

kingdom of man
as layered humanity
Part Seventeen
(Religion- Focused)

=====

Meditating on the Bible

Job 13:13-22

Hold your peace, let me alone, that I may speak, and let come on me what will. Wherefore do I take my flesh in my teeth, and put my life in mine hand? Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him. He also shall be my salvation: for an hypocrite shall not come before him.

Hear diligently my speech, and my declaration with your ears. Behold now, I have ordered my cause; I know that I shall be justified. Who is he that will plead with me? for now, if I hold my tongue, I shall give up the ghost. Only do not two things unto me: then will I not hide myself from thee. Withdraw thine hand far from me: and let not thy dread make me afraid. Then call thou, and I will answer: or let me speak, and answer thou me.

+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+

In the discussion of the span of, responsibility as it passes across the history of man, we referred to another level of responsibility: God's Responsibility. This level is superior to man, and to the entire history of the kingdom of man--including that portion known as, the future.

We must say at the outset: this topic is, generally, uncomfortable for people to include in their meditations. We know that; it is somewhat difficult, for us to try to think of God as having limitations (gasp). Well . . . we are pulling you into that area of discomfort.

To begin, we say that; we are persuaded that, God invoked His Responsibility in this event.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

(Genesis 1:1-3)

At that time, as God expressed His Productivity; thereby, He became Responsible for

ensuring the Integrity of the new Creation--in its forward flow, through time. As we consider God's Integrity, there is no need to feel uncomfortable about God's Responsibility. The LORD God imposed Responsibility upon His Self-Spirit. This was done in that Pattern of Behavior in which God moved, here.

And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

(Genesis 22:15-18)

By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD: this is the Pattern in which, God expresses His Responsibility. To give us more confidence in the acceptance of that Pattern, the LORD provided more instances of this occurrence, as seen in the Bible. Here is another time of the Invocation of Responsibility.

Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save. 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 45:20-25)

In the New Age's dawning, an apostle of God provided additional edification, as to how the LORD'S Spirit flows through the Operation of, Obligating Himself.

For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself, Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife. Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed

it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

(Hebrews 6:13-18)

That message of the apostle is a pointer to another transverse section of God's grace, as flowing across the history of the kingdom of man. Let us creep up on the point of beginning for that section of history. The transverse section was formed when God moved some Responsibility into a human-focused Sample Package, which abides in the kingdom of man. By this extraction of a Portion of His Self, a new logical path of living was injected into the potentiality of humankind. This new potentiality bears the name, religion. The summation of the operation of that transverse section--religion--is contained in this presentation of its basic functionality, as delivered by the Word of God.

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

*If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:
But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword:
for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.*

(Isaiah 1:16-20)

Our first introduction to the transverse section that is religion was a very quiet one. It is indicated in this Scripture.

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

(Genesis 3:8-9)

What an honor it must have been, for mankind to be in the path of this near direct communion with the LORD God. It would seem that, Adam would have been greatly honored at the introduction. Alas, this introduction, of the power of potentiality that is in religion, came to us at a bad time, for us. At that time, it seems that we were in a position of resistance to communion with God. It seems that; at that time, we were preoccupied with our insufficient state of worthiness for such communion. It is a good thing that, God does not modify His communion with us, solely as based on our readiness, or not. This is the pattern that flows in the religion transverse section of the kingdom of man.

Here is additional evidence of the dynamics of the flow of religious communion, as streaming in the kingdom of man, as occurred in the life of the prophet Elijah.

And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?

And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD.

And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD;

but the LORD was not in the wind:

and after the wind an earthquake;

but the LORD was not in the earthquake:

And after the earthquake a fire;

but the LORD was not in the fire:

and after the fire a still small voice.

(1 Kings 19:9-12)

At that encounter, Elijah was drawn to God, thusly: by a peaceful attention to the *still small voice* of religious participation. Additionally; in the extension of the equation of communion in religion, we, too, are pulled into communion with God--whether we want to be drawn to Him, or not. One of man's more common exclamations, "God help us," seems to have a life of its own, as in sounding out in our walk in the kingdom of man. In the Word of God, we see where this exclamation started its journey in our time space. As recorded in Scripture, the place is, here.

And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos:

then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.

(Genesis 4:25-26)

Understand this: the cry of the religious man is no different than the cry of an infant. Both cries are ways of petitioning for the parent's attention. Specifically, for mankind; the cry of the religious man is to the Father. Yes, we all are in the family of God. The linkage of our self (as collective humankind) is in two patterns of existence in the transverse section of religion. Here is the first portion of the connecting of the line of man, with the Essence of God, as seen in reverse order, as in reference to Genesis 4:25-26.

...

*Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth,
which was the son of Adam,
which was the son of God.*

(Luke 3:38)

Before we present the next portion; here is the bridge that binds them.

*Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave
unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

(Genesis 2:24)

Now, let us go on to the second part.

*And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all
living.*

(Genesis 3:20)

These first children of God are significant morsels of God's Responsibility, as passing through the LORD'S purpose for adam (mankind), to give eternal validity to our cry for the Father's attention. Wherefore; religion is not a transverse section that is based on employment, with wages for services. This is the place in which God's Self-imposed Responsibility for His children flows. The beauty of that relationship is that, we cannot corrupt this flow of religion. We cannot do so by our contrivances, or by any other effort of mankind. All such things are outside of this blessed section through our history; as, they run only in the portion of existence that houses philosophy and psychology.

Please, do not ever mingle your soul's consideration of the philosophy and psychology section, as interspersed or identified with the transverse section for religion. The philosophy and psychology section, in its combined flow, is a man-centric allowance for humankind, as by the grace of God. The transverse section that is religion is an introduction to the Essence of God, as fashioned by the Father's Hand. As it proceeds across the history of the kingdom of man, the transverse section that is, religion, is governed by this rule.

*But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ,
(by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit
together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he
might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us
through Christ Jesus.*

*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it
is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

(Ephesians 2:4-9)

Does this mean that; there is a competing section of our history that is comparable to, God's Responsibility as in religion? No! The other area--which houses philosophy and psychology--is the place where idols are spawned. Those spawns are of the sort, and with the same texture, as these ones.

The smith with the tongs both worketh in the coals, and fashioneth it with hammers, and worketh it with the strength of his arms: yea, he is hungry, and his strength faileth: he drinketh no water, and is faint.

The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with the compass, and maketh it after the figure of a man, according to the beauty of a man; that it may remain in the house. He heweth him down cedars, and taketh the cypress and the oak, which he strengtheneth for himself among the trees of the forest: he planteth an ash, and the rain doth nourish it. Then shall it be for a man to burn: for he will take thereof, and warm himself; yea, he kindleth it, and baketh bread; yea, he maketh a god, and worshippeth it; he maketh it a graven image, and falleth down thereto.

He burneth part thereof in the fire; with part thereof he eateth flesh; he roasteth roast, and is satisfied: yea, he warmeth himself, and saith, Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire: And the residue thereof he maketh a god, even his graven image: he falleth down unto it, and worshippeth it, and prayeth unto it, and saith, Deliver me; for thou art my god.

(Isaiah 44:12-17)

In that place; oftentimes, we are oblivious to the obvious illogic that is in our stance. To help us see that illogic, the LORD released this, His ordinance for, and observation of, our behavior in that place.

They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand. And none considereth in his heart, neither is there knowledge nor understanding to say, I have burned part of it in the fire; yea, also I have baked bread upon the coals thereof; I have roasted flesh, and eaten it: and shall I make the residue thereof an abomination? shall I fall down to the stock of a tree?

He feedeth on ashes: a deceived heart hath turned him aside, that he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, Is there not a lie in my right hand?

(Isaiah 44:18-20)

These things dissolve, as by the intensity of the Word of God. And when these are set aside; still, we will walk in the way that is as the apostle Paul declared.

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is

