Collateral Damage and the Heart of God

Part Seventeen

(Redemptive Rejuvenation)

Meditating on the Bible

Matthew 19:16-26

And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

He saith unto him, Which?

Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

In a prior section of our study of collateral damage and the Heart of God, we spoke of, rooms of separation from the principles of grace and redemption, such as one occupies when one moves too far from the center of the LORD'S will. This was a state in which the children of Israel often abided; however, it was not a state that was permanent. As given for the sake of the people of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, this promise of the LORD still prevailed; even when Israel was in one of those rooms.

And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of

sacrifice.

If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place. For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

(2 Chronicles 7:12-16)

Thus, in fulfillment of that pronouncement of the LORD; the time would come, when the LORD would extract Israel from its room of rebellion. Actually, there would be many such extractions. Two detailed progressions of rebellious circumstances that would require extraction are contained in the book of Leviticus, chapter twenty-six, and the book of Leviticus, chapter twenty-eight (The Curses). We have included these lists as an addendum to this portion of the study of collateral damage and the Heart of God.

To remove an occupant from any of the rooms of separation requires the inflicting of, pruning by stripes. However, for many observers, pruning is seen as being an affliction; as by, stripes that will make you be a portion of collateral damage. This is perceived to be an unacceptable violation of man's, so called, free will; because, there is that matter of, freedom of choice, which is often flaunted at God. I guess; there are some people who think that, God has established a democracy as pertains to the things of the LORD. Please know that, this is not so. Please know that; God is a, shall we say, Dictator--of a most blessed kind. The children of Israel received our introduction to that fact, here.

Take heed to thyself, lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither thou goest, lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee: But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves: For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice; And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods. (Exodus 34:12-16)

It is not possible for the LORD to be true to omniscience, and yet, to still allow a democracy to sway the course of the kingdom of man. This particular Scripture indicates that God has locked Himself into being the Head of all things; as being, the Top of the command chain.

Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I

am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

(Isaiah 46:9-11)

Additionally, the omnipotence of God is another part of His Manifestation that does not allow the LORD to let democracy rule over the course of the kingdom of man. The things that occur in the kingdom of man must follow ordinances that support the position of the LORD God, as revealed in this Scripture, here.

Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

(Isaiah 55:6-11)

We must submit our self to the way of the LORD. Verily, we <u>will</u> submit our self to the way of the LORD--period. This is not a thing that is odious. If you just allow yourself to admit it, you will understand that; the way of the LORD is the only route that has the power and authority that is necessary to meld the entire human condition into a prosperous whole. Therefore, to collect all things of the kingdom of man, into a unity of progression toward excellence, the LORD sent out this word from God's omniscience.

Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed. In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

(Isaiah 45:21-25)

The kingdom of man is a closed container. This includes the possibility that; mankind may, one day, expand the human-resident part of the kingdom of man, into outer space. And, even when we colonize the heavens; still, we are in the closed container that represents the kingdom of man. Yes, we are aware that; from man's perspective, such an expansion will be an increase in the size of the kingdom of man. But, regardless of man's perspective; you can be sure that, the LORD ordained all such expansions.

Yes; we, all mankind, are constrained by the LORD. All things are constrained by the LORD; whether they are human, or not. Here, we see non-human containment.

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God should for joy?

Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it, And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place; That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it? (Job 38:1-13)

When you think of the kingdom of man as being a closed system; then, you will have a better chance of understanding the pruning that is required therein. Since, while it is resident in the kingdom of man, there is no elective exit available for anything that is in the kingdom of man; then, those things that are in the kingdom of man must be modified to maintain the integrity of the kingdom of man. The integrity of the kingdom of man is maintained by the process of pruning, as happens with the application of stripes, thusly.

And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.

But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes.

For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

(Luke 12:42-48)

That the kingdom of man is a closed system indicates that there is an existence outside of that space. That outside area, too, is a potential space for discovery by mankind. Yes, there is an exit from the kingdom of man, as in moving from this space in existence, into the one that is outside of it--which, as we said, is not electively accessed by us. We are not considering the place of exit, at this time; however, for the sake of, completion in understanding, here is the revelation of the place of exit from the kingdom of man.

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

(2 Corinthians 5:1-8)

Please note that, I did not jump to referring to that external space as being Heaven. The dynamics of Heaven is a separate subject, unto its self. At this time, we have restrained our self from identification of that space with Heaven because of the following Scripture, which describes a place of being present with the LORD, while not being in Heaven. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

(Revelation 20:11-14)

The place of the great white throne is a spanned place that considers both the kingdom of man and the Kingdom of Heaven. This is a place of restriction of the integrity of the kingdom of man. That is why death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. In the restriction of the kingdom of man, as in its awareness of the Kingdom of God, there is no need for the quickening that was brought about by these interventions. This is the time of transition away from the requirement for collateral damage.

As we are drawn into the glory of the great white throne, we will be moved to a position at which, we will not need the pruning that is the basis of collateral damage in the kingdom of man. Surely, in the presence of God, as it is in Heaven, there is no collateral damage--at least, not directly. Okay, since you insist on knowing why I say, not directly; here is an indirect piece of collateral damage that operates from Heaven.

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them.

Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

(Revelation 12:7-12)

Surely, the damage that was done by that adversary of God was of a very broad reach; moreover, it rarely considered the impact that its actions had in creating pockets of collateral damage. However, as of the end of that Age, this agent of adversity has been removed to its place, and the collateral damage that it caused was reassigned to other places, in the kingdom of man. For instance, there is one such place, which is a mental space, abiding in a perception of being collateral damage. In this place--which is generated by the mind of man--there is the idea that, deprivation causes damage that is unearned, or, even, unfair.

Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee.

(Mark 10:28)

Because this is a place of service for the LORD God, the Father; therefore, it operates in the rules of Heaven. Wherefore; because it operates in the rules of the Kingdom of God; therefore, it cannot, in any wise, be damaging to the faithful one, in the LORD. The beloved Angel of the LORD explained this to Peter, here.

And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

But many that are first shall be last; and the last first. (Mark 10:29-31)

The main portion of collateral damage that is in the persecutions is a self-generated portion. In that self-generated portion, we look at a situation, and we determine that, it is not something that is pleasant to us. We determine that; we are trapped in a burden, by no fault of our own. Maybe, we should try to be discerning about the difference between pruning, and being collateral damage. For instance, to a child, a spanking could be viewed as being damaging; even though, in the overall development of a child, a spanking, rightly applied, is pruning. This rises all the way to the place where God is the Father of the Arm of the spanking, as follows:

For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

(Hebrews 12:3-13)

Most commonly, though, as it pertains to recognition by man, there is the, pruning interpreted as unwarranted (collateral) damage, as applied by earthly parents. In the way of the LORD, the pruning is done with this in mind: *Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* (Proverbs 22:6) Oh, you thought that I would refer you to a physical encounter, rather than a mental one? Well . . . the mental pruning is of greater importance than the physical pruning. Indeed, in any physical pruning (spanking), there needs to be a goodly measure of training. In that case, the training is directed toward teaching someone how to avoid those things that need to be pruned by spanking.

We need to consider the pruning that is done in love, as being set a significantly large logical distance from the pruning that is attempted in manipulation. The episodes of, pruning in manipulation, are truly things that will bring about collateral damage. This is true, even when the thing that is done seems to be positive, and when it is against the requirement of the LORD. This sort of confusion has been known to infest some of the works that are done in the church. Jesus Christ spoke of this type of infestation.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (Matthew 7:21-23)

Such people cause confusion among their followers; in that, they will not be able to present a reliable cause of action, to them. Therefore, they cause damage to both sides of the encounter. On their side is the damage that is earned--the recompense. On the other side, there is collateral damage, in that; the thing that is on the other side of the confusion

of benefit by participation is this: the individual or group that is damaged, without having been apprised of the damage. These are the folks that depend on the work product of the deviant servant of the LORD.

Damaging confusion is not a necessary part of pruning for righteous service to God. As included below, Scripture tells us of one that escape the confusion that is set out by misinformed informers.

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. (Matthew 7:24-25)

That escape is set beside the voluntary captivity, in most cases, of those that fall prey to the confusion of mind that comes from depending on words and principles that are of man.

And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. (Matthew 7:26-27)

Scripture tells us of other groups that will become damaged by receiving defective presentations of the way of the LORD; whether the members of the group participated in the corruption, or not. Here is the parable that acquaints us with these groups . . .

The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying,

Behold, a sower went forth to sow; And when he sowed,

some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:

. . .

(Matthew 13:1-7)

... And, Scripture also has commentary on the proper cultivation that is done, which

greatly decreases the need for spiritual pruning.

But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. (Matthew 13:8-9)

Then, to remove any hint of misunderstanding prophetic mystery; here is the exploration of the mission of the kingdom of man as it has been assigned to the ministry of the church . . .

Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.

When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.

He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

(Matthew 13:18-23)

To avoid damaging others, we must apply, only the LORD'S pruning principles. To avoid being damaged our self, we must submit our self, only to the pruning principles of the Father. This means that; we must be watchful of our environment, and willing to ask the LORD for further guidance about the portion of the ministry to the kingdoms of the world that God has placed in our spiritual portfolio. To do that, we must internalize the spirit of this necessary pruning principle; so that, we will avoid unnecessary collateral damage.

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

(Acts 1:6-8)

Having received that power, we need to be ready to participate in the pruning that the world needs. Please remember this: the power to serve the LORD is not given to us for only a local implementation. The branches that have grown from the vine of the Son of God need to pursue the development of vines of another sort, in the world, at large. These are the words of that commissioning.

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

Amen.

(Mark 16:15-20)

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Collateral Damage and the Heart of God Part Seventeen (Addendum) The Curses Progression One

• Level 1 - Cultural decline:

I am the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that ye should not be their bondmen; and I have broken the bands of your yoke, and made you go upright.

But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant: I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you.

(Leviticus 26:13-17)

• Level 2 - Agricultural erosion:

And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass: And your strength shall be spent in vain: for your land shall not yield her increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruits.

(Leviticus 26:18-20)

• Level 3 - Dominion reversal:

And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins. I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your high ways shall be desolate. (Leviticus 26:21-22)

• Level 4 - Heightened insecurity:

And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me; Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied. (Leviticus 26:23-26)

• Level 5 - Familial and societal implosion:

And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me; Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins. And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat. And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your images, and cast your carcases upon the carcases of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you.

And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours. And I will bring the land into desolation: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.

Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye be in your enemies' land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths. As long as it lieth desolate it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when ye dwelt upon it.

(Leviticus 26:27-34)

• Level 6 - Codification of paranoiac conspiracy theorizing:

And upon them that are left alive of you I will send a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; and the sound of a shaken leaf shall chase them; and they shall flee, as fleeing from a sword; and they shall fall when none pursueth. And they shall fall one upon another, as it were before a sword, when none pursueth: and ye shall have no power to stand before your enemies. And ye shall perish among the heathen, and the land of your enemies shall eat you up. And they that are left of you shall pine away in their iniquity in your enemies' lands; and also in the iniquities of their fathers shall they pine away with them.

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(Leviticus 26:36-39)

Collateral Damage and the Heart of God Part Seventeen (Addendum) The Curses Multiple Rooms of Anguish

• Inescapable Recompense:

But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:

(Leviticus 28:15)

• Failing Resources:

Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field. Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store. Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.

(Leviticus 28:16-20)

• Faulty Healthcare:

The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it. The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish. (Leviticus 28:21-22)

• <u>Climate Challenges:</u>

And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron. The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

(Leviticus 28:23-24)

• Ineffective Military:

The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth. And thy carcase shall be meat unto all fowls of the air, and unto the beasts of the earth, and no man shall fray them away.

The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed. The LORD shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart: And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save thee. (Leviticus 28:25-29)

• <u>Unstable Legacy:</u>

Thou shalt betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her: thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof. Thine ox shall be slain before thine eyes, and thou shalt not eat thereof: thine ass shall be violently taken away from before thy face, and shall not be restored to thee: thy sheep shall be given unto thine enemies, and thou shalt have none to rescue them.

Thy sons and thy daughters shall be given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail with longing for them all the day long: and there shall be no might in thine hand.

The fruit of thy land, and all thy labours, shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up; and thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed alway: So that thou shalt be mad for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see. (Leviticus 28:30-34)

• <u>Counterproductive Medicine:</u>

The LORD shall smite thee in the knees, and in the legs, with a sore botch that cannot be healed, from the sole of thy foot unto the top of thy head. (Leviticus 28:35)

• Flighty Governance:

The LORD shall bring thee, and thy king which thou shalt set over thee, unto a nation which neither thou nor thy fathers have known; and there shalt thou serve other gods, wood and stone. And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee.

(Leviticus 28:36-37)

• <u>Declining Productivity:</u>

Thou shalt carry much seed out into the field, and shalt gather but little in; for the locust shall consume it. Thou shalt plant vineyards, and dress them, but shalt neither drink of the wine, nor gather the grapes; for the worms shall eat them. Thou shalt have olive trees throughout all thy coasts, but thou shalt not anoint thyself with the oil; for thine olive shall cast his fruit.

Thou shalt beget sons and daughters, but thou shalt not enjoy them; for they shall go into captivity.

All thy trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume. (Leviticus 28:38-42)

• <u>Reverse Esteem:</u>

The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low. He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail. (Leviticus 28:43-44)

• Inescapable Recompense:

Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee: And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder, and upon thy seed for ever. Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things; Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.

(Leviticus 28:45-48)

• Enduring Consequence:

The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand; A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor show favour to the young: And he shall eat the fruit

of thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which also shall not leave thee either corn, wine, or oil, or the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee. And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

And thou shalt eat the fruit of thine own body, the flesh of thy sons and of thy daughters, which the LORD thy God hath given thee, in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee: So that the man that is tender among you, and very delicate, his eye shall be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the remnant of his children which he shall leave: So that he will not give to any of them of the flesh of his children whom he shall eat: because he hath nothing left him in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee in all thy gates.

The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter, And toward her young one that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children which she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things secretly in the siege and straitness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee in thy gates.

(Leviticus 28:49-57)

• LORD'S Certification:

If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD; Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance. Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee. Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the LORD thy God. And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it.

And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone. And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind: And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life: In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

And the LORD shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you.

(Leviticus 28:58-68)

Next In Collateral Damage and The Heart of God

(Grafting)