

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## THE LIFE OF JESUS

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### PART 7: TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK

#### **CRUEL LAWS**

Moses lived some 2,500 years before the incarnation of Jesus and the justice system among the heathen nations was cruel and most offenses lead to a death sentence. Jesus wanted to give the nation of Israel criminal laws that were fair and would deter people from hurting one another.

Therefore Jesus devised a set of laws which demanded that a malicious perpetrator suffer the same loss as the injured party. An Israeli man or woman was not allowed to carry out a vigilante justice; all criminal activities were to be settled within the court system set up by Jesus. **Deuteronomy 19:1-21**

#### **SMITING THE RIGHT CHEEK**

Jesus had no intention of changing the state justice system of Israel. What He sought to do instead was set up new regulations for His disciples in their personal life.

The custom at the time was for a slave owner (wealthy person or a Roman officer/soldier) to rebuke a person by slapping them on the right cheek. The person receiving the slap was not to retaliate but simply to accept the rebuke and make a correction in his life. On the other hand, it was a great insult and could lead to a fight if a Jew slapped another Jew. This is what happened during the medieval times; a person would use his glove and slap the other person across the right cheek if they wanted to duel.

In the Talmud, which the Pharisees followed, the right hand was considered pure, while the left hand was used to clean up after a bowel movement or to hold the penis while urinating. Imagine that someone slapped your right cheek with his right hand and then you suggest that they use their left hand to slap your left cheek. It would be humiliating to the slapper and a reverse rebuke. **Matthew 5:38-39**

#### **BEING SUED IN A COURT OF LAW**

If someone takes you to court over a dispute and demands the court award him a favorable judgment, Jesus did not intend this as a license to steal by using the courts to sue and take away someone else's property. His intention was not to fight over petty issues, but to let it go, and let the other person win. **verse 40**

Jesus set up a court system so that all conflicts between Christians could be handled within the church and not utilize the secular court system. **Matthew 18:15-17**

The apostle Paul built upon this teaching and made it clear that believers are not to take other believers to a secular court. **1 Corinthians 6:1-8**



## **THE CHURCH HAS BEEN CORRUPTED**

Jesus never set up denominations; splits are the result of Christians not getting along with one another and setting up a network that is ruled by a hierarchy. Roman Catholicism is the worst offender as its leadership has murdered millions of people in the name of Jesus. From the time of its inception in 325 A.D., the innocent blood of people killed by the church is crying out before the Lord. **Revelation 6:9-11**

There are other Roman Catholic denominations like the Greek Orthodox Church, Russian Orthodox Church and other Orthodox churches in Eastern Europe which are just as guilty.

The Roman Catholic Church persecuted the Protestant movement that later turned into rigid denominations in the different Scandinavian countries. From 1700's to the 1900's, the leadership of these Lutheran churches persecuted people who undertook home Bible studies and they were arrested, beaten and put in prison with a meager diet of bread and water until they died. Their only crime was that they bucked the state church and began preaching that people needed to be born again.

The Roman Catholics persecuted the Lutherans, who in turn persecuted the Baptists, who in turn persecuted the Pentecostals, who in turn persecuted the independent Christians. All of this happened in Sweden and I saw it firsthand.

## **DENOMINATIONS**

All these denominations are like Mafia-run trade unions. Each denomination has its own educational system to produce ministers in their seminaries and colleges.

- ❖ To advance in a denomination, a minister must adhere to the official doctrine even it doesn't always agree with the Bible.
- ❖ When a student graduates from a seminary, he is placed in a small church where he has to work until he can apply for a job in a bigger church.
- ❖ Usually churches are divided into districts and each state has its own convention. Then there is the national convention.
- ❖ In order to climb the denominational ladder, a pastor needs to cultivate friendship with older pastors, who in turn will put in "a good word" so the young pastor can get a larger church with more income.
- ❖ Many pastors try to land denominational positions which will give them political clout and a nice salary. To get to the top jobs in a denomination, a minister has to keep his mouth shut and look the other way when there are doctrinal inconsistencies and shady dealings.
- ❖ Sexual perversion, pornography and other vices are also common. The corrupt clergy will protect their own at any cost.
- ❖ Denominations control their pastors through the retirement plan and health care system. A pastor who has been in the denomination for a few years accumulates funds to draw upon when he retires. If a pastor runs afoul of the denomination, there is a church trial where he is defrocked and he loses all retirement funds and access to the health care plan.

- ❖ Large numbers of pastors in the United States are members of masonic lodges. They have taken an oath of death, renounced Christ, and embraced Lucifer. These renegade pastors are not going to uphold the teachings of Jesus nor will they administer justice to the people in their churches.

It is almost impossible for a true Christian to use the church to settle disputes with another Christian. Just like the secular court system, money and influence will determine a church trial, and thus most Christians do not trust their pastors and cannot get justice when they are wronged.

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***