should be recognized and understood that the "Tan'akh is written in Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic and the modern manuscripts of the "New Testament" that are now preserved in Greek, were translations in many cases, of earlier Hebrew or Aramaic originals.

For those living in the time there was no distinction between the Tan'akh (Hebrew Scriptures) and the Greek New Testament, since the Greek writings were in the process of being written in the form of widely dispersed letters years after the Messiah's events, and the gospels were written much later, all by unknown authors. The life of Yahshua was viewed as the continuation of those things written in the Tan'akh, and his teachings likewise. Many of the writers of the Greek writings looked to the principles and systems of thought outlined in the "Law and Prophets and the writings" i.e., the Tan'akh to teach the Assemblies - ecclesia (church) of their day. The Paul/Saul however developed many of his teachings by conjecture, his own opinions rather than using what Yahshua taught from the Tan'akh, since Paul/Saul never sat under the feet of the teacher Yahshua, and was never selected by him as an Apostle. Acts 1:26.

Whether we look at "the Word" in John 1:1 as the Greek word "Logos" (Strong's # 3056) or as the Hebrew word "deber" (Strong's # 1696-1699 all the same word in original Hebrew, only vowel points different) the meaning is essentially the same. It could be said that the meaning of "the Word" would be "the orderly communication of thought given through some form of expression, especially orally or written." It is through our spoken words that we convey who we are. "...For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." (Mt 12:34). With words we express our nature and character. If we are vain, we may speak great things, but they are empty. If we are self-righteous, our words may possess "voluntary humility" but in truth we will be proud. If we are noble, we may speak few words, but they will be of deep meaning and honorable. By analyzing the commandments of one in authority, one may discern the make-up of the inner heart of that person. The Word of YHWH would then be an expression of the nature of YHWH.
Throughout the Old Testament, "deber" (Strong's # 1696) is used in a multitude of ways. Often it is given only to an individual, a selected anointed Prophet who was to present it to the nation of Israel. Sometimes the Word of YHWH comes through a spectacular event or at other times in a still small voice. The Word can deal with something as profound as the destiny of the nation, or as mundane as waste management. Most often the term is used to indicate the commandments from YHWH to Israel given through and compiled by Moses, and the Prophets. In Scripture this group of commandments was called "the Law of Moses". Some attempt to suggest by that it was a creation of Moses. However, throughout the Statutes and ordinances it says, "The Word of YHWH came unto Moses, and said. . . . . . ." The Law in the Tan’akh was written down by Moses, and perhaps compiled by others, but its content was clearly the "Word of YHWH." What is not commonly understood is that the “10 Commandment” portion of the Law continues into the ages, (because He “YHWH” added no more, Deut. 5:22). The Statutes and the judgments (the specific ordinances) whoever, were design for the new Scriptural Nation of Israel, being formed at the time under Moses at Hor’eb. These laws were to become the National civil and moral laws which were designed to separate the new Nation of Israel from the surrounding pagan Nations.

In the future of Scriptural Israel, these Statutes and the judgments (the specific ordinances) became corrupted and developed into the philosophies of men, full of deceit, and based upon the "traditions of men" and the "rudiments of the world". This was, of course, became the Pharisaical dogma devised over the course of centuries while part of Israel was in the pit of Babylonian Mysticism. They were used by the Pharisees of the First Century to replace the pure Word of YHWH (see Ex 20:1), to the end that they might enslave the rebellious remnants of the House of Yahud, some of whom were still in Palestine. It was the "principalities and powers" of the Pharisees that Yahshua "condemned" and from whom he set the people free. This also was the reason which would lead to his eventual execution.

The Word of YHWH came into Yahshua’s being (flesh)”. This helps explain Matthew 5:17-20. "Think not that I am come to destroy the Law, or the Prophets I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Kingdom (council) of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the Kingdom (council) of heaven. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the Kingdom (council) of heaven" Yahshua "fulfilled" or defined the full measurement and intent of the Law.

If we want to know how YHWH intended the Law to be applied from the beginning, we need to look to Yahshua as our example, and as he taught it. If we want to be called great in the Kingdom (council) of YHWH, we must do and teach, and fulfill that same measurement as well. This does not mean acting like good Pharisees! Unless your righteousness exceeds their vain traditions and returns to the simplicity of the Word of YHWH, "...you shall in no case enter into the Kingdom (council) of heaven."

With all of this in mind, John 1 could read: "In a beginning the reasoning wisdom nature and life-force essence of YHWH existed and always will be. All things were made by the order of His commandment, and without the expression of His will and nature nothing was made that was made. In the mind and nature of YHWH was Life and this Life was the light (en-lightenment) of man." It was from His own infinite wisdom that YHWH created the heavens and theland. He created all of nature by the orderly arrangement of His own thought and expression, and now governs them by the same. There is not one thing that moves, breathes, or stands still, unless it does so by the expressed oral reasoning (word) of YHWH. There is not one force, or life existing whether perceived as positive or negative that exists independently of YHWH. YHWH has absolute authority, and by immutable laws both natural (general laws) and revealed (written laws) He reigns in supreme and unchallenged authority. "All things were made by Him: and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:3

The will and command of YHWH is irresistible, both to creation and Adamic man. To man (Adam), however, YHWH gave something no other part of the created realm possesses: the ability to rebel. Whose
arm is strong enough to open something He has closed? Which of us can count the hairs of our head, let alone cause one to grow longer, or cease to grow by mere command? If we truly had "Free Will" we could do all of these things!

We must understand that responsibility and authority are tied inseparably together. YHWH has absolute authority; therefore He has absolute responsibility. He is utterly responsible to heal all that His Word wounds, to mend all his will allows us to break. Things do not happen by chance, but rather by His orderly arrangement of them to an end only an infinite mind could comprehend. YHWH could not trust any man with the total free will and power to make a decision for which that same man could not and was not capable of taking full and absolute responsibility. Think about it. Can you or I even have the most vague comprehension of the ultimate ramifications of even the smallest of our decisions?

It is YHWH’s greatest desire to give us immeasurable authority; therefore He shares with us a portion of the responsibility, through the lawful consequences of our actions. As we take responsibility for the actions the will of YHWH empowers us to take, we are being prepared for authority. Until man can be trusted to be absolutely responsible for his own actions, the authority to mandate those actions rests firmly in the commandment of YHWH.

We are now ready to discuss the idea of "sovereignty"

Noah Webster defined a "sovereign" as "...one who possesses the highest authority, without control." Consider this for a moment. Many today claim to be "sovereign citizens". They suppose that removing, or ignoring, extraneous control makes them a sovereign. Sovereignty possesses the highest authority therefore it demands that the sovereign must take absolute responsibility.

YHWH is a sovereign. He takes absolute responsibility for the care and support of all things; therefore he has absolute authority over all things. Yahshua was given authority over all things, because he took responsibility for all things. If we desire "sovereignty" or "sonship" we must enter into it through the door of responsibility. Authority will not be given to anyone who refuses responsibility, but in almost every case it is the automatic result of taking responsibility.

YHWH created the natural laws (General Laws) to govern all things. We call some of these laws "the Law of gravity", or of "motion", or of "thermodynamics." In addition to these natural laws which He gave to all creation, He gave a special revealed (Written Law) Law to His children (Israelites). This revealed Law was codified at Sinai, but the household of Adam (YHWH’s family) possessed it in one form or another from their beginning. This revealed Law explains how to make the best use of the natural laws.

Both the revealed and natural Word of YHWH are made known (a manifestation), in a way we carnal beings can understand, of the nature of our Almighty Sovereign Creator Father. Being immature, we can’t understand the fullness of YHWH, but we can begin to grasp how a bird can fly or how clouds form and move. In our infancy, we would not possibly understand the full circumference of the love of YHWH, but perhaps we could begin to understand why a murderer should be dealt with harshly, for his personal salvation, as well as the education of the individuals around him, who might possibly be considering murder. We might just grasp the kindness of leaving enough of our harvest in the field to feed those less fortunate. Taken alone these things may seem to be unimportant details, but taken together they begin to reveal the nature, character, and substance of our Almighty Sovereign Creator YHWH.

If we are to understand the righteous application of Scriptural government it must be clearly understood that the Greek writings (New Testament), the sayings and instructions of the Messiah Yahshua, was simply a continuation of the Tan’akh (Hebrew Scriptures), not in any way something new, or a revision. The Life imparted by the Deliverer and the guidance of the Spirit of YHWH enabled the First Century Assembly to fulfill that which was described in the Tan’akh (Hebrew Scriptures). Without the Life of Messiah as our guide, our example, and the guidance of the Spirit of YHWH dwelling within him,
it is not possible for any individual to "measure up" to those requirements of the revealed Law. With the Life of Messiah as our example and the guidance of the Spirit of YHWH it is impossible for anyone to ultimately fall short of the requirements of the Law. In time, the corporate body of the Sons of YHWH will also be a perfect manifestation of the Word of YHWH, just as Yahshua, was and is.

Please notice that "man" needs no intercessor between himself and YHWH. No church, no priest, no patriarch, no government. Each man is to have a personal living relationship with his Father. As long as a man remains under the "covering" of no-one but YHWH, he is granted authority. Remaining under the covering of YHWH, simply means walking in obedience to Him and His Word, by faithfulness.

We see this principle illustrated in the life of our father Adam. YHWH commanded him to "dress and keep the garden" or in other words, to take dominion over creation; to protect and serve it. He was given responsibility; therefore he was also given authority to administer the revealed Word of YHWH. As long as he remained obedient to YHWH (under his covering), Adam’s authority was absolute and unlimited, because it was not his authority, but rather by being under YHWH’s covering through obedience, YHWH’s Word was Adam’s Word. Obedience could be said to grant one a sort of "Power of Attorney". Adam’s "sovereignty" was conditional to his obedience, his faithfulness to the High Sovereign, YHWH.

When Adam rebelled, or disobeyed, he lost authority. We can see this today. If we abide by natural laws we can do, or are given authority over, incredible things. If we should attempt to ignore those laws, our undertaking would most likely be a failure, or turn out quite different than we anticipated. In reality when we "violate" a natural law we don’t escape it, but rather activate another law of which we may or may not be aware. After Adam’s "fall" the remaining authority he possessed was limited to the areas in which he remained faithful to the divine edict.

Obedience, personal accountability, is the basis of self-government. YHWH’s authority is the only real authority there is. He is the only one worth obeying. Submitting ourselves to "ordinances after the traditions of men" (e.g. covering our heads) will only lead to personal bondage and suffering. Self-government is only fully possible through observing the Life of Messiah, and by the illumination of YHWH’s council. No amount of physical might could accomplish it, but when one of YHWH’s children is empowered by His council they will express the "Kingdom (council) of heaven" on Earth.

The first thing Yahshua taught us was, "Repent for the Kingdom (council) of Heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). Repentance, or personal accountability to the Word of YHWH, is the first step to fulfilling the Kingdom (council) of YHWH within each of us. Without this foundational principle, the Kingdom (council) of YHWH does not exist on any other level.

Personal Sovereignty, or each individual taking responsibility for their personal instruction, sustenance, and protection on all levels of both the internal and external worlds, is the Kingdom! As we grow into Sovereigns, we mature into "Sonship." When we become "Kings" over our own mind, and our actions, a result shown in our daily lives, we learn Sovereignty. When we exercise self-government according to the Word of YHWH, we enter into and experience the Kingdom (council- and Government) of YHWH. If we reject His Word, if we refuse to be governed by the principles of the Divine Edict, we refuse citizenship in the Kingdom (council) of YHWH.

The Kingdom Within is the foundation principle of all other facets of the Kingdom (council) of YHWH. If it is not found within us, it will not be found outside!

By John Smith (used by permission). Updated by AOYCascade Dec. 20, 2016.

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