



**Portion:**

**Title:**

## **SCRIPTURES**

- Matthew 18-19
- John 8:1-12; 20:23
- Matthew 13:32; 16:19

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

- The Fingerprint to God
- Legal Precedent
- The Keys to the Kingdom

*It's a double entendre. Don't you just love how that flows off your tongue? A double entendre is when something has a twofold or double meaning. That's the simple explanation. Here it is used to describe when a single phrase is intended to amalgamate two ideas that seem to compete for precedence, into one unified concept. And as you contemplate what that means to you, and what is meant by "compete," avoid the temptation to believe that those thoughts must "oppose" one another, and rather consider that they are two lofty ideas connected to one another, yet difficult to think about simultaneously.*

*Double entendres birth two independent thoughts in one moment, thoughts that require intense focus and concentration, demanding the expenditure of abundant mental energy. You must discipline your mind to instantly switch between two ideas again*

*and again, until they blend. Maybe it's the sentence structure that changes the potential meaning, depending on how you read it, necessitating a double-take like:*

*“The voice of one crying in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord...” or, “I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God...” or, “I say to you today you will be with Me in Paradise...” or, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God...” or, “If you've seen Me you've seen the Father because I and My father are one, and you are one just as We are One.”*

*Think hard! Is the voice shouting in the wilderness or is the preparation in the wilderness? Is He drinking the wine and then waiting to drink again, or is He not drinking until? Is He telling the man today about paradise or will the man be with Him in paradise today? And, are they calling Him good because only God is good and He is God, or is it that only God is good so they should not call Him good? It must be because He is one with God which makes Him both the same as the Father, but also separate and equally yoked, and so are you! So much to think about—so many double meanings that it makes your brain hurt!*

*Or imagine a double entendre as a phrase that might be both a noun and a description, character trait, or directive of that noun at the same moment. Consider a noun phrase like “The Narrow*

*Road.” Yes the road itself is narrow, plus the path traveled is less frequented because those on it are a rarer breed who must choose to do the less popular thing, because the more popular thing is the wrong thing which is more attractive.*

*And then there is the double entendre that inspired this message...”Legal Matters.” Any matter of law is a legal matter and all matters of law really matter. As you will soon discover, Y’shua utilized the law to navigate the rough terrain of first century legalism and to reveal just how to apply His Father’s commands in everyday life circumstances. In other words, He took the law out of the Book and used it to rule on specific legal matters, thereby turning law into case law. And He did that in two ways: the first was during actual events, like the woman accused of adultery. The second was by displaying in a fictional story how He would rule; we call those parables. Yes, parables are meant to establish case law. In both ways He operated as the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Heaven, thus setting precedent for all who would follow. Will you follow?*

### **PROPHETIC SEED:**

*“Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. **And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life,** that he may learn to fear the*

Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, **that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left**, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel." Deuteronomy 17:18-20 NKJV

"One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; **by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established.**" Deut. 19:15 NKJV

"And I will give you the **keys of the kingdom of heaven**, and **whatever you** bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."" Mat. 16:19 NKJV

### **PROPHETIC FRUIT:**

""Assuredly, I say to you, **whatever you bind** on earth will be bound in heaven, and **whatever you loose** on earth will be loosed in heaven. "Again I say to you **that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything** that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For **where two or three are gathered together** in My name, I am there in the midst of them."" Matthew 18:18-20 NKJV

# Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

## Introduction

Last week in [Climb Your Mountains](#) we witnessed one of the most important prophetic events in the New Testament. Y'shua was transfigured into a being of light in the presence of Peter, James, and John. Moses and Elijah then appeared connecting this event to some of the most important prophecies in the Bible.

We were also introduced to a few other key ideas in this chapter. It takes preparation with prayer and fasting, at times, to do spiritual warfare; the disciples get exposed to the idea that Y'shua will be killed as part of His ministry, and we see that Y'shua is very concerned with His disciples keeping their word, even when they make an error in giving it!

This week we will explore the fourth discourse in Matthew 18, the Discourse on the Church. And as we learned way back in our introduction to the Gospel of Matthew, each discourse corresponds to a Torah Scroll, this one Numbers: the anticipation of leaving this place to survey a new land.

A quick summary of what we see on chapters 18 is as follows: Y'shua loves to use the innocence of children as an object lesson; warns us about offenses; protects His lost sheep; teaches us the step-by-step process for dealing with the sin and conflict with

others; and then uses a parable to demonstrate proper forgiveness. Learn the power of unrestricted forgiveness and the danger of unforgiveness.

In Chapter 19, He teaches us about marriage and divorce; the calling of the few to be celibate; and then He counsels the rich young ruler. It seems quite impossible what He asks of us, but He ensures us that all things are possible with God!

## **Matthew 18**

### **Who is the Greatest?**

1. After Y'shua taught that "the sons (children) of the King are free" at the end of Mathew 17, as usual, the disciples take His words in the wrong direction: "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
2. Y'shua draws attention to a little child as an object lesson and then proceeds to teach many lessons using children.
3. The first is that disciples must, in their conversion, become like little children if they wish to "enter the kingdom of heaven."
4. The more "childlike" you become, the more "Christlike" you become.
5. He caps this allegory by essentially saying that if you get this "child-like" comparison, you get Me!

## **Y'shua Warns of Offenses**

6. Do not inspire "His children" to sin.
7. You'd be better off drowned in the sea than doing that!
8. The world is full of offenses and the men who are responsible for them will be held accountable.
9. You're much better off being the one offended than being the offender!
10. In fact, it's as serious as this: you'd be better off going through life completely disabled than causing someone else to become disabled!

## **The Parable of the Lost Sheep**

11. What God sees in little ones is of such value that each is assigned angels.
12. Think of it like this:
  - (a) Y'shua is intent on protecting and developing everyone who has become a child of God.
  - (b) If even one goes astray (gets enticed to backslide, not take their faith seriously), He will go after them every time!
  - (c) In some ways, Y'shua is most excited when all His sheep are tracking together to become like Him.
  - (d) In the end, the Father's will is that all stay on track and work together on becoming Christlike.

## **Dealing with Sin in a Brother**

13. Steps for Conflict Resolution (when one brother sins against another):

- (a) Go tell him his fault privately (just the two of you). If you resolve it that way, the brotherhood is preserved.
- (b) If not, then go again with one or two witnesses, because the law says that is how a matter is proved.
- (c) "By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established."
- (d) If that does not work, bring him to the local church leadership.
- (e) If he ignores the church leadership, then consider him a heathen and move on from him.

14. At that point Y'shua reminds us of what He promised Peter when He gave him the keys to the kingdom.

- (a) Presumably this is how the conflict must be settled if the brother is obstinate.
- (b) Unilateral settlement: God's side decides!
- (c) Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

15. Then Y'shua teaches us about the power of agreement!



- (a) If two agree on earth (presumably the believer in conflict along with his witnesses and/or Church leadership) concerning anything, the Father will seal it in heaven!
- (b) When you do this, it's as if you have the witness of Christ sealing the deal!

### **The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

16. Peter then inquires about how forgiveness works. Is there a limit to the magnitude of offense that can be forgiven and how often? The answer is a resounding NO! And then Y'shua gives us an extreme allegory to demonstrate how forgiveness works!
17. Y'shua begins with His classic, "The kingdom of heaven is like..."
- (a) The king has debts to settle with his servants.
  - (b) One servant owes him ten thousand talents.
18. He obviously has no way to pay, so he is about to be sold into slavery with his entire family.
19. He begs his master to have patience, to give him time to pay (which is also obviously ridiculous because no amount of time will be sufficient to pay such a insurmountable debt). But, his master is moved with compassion and forgives the entire debt.
20. But then that servant went out and approached a brother who owed him one hundred denarii.

21. He threatened him with physical violence and demanded payment.
22. Just as he himself had done earlier, his brother begged him for patience—to give him time to pay (something that would actually be possible).
23. But, unlike his compassionate master, he would not offer the same forgiveness to his brother.
24. When others noticed the inequity of the situation, they notified their master.
25. The master called in the man who had been forgiven LITERALLY 2000 lifetimes worth of debt and rebuked him!
26. You wicked man; I forgave you an insurmountable debt and you could not show any pity for someone who owed you pennies in comparison? For such an atrocity I am withdrawing my forgiveness; your debt is reinstated and you will be punished daily until you pay every last cent (a sentence of permanent torture).
27. Lesson: If you do not forgive your brother, My Father will not forgive you.

## **Matthew 19**

### **Marriage and Divorce**

28. The masses keep following and He keeps healing.

29. The Pharisees put Him to the test by questioning Him on divorce.
30. He responds to their attempt to entrap Him by doing what He does so well, by asking a question and then He refers to the Torah (the Law) in Genesis.
31. They ask Y'shua why Moses "commanded" to give a certificate of divorce, if you want to to "put away a wife?"
32. He clears up the confusion nicely, passing their test easily!
33. God knows man's heart and He set in place accommodations and a path to reconciliation, and that is why Moses gave a certificate of divorce.
34. He adds this stipulation: sexual immorality and adultery as the only acceptable reason for divorce.
35. His disciples standing by conclude they'd be better off staying single.

### **Y'shua Teaches about Celibacy**

36. Y'shua acknowledges that it is quite a hard choice to make—to stay unmarried and sexually pure, and that it is only right to choose so if you are called to it by God.
37. Some people are born that way and some people choose to do so for the kingdom of heaven's sake.

## **Y'shua Blesses the Little Children**

38. Then He laid His hands on the little children and prays for them.
39. His disciples don't like it for some reason, but He rebukes them and explains how children have many attributes of the kingdom of heaven.

## **Y'shua Counsels the Rich Young Ruler**

40. Then we have the famous lesson for the young rich leader.
41. He is obviously a faithful Jewish man. He asks... "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"
42. First Y'shua clarifies what is good! "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God."
43. He meets the man's current level of understanding and then hooks him.
44. And then the man comes to the exact place Y'shua's questions were meant to bring him!
45. You are missing everything. And Y'shua helps him move past his wrong thinking, even though in the end the man opts out, and instead chooses to stay with his religion and his wealth!

## **With God All Things are Possible**

46. The disciples, who at this stage of their development still tend toward needing a bit more clarity after a deep message, are given a further explanation.

47. Peter believes the disciples have done just what Y'shua has explained!
48. Y'shua assures Him that He sees all and that they will be rewarded (they and everyone else) who gave it all up for Him—in this life and into eternity!
49. It may not look like what you think because the Kingdom of God is upside down—the first will be last, and the last first!

## THE FINGERPRINT TO GOD

### 1. Natural Laws

#### A. All the laws of nature (natural laws) are God's laws!

##### (1) Food for Thought

- (a) Humans do not create natural laws. They do however identify their presence, study their effects, and then reverse engineer them, so we can then put them into practical use.
- (b) Consider how an airplane will predictably fly and how a massive ship will predictably float.

##### (2) Lift

- (a) Lift is a mechanical force. It is generated by the interaction and contact of a solid body [*i.e. the wings and fuselage of an airplane*] with a fluid (liquid or gas) [*i.e. the air that passes over and over the wings and*

*fuselage of an airplane*]. For lift to be generated, the solid body must be in contact with the fluid: no fluid, no lift.

- (b) Because air is a gas and the molecules are free to move about, any solid surface can deflect or direct a flow.
- (c) Lift occurs when a flow of gas is “turned or directed” by a solid object. The flow is “turned or directed” in one direction, and the lift is generated in the opposite direction, according to Newton’s Third Law of action and reaction.

### (3) Surface Tension

- (a) The tension of the surface film of a liquid caused by the attraction of the particles in the surface layer by the bulk of the liquid, which tends to minimize surface area.
- (b) The property of the surface of a liquid that allows it to resist an external force [*i.e. a massive cruise ship sitting on top of water*], due to the cohesive nature of its molecules.
- (c) Property of a liquid surface displayed by its acting as if it were a stretched elastic membrane.

### (4) Newton’s Laws of Motion (See: [On Collision Course](#))

- (a) Law #1: External Force (Inertia)

1. An object at rest remains at rest, or if in motion, it remains in motion at a constant speed and in a straight line, unless compelled to change its state by the action of an external force.
  2. The tendency to resist changes in a state of motion is called inertia.
  3. If all the **external forces** cancel each other out, then there is no net force acting on the object.
  4. If there is no net force acting on the object, then the object will maintain at a constant velocity.
  5. If it is standing still, for instance, it will remain still unless there is a net force to move it!
- (b) Law #2: Law of Mass and Acceleration (Momentum)
1. The acceleration of an object depends on the mass of the object and the amount of force applied.
  2. Momentum is defined as the mass of an object times its velocity.
  3. Acceleration is equal to change in momentum (mass times velocity) per change in time.
- (c) Law #3: Action and Reaction (Collision)
1. The first two laws of motion refer to single bodies.

2. The third law is not really a law of motion, but a law of forces. Forces result from interactions of the two objects.
  3. For every **action** (force) in nature there is an equal and opposite **reaction**.
  4. Whenever one object exerts a force on another object, the second object exerts an **equal and opposite** force on the first object.
  5. This is the law that “lifts” an airplane into the sky!
- (5) The law of conservation of mass...
- (a) The law of conservation of mass or principle of mass conservation states that for any **system closed to all transfers or exchanges of matter and energy**, the mass of the system **must remain constant over time**, as the system’s mass cannot change, so the quantity can neither be added nor be removed.
  - (b) The law implies that mass (and energy) can neither be created nor destroyed, although it **may be rearranged in space**, or the entities associated with it may be changed in form.
- (6) Again, these laws are observed, described, named and accessed by man, but they were all created by God.



- (a) The law of conservation of mass, for example, is what we learned that Y'shua accessed when He fed the 5000+ and 4000+. He took what was ALREADY THERE and rearrange its form!
- (b) In other words, every molecule that makes up a piece of bread and a fish was already in existence from the moment of creation, and Y'shua used His authority over creation to rearranged those molecules in an instant, thus bypassing what we normally see as necessary in the earth to grow grain, bake bread, birth fish, and catch them in a net.
- (c) Please see [All That Will Be Already Is!](#) to study these prophetic concepts. This is critical because this is exactly what Y'shua was training His disciples to do and we are His disciples!
- (d) He said... ...*"All authority [over creation] has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore [I give you that same authority to do the same things and to make other disciples who can do the same things.]..."*  
Matthew 28:18-19
- (e) Consider this Great Commission to go beyond evangelism. First we make converts with the Gospel of

Salvation (that's evangelism). Then make disciples with the Gospel of the Kingdom (that's discipleship training).

- (f) It's a Multilevel Marketing (MLM) approach. Go wide with evangelism and go deep with discipleship! We need to do BOTH!

## **B. Legal Terms**

### (1) Legal Precedent

- (a) Precedent refers to a court decision that is considered as authority for deciding subsequent cases involving identical or similar facts, or similar legal issues.
- (b) Precedent is incorporated into the doctrine of \*stare decisis and requires courts to apply the law in the same manner to cases with the same facts.
  1. \*Stare Decisis: a Latin term that means "let the decision stand" or "to stand by things decided."
  2. It is a foundational concept in the American legal system.
  3. To put it simply, stare decisis holds that courts and judges should honor "precedent," the decisions, rulings, and opinions from prior cases.

### (2) Case Law

- (a) The law as established by the outcome of former cases, thus setting precedent.

1. In other words—in other cases like this case, from here forward, you should use the same ruling because we now have a standard (precedent).
- (b) There are two ways precedent is set in the Bible...
1. One: a real event ruled on by God (Yahweh in the Old Testament and Y'shua in the New Testament).
  2. Two: a parable that teaches us how the Messiah would rule if such a case was real.
    - a) Food for Thought: As a Kingdom Scribe (Kingdom Lawyer; Biblical Law Expert), you should become adept at few things.
      - a) One: recognizing existing precedent in similar cases already ruled upon in the Scriptures!
      - b) \*Two: combining one or more precedents, along with other biblical laws, and with how God has ruled on real circumstances in your own life, in order to establish a new precedent in an altogether different case.
- (3) \*We have precedent for this way of thinking!
- (a) You are a Kingdom Lawyer who is being instructed!
    1. **“Every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.”** Matthew 13:52

(b) When you know the law, case law and precedent, you know God's will (how He rules). Armed with such, you can then ask in alignment with His will, and you can be confident that your petitions will be granted!

1. "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that **if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, **we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**" 1 John 5:14-15 NKJV

### C. A Real Bible Case

(1) Y'shua as a Kingdom Scribe (Attorney) and Judge

(a) The woman accused of adultery

1. "But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. **Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery.** And when they had set her in the midst, they said to Him, "**Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned.** But what do You say?" This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. **But Jesus stooped down and**

**wrote on the ground with His finger**, as though He did not hear. So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, **“He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.”** And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who heard it, **being convicted by their conscience**, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And **Jesus was left alone, and the woman** standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, **“Woman, where are those accusers of yours?”** Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said to her, **“Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”** Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. **He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”**” John 8:1-12 NKJV

- a) Let’s examine the elements of this case:
  - 1) First of all—it’s all a test to see how Y’shua will handle the law... The law states that one caught in adultery should be put to death (see Leviticus 20:10-12).

- 2) The biblical lawyers and religious leaders present to Him a woman whom they say was literally caught in the act of adultery.
- 3) This clearly indicates there are witnesses!
- 4) Jesus responds by kneeling and writing in the dirt with His finger, as if He did not hear the accusation—as they continue to press for an answer.
- 5) He finally responds by offering for any of those biblical lawyers and religious leaders, who are present, to initiate the capital punishment as long as they can do so with a clear conscience (meaning they are sin-free themselves).
- 6) Then He again writes in the dirt? What is He writing?
- 7) All the accusers who were convicted by their conscience begin to walk away one at a time. What are they guilty of?
- 8) When Jesus was left alone with the woman, He asks her the whereabouts of her accusers.
- 9) Are there any witnesses present to condemn her? No!

- 10) Was there ever any true witness to begin with?  
We don't know!
  - 11) So, what does Jesus conclude in this case according to the law?
  - 12) "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."
  - 13) He brings light into dark places. If you follow Him you too will experience the light!
  - 14) We see both a proper defense and a fair ruling!
- b) Serious Meditation: Whether she was originally guilty or not of committing adultery, what is her status after Y'shua says... "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more"? In other words, is she an adulteress? Hint:
- 1) "As far as the east is from the west, **So far has He removed our transgressions from us.**"  
Psalms 103:12 NKJV
  - 2) "For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and **has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.**" II Peter 1:9  
NKJV

#### **D. The laws in action with woman accused of adultery**

- (a) Witnesses Needed!

1. “One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; **by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established.**” Deut. 19:15 NKJV
  - a) Eventually there were no eye witnesses left to accuse her, which begs the question: was there really anyone who saw what they claimed?
  - b) It’s possible there were eye witnesses, but that they were so convicted by their own sins that they backed off.
  - c) It is also possible that the sin that convicted them was the the very sin of bearing false witness against this woman!
2. “You **shall not bear false witness** against your neighbor.” Exodus 20:16 NKJV
  - a) No doubt that religious leaders know this command, and the consequences for bearing false witness!
  - (b) Consequences False Witnesses
    1. “**If a false witness rises against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing**, then both men in the controversy shall stand before the Lord, before the priests and the judges who serve in those days. And



the judges shall make careful inquiry, and indeed, **if the witness is a false witness, who has testified falsely against his brother, then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother;** so you shall put away the evil from among you. And those who remain shall hear and fear, and hereafter they shall not again commit such evil among you. Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

Deuteronomy 19:16-21 NKJV

- a) A false witness receives the punishment due the person they are accusing had they been guilty!
- b) Why?
  - 1) A false witness is one of the seven detestable things in Proverbs 6:19.
  - 2) “A false witness **will not go unpunished**, And he who speaks lies will not escape. [9] A false **witness will not go unpunished**, And **he who speaks lies shall perish.**” Proverbs 19:5, 9 NKJV

(c) Examples of False Witnesses and Consequences

- 1. “And **Stephen, full of faith and power**, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then there arose some from what is called the **Synagogue** of the

Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen. And **they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.** Then they secretly induced men to say, **“We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.”** And **they stirred up** the people, the elders, and the scribes; and they came upon him, seized him, and brought him to the council. **They also set up false witnesses who said, “This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses delivered to us.”**” Acts 6:8-14 NKJV

- a) False witnesses were enticed to lie about Stephen.
- b) What were the lies?
  - 1) That Stephen spoke blasphemy against the Synagogue and the law.
  - 2) And that he says that Jesus wants to destroy the Synagogue and change the laws given by Moses!
  - 3) Remember... these are the fabricated lies of false witnesses. And because of those lies,

Stephen is stoned to death. *“and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a **young man named Saul.**”* Acts 7:58 NKJV

- 4) Who was overseeing this impromptu kangaroo court? Saul! That is the man who would eventually become the Apostle Paul!
  - 5) And what would be the eventual consequences for his overseeing of the capital punishment of Stephen based on false witnesses (who accused him of speaking against the law)?
- (d) Throughout the many years that follow in ministry, Paul must contend with non-stop persecution and suffering fueled by ongoing false accusations!
1. “And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, **and they are all zealous for the law; but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses,** saying that they ought not to circumcise their children **nor to walk according to the customs.** What then? The assembly must certainly meet, for they will hear that

you have come. Therefore do what we tell you: We have four men who have taken a vow. Take them and be purified with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads, and **that all may know that those things of which they were informed concerning you are nothing, but that you yourself also walk orderly and keep the law.** But concerning the Gentiles who believe, we have written and decided that they should observe no such thing, except that they should keep themselves from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality *[the ruling from Acts 15:1-29 that teaches Gentiles where to begin abiding in the law].*” Acts 21:20-25 NKJV

- a) Paul has his encounter with Christ on the Road to Damascus shortly after Stephen is martyred, certainly within a year or two (or less).
- b) He arrives in Jerusalem in Acts 21 approximately 20 years later, and all along the way he has faced this accusation... *“You teach all the Jews to forsake Moses.”*
- c) He is asked to participate in a nazirite vow (as seen in Number 6) and to pay the expenses of

others doing the same, as an outward testimony that the accusations are untrue, and that quite to the contrary of the charges, that He himself also walks orderly and keeps the law.

- d) He has faced these false accusations for twenty years, the same false accusations that he allowed against Stephen.
- e) *"...if the witness is a false witness, who has testified falsely against his brother, **then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother...**"* Deuteronomy 19:18-19 NKJV
- f) Yes, Paul too was stoned along the way in his ministry... *"...and having persuaded the multitudes, **they stoned Paul** and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead."* Acts 14:19 NKJV

(e) Exposing False Witnesses

1. **"You shall not circulate a false report.** Do not put your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness. **You shall not follow a crowd to do evil;** nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice." Exodus 23:1-2 NKJV

- a) Paul followed the crowd, didn't he?

- b) Paul used false testimony to pervert justice, didn't he?
2. "A false witness shall perish, **But the man who hears him will speak endlessly.**" Proverbs 21:28 NKJV
- a) Y'shua was aware of the more important reason they were making accusations against this woman. He knew that their intention was to use those accusations to convict Him of violating the law in some way.
  - b) But also, because He "spoke against them," Proverbs 21:28 leads me to believe they were indeed bearing false witness against her!
  - c) Ironically, He was the One who applied the law perfectly and used it to expose that they were the ones violating the law.
- (f) How did He do that? What did Y'shua write in the dirt with His finger? And why did all her accusers scatter?
1. "O Lord, the hope of Israel, All who forsake You shall be ashamed. **"Those who depart from Me Shall be written in the earth,** Because they have forsaken the Lord, The fountain of living waters.'" Jeremiah 17:13 NKJV

- a) He was writing the names and transgressions of those coming, possibly with the sin of false accusations, and certainly with many of their own sins.
- b) And they knew that if they insisted, they would be exposed and become subjected to the punishment due an adulterer (or due for whatever other sins they were convicted of).
  - 1) “Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that **such should be stoned**. But what do You say?””  
John 8:5 NKJV
  - 2) “...then **you shall do to [them]** as [they] thought to have done to [their sister]...” Deuteronomy 19:19 [“...the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death.” (Leviticus 20:10)] Thus, her accusers they shall be put to death or face whatever consequence is prescribed in the Bible for their transgression!]
  - 3) This is a serious risk that a false witness is taking. They WILL BE subjected to the penalty equal to that which is commanded in the Bible for the sin of which they are falsely accusing the other party.

## E. Your Real-Life Cases

(1) Your life as a Kingdom Scribe (Attorney)

(a) “Tell your testimonies and God will give you more testimonies to tell!”

1. “Therefore, having been **justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also **we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, **knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope**. Now **hope does not disappoint**, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

Romans 5:1-5 NKJV

- a) Consider how many times God has showed up in your life in a tangible way.
- b) Consider how many times after that, you faced yet another opportunity to faithfully trust Him and to access His grace.
- c) Consider how effective it would be to recall past “cases” and use those memories (precedent) to build confidence in God in your current trial!



- d) You will not be disappointed!
  - e) Then... “Tell your testimonies and God will give you more testimonies to tell!”
2. **Food for thought:** others can use God’s laws plus your testimonies as “case law” to create their own case law in their own unique circumstances.

## LEGAL PRECEDENT

### 2. Spiritual Case Laws

#### A. Rulings by the King of kings and Lord of lords...

##### (1) Legal Precedent

- (a) Decisions that are considered as authority for deciding subsequent cases involving identical or similar facts, or similar legal issues.
- (b) We can trust that the law will be applied in the same manner to cases with the same facts.
- (c) In each instance, consider the teaching a legal ruling.
- (d) In other words, this is how the King of the Universe interprets things!
- (e) There is no point in arguing—just soak it in and agree.

#### B. Who is the Greatest?

- (1) Ruling: the childlike are the most like Christ!
  - (a) Be converted like a child...

1. “At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying,  
“**Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?**”  
Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the  
midst of them, and said, “Assuredly, I say to you,  
**unless you are converted and become as little  
children**, you will by no means **enter the kingdom** of  
heaven. Therefore **whoever humbles himself as this  
little child** is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.  
Whoever receives one little child like this in My  
name receives Me.” Matthew 18:1-5 NKJV

a) After Y’shua taught that “the sons (children) of the  
King are free” at the end of Mathew 17, as usual,  
the disciples take His words in the wrong  
direction:

1) “Who then is greatest in the kingdom of  
heaven?”

(2) Y’shua draws attention to a little child as an object lesson  
and then proceeds to teach many lessons using children.

(a) The first is that disciples must, in their conversion,  
become like little children if they wish to “enter the  
kingdom of heaven.”

1. We know this to mean, “to become Christlike.”

2. Children are humble, unassuming, teachable, innocent, moldable (not Old dogs!)
3. The more “childlike” you become, the more “Christlike” you become.
4. Do not mistake this for the other way children are used as an object lesson to mean “immature” or still in need of milk and not solid food (Hebrews 5:12-14).
5. He caps this allegory by essentially saying that if you get this “child-like” comparison, you get Me!

### **C. Y’shua Warns of Offenses**

- (1) Ruling: those who cause others to sin are in serious danger.
  - (a) The Origins of Offense
    1. ““Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me **to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck**, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. **Woe to the world because of offenses!** For offenses must come, but **woe to that man by whom the offense comes!** “If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet,

**to be cast into the everlasting fire.** And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, **to be cast into hell fire.**”

Matthew 18:6-9 NKJV

- a) Do not inspire “His children” to sin.
- b) You’d be better off drowned in of the sea than doing that!
  - 1) The guilty: anyone who get’s in the way of the maturing and development of His disciples...
- c) The world is full of offenses and the men who are responsible for them will be held accountable.
- d) You’re much better off being the one who is being offended than the one doing the offending!
- e) In fact, it’s as serious as this: you’d be better off going through life completely disabled than causing someone else to become disabled!

#### **D. The Parable of the Lost Sheep**

- (1) Ruling: the ones furthest from God are His greatest priority.
  - (a) Y’shua chases down the lost...
    - 1. ““Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that **in heaven their angels** always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

**For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.** “What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, **does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying?** And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, **he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.** Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that **one of these little ones should perish.”**  
Matthew 18:10-14 NKJV

- a) What God sees in little ones is of such value that each is assigned angels.
  - 1) We all have ministering angels who are on assignment to us.
  - 2) “Are they not all **ministering spirits** sent forth **to minister for those who will inherit salvation?**”  
Hebrews 1:14 NKJV

- b) Think of it like this:
  - 1) Y’shua is intent on protecting and developing every child of God.
  - 2) If even one goes astray (gets enticed to backslide, not take their faith seriously), He will go after them every time!

3) Y'shua is most concerned for those who are wrestling, doubting and struggling.

### E. Dealing with Sin in a Brother

(1) Ruling: there are specific legal procedures when dealing with Christians who sin against you. If you follow them step-by-step, your final decision will be binding!

(a) If your brother sins against you...

1. **““Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that ‘by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.’ And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector. “Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.””** Matthew 18:15-20 NKJV

- a) Steps for Conflict Resolution (when one brother sins against another):
  - 1) Go tell him his fault privately (just the two of you). If you resolve it that way, brotherhood is preserved.
  - 2) If not, then go again with one or two witnesses, because the law says that is how a matter is proved.
  - 3) By the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established. (Deut. 19:15)
  - 4) If that does not work, bring him to the local church leadership.
  - 5) If he ignores the church leadership, then consider him a heathen and move on from him.
- (b) At that point, Y'shua reminds us of what he promised Peter when he gave him the keys to the kingdom.
  - 1. "And **I will give you the keys of the kingdom** of heaven, and **whatever you bind** on earth will be bound in heaven, and **whatever you loose** on earth will be loosed in heaven."" Matthew 16:19 NKJV
- a) This is how the conflict must be settled if the brother is obstinate.

- b) Unilateral Decision (Summary Judgment): God's side decides!
- c) How does it play out in the natural? Once you walk through the whole legal process... *““If **two of you** agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For **where two or three are gathered together in My name**, I am there in the midst of them.”” Matthew 18:19-20 NKJV*
- d) In law, a summary judgment is a judgment entered by a court for one party and against another party summarily. Summary judgments may be issued on the merits of an entire case, or on discrete issues in that case, even without a full trial, by the authority of the judge!
- e) In other word, “Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”
- f) *“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that **if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, **we know that we have the***



**petitions that we have asked of Him.**” I John

5:14-15 NKJV

(c) The power of agreement!

1. When the two agree on earth (the believer in conflict along with his witnesses and/or Church leadership) concerning anything, the Father in heaven seals it!
2. When you do this, it’s as if you have the witness of Christ sealing the deal!

(d) Utilizing the Keys to the Kingdom!

1. We have access to binding authority in what might be considered the Courts of Heaven.
2. This is why this sermon is called Legal Matters! All earthly matters are ultimately legal in nature and they all matter!
3. In other words, God’s laws govern EVERYTHING and it is by applying them in EVERY circumstance that we can make proper judgments (decisions).
4. And when we do, those decisions are as binding as if God made them Himself!
5. Refer to the purpose parables in [All That Will Be Already Is!](#) They can be utilized to uncover the mysteries of the Kingdom.

6. How? By taking laws (things old) and applying them to current circumstances (things new) and establishing new rulings (case law) that God would be proud of!
7. How do you become excellent at doing that? You become a biblical scribe (lawyer) who is trained in solving kingdom mysteries!
  - 1) *“Therefore every scribe [lawyer] instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.”* Matthew 13:52 NKJV
8. Reverse Engineering— *“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that **if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, **we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**”* 1 John 5:14-15 NKJV
  - 1) We can take God’s laws, along with how we see Him rule in actual historical events in the Bible (in both the Old and New Testaments), and with what He reveals to us in parables, and we can predict how He wishes to rule in every case (each situation).

- 2) We can even use our own personal past real life experiences (testimonies), recall how He ruled, and sift through why He ruled as such by finding His laws, past biblical events, and parables to back that ruling, and use them to predict His heart on any matter.
- 3) Note: we can even use the testimonies of other Christians to support our case! That is one reason it is critical to tell your testimonies.
- 4) We even have permission to add parables together to make new precedent (combining one or more precedents in order to establish new precedent in an altogether different case.) That is part of the mystery-solving mandate we are given. *“Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven...”* Matthew 13:11 NKJV
- 5) Note: The next parable we will see here is what opened my eyes ten years ago (2013) to how all this works.

- (2) Proper utilization of the LAW (when arguing cases and attempting to set precedent).
  - (a) The law concerning judging...

1. **““You shall appoint judges and officers** in all your gates, which the Lord your God gives you, according to your tribes, and **they shall judge the people** with just judgment. You shall not pervert justice; **you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe**, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous. **You shall follow what is altogether just**, that you may live and inherit the land which the Lord your God is giving you.” Deuteronomy 16:18-20 NKJV

- a) No partiality!
- b) No bribes!
- c) Follow what is completely just!

(b) The law concerning training...

1. **““Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book**, from the one before the priests, the Levites. **And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life**, that he may learn to **fear the Lord** his God and be careful to **observe all the words of this law and these statutes**, that his **heart may not be lifted above** his brethren, **that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the**

**right hand or to the left**, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.” Deuteronomy 17:18-20 NKJV

- a) Have your own copy of the laws in a book. (We all do, don't we?)
- b) Write down all the laws, so you know them. (This might be a great practice!)
- c) Read from it every day.
- d) Let them teach you to reverence God.
- e) Practice observing them yourself every day.
- f) Allow them to keep you humble.
- g) Let them guide you in every decision and judgment.

(c) The law concerning witnesses...

1. ““One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; by the mouth of **two or three witnesses** the matter shall be established.” Deuteronomy 19:15 NKJV
2. “If a **false witness** rises against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing, then both men in the controversy shall stand before the Lord, before the priests and the judges who serve in those days. And the judges shall make careful inquiry, and indeed, if

the witness is a false witness, **who has testified falsely against his brother, then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother**; so you shall put away the evil from among you. And those who remain shall hear and fear, and hereafter they shall not again commit such evil among you. Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

Deuteronomy 19:16-21 NKJV

- a) It takes witnesses to establish a matter as true!
- b) False witness are subject to legal punishment, as if they committed the very crime they falsely accused an innocent party of committing.
  - 1) See: “The laws in action with woman accused of adultery” on page 21!
  - 2) See: “Examples of False Witnesses and Consequences” between Stephen and Paul on pages 22-26!

#### **F. The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

- (1) Ruling: if you do not forgive others, you will NOT be forgiven! If you do, you will!
  - (a) How often shall my brother sin against me, and I [again] forgive him?

1. “Then Peter came to Him and said, **“Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”** Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. **Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts** with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him **who owed him ten thousand talents.** But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. **“But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii;** and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw

what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, **‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant,** just as I had pity on you?’ And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. **“So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”** Matthew 18:21-35 NKJV

- a) Think about the placement of this question, *“How often shall I forgive?”* It follows Y’shua’s teaching about how to legally resolve when *“Your brother sins against you...”* (Matthew 18:15)
- b) We have been forgiven an immeasurable debt.
- c) There is no debt that anyone can owe us that comes close to the magnitude of the debt of which we have been absolved.
- d) Therefore, when one follows the procedures as previously prescribed, you are mandated to forgive EVERY TIME, no matter how often!



- e) The only time you are not obligated to do so is if the offender displays no interests in being forgiven, no matter how much you try to resolve the issues.
- f) At that point you can move on!
- g) However, if at any point they wish to be forgiven, you must forgive!
- h) Case Law on Forgiveness
  - 1) “And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.” Matthew 6:12 NKJV
  - 2) “For **if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**” Matthew 6:14-15 NKJV

(2) Step-by-Step Explanation (Precedent: Case Law)

(a) Peter then inquires about how forgiveness works. Is there a limit to the magnitude of offense that can be forgiven and how often? NO! And then Y’shua gives us an extreme allegory to demonstrate how forgiveness works! Y’shua begins with His classic, “The kingdom of heaven is like...”

1. The king has debts to settle with his servants.
  - a) One servant owes him ten thousand talents.

- b) The talent represented different weights of precious metals (Gold and Silver) at different times in history, but it seems in the first Century it was minimally 75 lbs.
  - c) If we use that for the calculation of debt, no matter how you slice it, the point here is that the debt is insurmountable... essentially permanent!
  - d) Using the modern-day USD equivalents (Gold at \$2000 per oz. and Silver at \$20 per oz., this is the debt in USD)
    - 1) Ten thousand talents of Silver is \$240 million.
    - 2) Ten thousand talents of Gold is \$24 Billion.
- (b) He obviously has no way to pay, so he is about to be sold into slavery with his entire family.
1. He begs his master to have patience, to give him time to pay (which is also obviously ridiculous).
  2. But, his master is moved with compassion and forgives the entire debt.
  3. But, then that same forgiven servant went out and approached a brother who owed him one hundred denarii.
- a) One denarii is equal to 1/6000 of a talent (.20 oz.)

- b) So, one denarii is equal to 4 USD (if silver) and 400 USD (if gold).
  - c) Therefore, one hundred denarii is equal to 400 USD (if silver) and 40,000 USD (if gold).
4. He threatened him with physical violence and demanded payment.
  5. Just as he himself had done earlier, his brother begged him for patience—to give him time to pay (something that would actually be possible).
  6. But, unlike his compassionate master, he would not offer the same forgiveness to his brother.
  7. Note: The other approach to calculating the debt equates the debt in day's wages.
    - a) A talent was a large monetary measurement equal to 6,000 drachmas or denarii, the Greek and Roman silver coins.
    - b) A biblical talent was the largest unit of currency at that time, enough money that a man who owned one could be considered rich.
    - c) The denarius was a standard in a silver Roman coin and equal to one day's wage.
    - d) So, if one denarius was what a man could earn in a day, a man would need to work 6,000 days to

earn one talent (or approximately 19 1/4 years working six days per week).

- e) Owning a talent would be like having 19 1/4 times your annual salary in the bank.
  - f) Ten thousand talents would then equal 60 million denarii or 60 million days of work (approximately 192 thousand years!). At today's minimum wage of 11.00/hr., it is \$5.28 Billion.
  - g) Ten thousand talents would obviously represent a debt that would last over 2600 lifetimes!
  - h) The other man who owed 100 denarii essentially owed 100 day's wages. At today's minimum wage of 11.00/hr., it would be under \$10,000.00.
  - i) In other words, one man owed \$5,280,000,000, and the other \$10,000.
- (c) When others noticed the inequity, they notified their master.
1. The master called in the man who had been forgive 2600 lifetimes worth of debt and rebuked him!
  2. You wicked man; I forgave you an insurmountable debt and you could not show any pity for someone who owed you pennies in comparison?

3. For such an atrocity I am reversing my forgiveness; your debt is reinstated and you will be punished daily until you pay every last cent (a sentence of permanent torture).
  4. Lesson: If you do not forgive your brother, My Father will not forgive you. (Matthew 6:12-15)
  5. Note: The law works in both directions. If I go out of your way to forgive someone, you can fully expect to be forgiven when you approach the Master!
- (3) Laws that can be used to govern in this case!

(a) Cancellation of Debt...

1. ““At the end of every seven years you shall grant a **release of debts**. And this is the form of the release: Every creditor who has lent anything to his neighbor shall release it; he shall not require it of his neighbor or his brother, because **it is called the Lord’s release.**”  
Deuteronomy 15:1-2 NKJV

(b) Generosity towards those in need...

1. ““If there is among you a poor man of your brethren, within any of the gates in your land which the Lord your God is giving you, **you shall not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother, but you shall open your hand wide to him and**

**willingly lend him sufficient for his need, whatever he needs.** Beware lest there be a wicked thought in your heart, saying, 'The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand,' and your eye be evil against your poor brother and you give him nothing, and he cry out to the Lord against you, and it become sin among you. **You shall surely give to him, and your heart should not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the Lord your God will bless you in all your works and in all to which you put your hand.** For the poor will never cease from the land; therefore I command you, saying, 'You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and your needy, in your land.'" Deuteronomy 15:7-11 NKJV

## **G. Marriage and Divorce**

- (1) Ruling: Divorce is an accommodation because of the hardness of the hearts of man. And even as such, it is only legal when adultery is involved.
  - (a) Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?
    1. "Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these sayings, that He departed from Galilee and came to

the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them there. The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, **“Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?”** And He answered and said to them, **“Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?** So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. **Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”** They said to Him, **“Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?”** He said to them, **“Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”** His disciples said to Him, **“If such is the case of the man with his wife, it is better not to marry.”**” Matthew 19:1-10 NKJV

- a) The Pharisees put Him to the test, yet again, by questioning Him on divorce. “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?”
- b) He responds to their attempt to entrap Him by doing what He does so well, by asking a question and then He refers to the Torah (the Law) in Genesis.
- c) Boys, haven’t you read Genesis (the Law that governs your question)?
- d) Then He proceeds to state that of which they are fully aware...
- e) He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, yes? (from Genesis 1:27)
- f) And this is the reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife as one flesh, yes? (from Genesis 2:24)
- g) So then, they are no longer two but one flesh, yes? (Because that is precisely what the Word of God says—they are male and female joined as one!)
- h) At this point you must see [The Image of God](#) which expands the idea of how Adam was created with both male and female DNA in Genesis 1:27 (“So God created man in His own image; in the image



of God He created him; male and female He created them.”), but in order for Eve and the Child within him to become visible, (“*God blessed **them**, and God said to **them**, “**Be fruitful and multiply...**”* Genesis 1:28), He extracted Eve, who was already within Adam, and brings her to Him for all to see (Genesis 2:21-23) and then God reunifies them in marriage in (Genesis 2:24-25) so we would always remember they are to be considered one flesh, as in (Genesis 1:27)

i) Paul teaches us that this is precisely why God made Eve visible, so many would be without excuse: “*For since the creation of the world **His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made**, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,*” Romans 1:20 NKJV

(b) What Y’shua does then is to insert a powerful exclamatory statement!

1. “Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.” (Man cannot alter what God created to be!) What it says in Genesis is that the man and his

wife were both naked—an inference to the oneness created in the consummation of marriage!

(c) Consider the rabbinic technique of answering questions by first asking a question.

1. They ask Y'shua why Moses “commanded” to give a certificate of divorce, if you want to to “put her away?”

a) He clears up the confusion nicely, passing their test easily!

1) Boy's, it's not a command in that My Father has this whole subset of regulations included in His rules for marriage, so unhappy people can get divorced.

2) No, it's an accommodation due to sin, the hardness of hearts, that had Him “permit” divorce.

3) But, that was not His plan in the garden, as should be completely obvious when you refer to what He said in Genesis.

4) Just like it was not His “plan” that man be deceived by the Devil and to eat from the forbidden tree.

- 5) His will was to give us freedom to choose, which might look like He “allows” sin.
- 6) Think of it more correctly by framing it this way. God knows man’s heart and He set in place accommodations and a path to reconciliation and that is why Moses gave a certificate of divorce. That is the **case law** established by Moses!
- 7) He adds this stipulation; sexual immorality and adultery as the only acceptable reasons for divorce. (MORE CASE LAW)
- 8) His disciples standing by conclude they’d be better off staying single.
- 9) Note: Paul clarifies an accommodation later on in I Corinthians 7:1-16. If a unbelieving spouse wishes to leave a believer, the believer can let them go without guilt!
- 10) *“**But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.**”* I Corinthians 7:15 NKJV

## H. Y’shua Teaches about Celibacy

(1) Ruling: one must be called by God to be celibate, otherwise they were created for marriage.

(a) It's difficult to fathom...

1. "But He said to them, **"All cannot accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given: For there are eunuchs who were born thus from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He who is able to accept it, let him accept it."**" Matthew 19:11-12 NKJV

a) Y'shua acknowledges that it is quite a hard choice to make—to stay unmarried and sexually pure, and that it is only right to choose so if you are called to it by God.

b) Some people are born that way and some people choose to do so for the kingdom of heaven's sake.

## **I. Y'shua Blesses Little Children**

(1) Ruling: children have many character traits of Christ

(a) Children are a great object lesson...

1. "Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, **"Let the little**

**children come to Me**, and do not forbid them; **for of such is the kingdom of heaven.**” And He laid His hands on them and departed from there.” Matthew 19:13-15 NKJV

- a) Then He laid His hands on the little children and prays for them.
- b) His disciples don't like it for some reason, but He rebukes them and explains how children have many attributes of the kingdom of heaven.
  - 1) Receptiveness, innocence, growth—the kingdom manifests in the same process that an infant grows into an adult—stage-by-stage.

#### **J. Y'shua Counsels the Rich Young Ruler**

- (1) Ruling: to be perfect, crafted into the image of Christ, you must surrender everything that hinders you.
  - (a) If you want to be perfect...
    - 1. “Now behold, one came and said to Him, **“Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”** So He said to him, **“Why do you call Me good?** No one is good but One, that is, God. **But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.**” He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not

commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' " **The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?"** Jesus said to him, **"If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."** **But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions."**

Matthew 19:16-22 NKJV

- a) Then we have the famous lesson for the young rich leader.
- b) He is obviously a faithful Jewish man. He asks...  
"Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"

(2) Details....

- (a) First Y'shua clarifies what is good! "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God."
  - 1. These words of Y'shua create a mass of confusion for Christians who would then ask, "But, isn't Jesus God?"

2. Pause? Think of Y'shua's prevailing way of addressing questions. Ask a question first!
3. But why this question? The depth of reasoning is extraordinary.
4. We have to fast forward to His eventual answer to the young man's initial question: "What good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" And His answer was... "If you want to be perfect..."
5. Y'shua is not interested in teaching this man about how to become born-again.
6. If He was in that moment, He'd have just said, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* (John 3:16 NKJV).
7. The Salvation message is NOT complicated. It is any number of simple messages, none of which can be understood by the human intellect anyway, absent God's supernatural intervention: *"For **the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**"* I Corinthians 1:18 NKJV
8. Here are a few basics...

- a) “And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. **He who believes and is baptized will be saved;** but he who does not believe will be condemned.” Mark 16:15-16 NKJV
- b) “For I determined not to know anything among you except **Jesus Christ and Him crucified.**” I Corinthians 2:2 NKJV
- c) “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**” Romans 5:8 NKJV
9. Instead, Y’shua wants him to understand the Kingdom, which is the full manifestation of God in Man, and you are looking at Him buddy. “Why do you call Me good; only God is good!”
10. Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand—staring you right in the face. (Matthew 3:2 & 4:17) The kingdom does not come with observation of things on the outside; it’s inside of you! (Luke 17:20-21)
11. “To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**” Colossians 1:27 NKJV



(3) Layers of teaching

(a) **Layer #1:** This man could not have recognized the divinity of the coming Messiah. So, when Y'shua proffers the question, "Why do you call Me good" and then tells the man, "Only God is good!" He is revealing His divinity. The man called him good and He wants the man to recognize that he did that. Think of it this way—you called Me good, and only God is good, BECAUSE I AM God—thus you prefaced your question, without even knowing it, with the acknowledgment that I am God.

(b) **Layer #2:** We know that obeying God's commands is not the path to eternal life, and OBVIOUSLY, so does Y'shua! But this man does not, OBVIOUSLY, because he is living under the prevailing religious errors of the day! How can Y'shua first connect with him at his own level ("where he is at"), and then bring him along into kingdom understanding?

1. Paul said it like this...

a) "For though I am free from all men, **I have made myself a servant to all**, that I might win the more; and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the

law, that I might win those who are under the law; to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. **I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.** Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you." I Corinthians 9:19-23  
NKJV

(c) The man's current level of understanding:

1. "If you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." (Exodus 20:1-17)
2. "Which ones?" #6 "'Don't murder,' #7 'Don't commit adultery,' #8 'Don't steal,' #9 'Don't lie,' #5 'Honor your parents,' and, '**love your neighbor as yourself**' [from Leviticus 19:18]."
3. **Y'shua does not mention the First Four:** #1 No other Gods; #2 No Idols; #3 Don't take His Name in Vain (bring His Name to nothing); #4 Keep the Sabbath Holy. **(This is how you love God with your whole heart...Deut. 6:5)**

4. **Remember:** The Two Greatest Commands from Mark 12:29-31: Y'shua quotes Deut. 6:4-6 (love God) and Lev. 19:18 (Love your neighbor).
  5. Y'shua is USING THE LAW to establish precedent (Legal matters)!
- (d) The man is now hooked:
1. "I have been doing these my whole life!"
    - a) And he comes to the exact place Y'shua's question was meant to bring him!
    - b) The rich man asks... "Am I still missing something?"**
    - c) Yes, yes, yes! You are missing everything. Move past your wrong thinking.
    - d) "Jesus says to him, **"If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have** and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."" Matthew 19:21 NKJV
    - e) Y'shua had not mentioned command #10, Coveting the things of the world... and you can't get past this, and for that reason you cannot surrender your whole life to God as command #s 1-4 demand.
    - f) But if you want to be perfect...**

(e) Layer #3: Understanding the Kingdom

1. I am God!
2. Obeying commands is NOT the way to eternal life; they are the result of it!
3. So, "If you want to be perfect; if you want to become like Me, God in man... then you have to give up your whole life and follow me!" (Luke 14:25-35)
4. Then you will experience the treasures of the kingdom of heaven.
5. And you will have access to the keys and all the authority that comes with them.... LEGAL MATTERS!
6. He thinks he has it all. He has abundant wealth and he is a good Jew, and now he is being told..."That won't cut it!"
7. The religious grip on His life (of his religion and money) is just too much, so he rejects the offer!
8. See [Religionship or Relationship](#).

**K. With God All Things are Possible**

- (1) Ruling: it's easy to be born-again, yet it is very difficult to become Christ-like. However, anything you must sacrifice to do so will be exponentially restored!
  - (a) With men this is impossible...

1. **“Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”** When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, **“Who then can be saved?”** But Jesus looked at them and said to them, **“With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”** Then Peter answered and said to Him, **“See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?”** So Jesus said to them, **“Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne** of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And **everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold,** and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.” Matthew 19:23-30 NKJV

(b) Detailed Explanation

1. The disciples, who at this stage of their development still tend toward needing a bit more clarity after a deep message, are told this...
  - a) “It is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.”
  - b) “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”
  - c) The eye of a needle is the hole in a city wall designed as a pass-through for small objects, so the city gates do not have to be opened except for large transactions coming in on the backs of camels.
  - d) Yes, a man who is stuck in his religion and in love with his possessions will have great difficulty surrendering it all to follow Christ, to become like Him (giving up even their life as in Luke 14:26)
  - e) His disciples are disturbed at what seems impossible—the kingdom is as unattainable as it is impossible for a camel to pass through a small hole.
2. Their level of daftness is on full display (See: [May I borrow Your Handkerchief?](#))

- a) “Who then can be saved?”
  - b) No worries, you will get it one day, and with God all things are possible.
3. Peter believes the disciples have done just that—
- a) “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?”
  - b) Y’shua tells them that when the time comes, the original twelve who had followed Him will sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
  - c) Of course Judas is eventually replaced...
    - 1) Betrayal: *“But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?” Luke 22:48 NKJV*
    - 2) Replacement: *“And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.” Acts 1:26 NKJV*
  - d) And everyone else who gives everything up for Him will be rewarded in this life and into eternity!
  - e) It may not look like what you think because the Kingdom of God is upside down—the first will be last, and the last first!

## THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

### 3. Whatever YOU bind...!

#### A. Kingdom Scribe Duties

##### (1) Binding and Loosing

##### (a) Kingdom Scribes must be trained!

1. "Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe **instructed concerning the kingdom** of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.'" Matthew 13:52 NKJV

a) In kingdom matters... (The Gospel of the Kingdom)

b) In things new... (The New Testament)

c) In things old... (The Old Testament)

d) And putting them together, along with your own testimonies, to solve the mysteries of the kingdom!

(b) Kingdom Scribes have the keys to unlock the mysteries of the kingdom!

1. "And **I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven**, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'" Matthew 16:19 NKJV

a) The keys open the doors

b) The keys confer authority and rulership

c) The keys allow us to bind and loose



(c) Kingdom Scribes in action in Conflict Resolution

1. WHEN THERE IS AGREEMENT... ““Assuredly, **I say to you, whatever you bind** on earth will be bound in heaven, and **whatever you loose** on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Matthew 18:18 NKJV

a) Matthew 18, as we have seen, teaches us the step-by-step process for dealing with the sin and conflict with others.

b) It establishes precedent for how to resolve conflict and displays that when done so as prescribed, the final judgement **carries the same weight as if it was rendered by God Himself.**

(2) In order for a Scribe’s authority to be valid, he must obey the law himself...

(a) Let’s not minimize the seriousness of this...

1. **“Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.** And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. **Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.** Little children, **let no one deceive you.** He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. **He who sins is of the devil,** for the devil

has sinned from the beginning. **For this purpose the Son of God was manifested**, that He might **destroy the works of the devil. Whoever has been born of God does not sin**, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.” I John 3:4-9 NKJV

- a) Sin is lawlessness!
- b) Don't be deceived, sin compromises your authority.
- c) Sin is the work of the enemy and Christ came to destroy that work, so don't ruin your ability to arbitrate by being caught up in sin yourself!

(b) The Practice of Righteousness

1. “In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: **Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God**, nor is he who does not love his brother. For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,” I John 3:10-11 NKJV

- a) If you wish to love well, you must practice living a life pleasing to God.
- b) Children of God practice righteousness and children of the Devil don't!

(c) Love equals Obedience

1. “By this we know that we love the children of God, **when we love God and keep His commandments.**

For this is the love of God, **that we keep His commandments.** And His commandments are not burdensome.” I John 5:2-3 NKJV

a) There is no way around it—we obey God’s laws because we love God.

b) Purposeful disobedience must therefore indicate that we don’t love God.

## **B. The Keys to the Kingdom**

(1) Outrageous Authority and Immense Responsibility

(a) POST RESURRECTION—As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.

1. “Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! **As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**” And when He had said

this, He breathed on them, and said to them,  
“Receive the Holy Spirit.” John 20:19-22 NKJV

- a) After the resurrection, Y’shua appears to the disciples and gives them an updated assignment.
  - b) As He was sent by His Father; He is also sending us!
- (b) And here is the authority you will have if you are obedient!
1. **“If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”**  
John 20:23 NKJV
    - a) Whatever you forgive will be forgiven...
    - b) Whatever you don’t, won’t
- (c) You do not see it yet— but you will!
1. “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, **but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.” I John 3:1-3 NKJV

- a) Maybe you cannot quite grasp the magnitude of this promise, but you shall be like Him!

**C. You will become His letter, His case law!**

(1) Ruling: your life and testimonies have become part of His laws in the earth!

(a) What laws are you writing?

1. “And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, **I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.** Amen.” John 21:25 NKJV

2. “**You are our epistle** written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly **you are an epistle of Christ**, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.” II Corinthians 3:2-3 NKJV

a) Here is what it should look like!

a) **Being transformed into the same image from glory to glory:** “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” II Corinthians 3:18 NKJV

- b) “Every scribe [lawyer] **instructed concerning the kingdom** of heaven is like a householder **who brings out of his treasure things new and old.**” Matthew 13:52 NKJV

## Summary: THE FINGERPRINT TO GOD

### 1. Natural Laws

#### A. All the laws of nature (natural laws) are God’s laws!

##### (1) Food for Thought

- (a) Humans do not create natural laws. They do however identify their presence, study their effects, and then reverse engineer them, so we can then put them into practical use.
- (b) Consider how an airplane will predictably fly and how a massive ship will predictably float.

##### (2) Lift

- (a) Lift is a mechanical force. It is generated by the interaction and contact of a solid body [*i.e. the wings and fuselage of an airplane*] with a fluid (liquid or gas) [*i.e. the air that passes over and over the wings and fuselage of an airplane*]. For lift to be generated, the solid body must be in contact with the fluid: no fluid, no lift.

- (b) Because air is a gas and the molecules are free to move about, any solid surface can deflect or direct a flow.
- (c) Lift occurs when a flow of gas is “turned or directed” by a solid object. The flow is “turned or directed” in one direction, and the lift is generated in the opposite direction, according to Newton’s Third Law of action and reaction.

### (3) Surface Tension

- (a) The tension of the surface film of a liquid caused by the attraction of the particles in the surface layer by the bulk of the liquid, which tends to minimize surface area.
- (b) The property of the surface of a liquid that allows it to resist an external force [*i.e. a massive cruise ship sitting on top of water*], due to the cohesive nature of its molecules.
- (c) Property of a liquid surface displayed by its acting as if it were a stretched elastic membrane.

### (4) Newton’s Laws of Motion (See: [On Collision Course](#))

- (a) Law #1: External Force (Inertia)
  1. An object at rest remains at rest, or if in motion, it remains in motion at a constant speed and in a straight line, unless compelled to change its state by the action of an external force.

2. The tendency to resist changes in a state of motion is called inertia.
3. If all the **external forces** cancel each other out, then there is no net force acting on the object.
4. If there is no net force acting on the object, then the object will maintain at a constant velocity.
5. If it is standing still, for instance, it will remain still unless there is a net force to move it!

(b) Law #2: Law of Mass and Acceleration (Momentum)

1. The acceleration of an object depends on the mass of the object and the amount of force applied.
2. Momentum is defined as the mass of an object times its velocity.
3. Acceleration is equal to change in momentum (mass times velocity) per change in time.

(c) Law #3: Action and Reaction (Collision)

1. The first two laws of motion refer to single bodies.
2. The third law is not really a law of motion, but a law of forces. Forces result from interactions of the two objects.
3. For every **action** (force) in nature there is an equal and opposite **reaction**.



4. Whenever one object exerts a force on another object, the second object exerts an **equal and opposite** force on the first object.
  5. This is the law that “lifts” an airplane into the sky!
- (5) The law of conservation of mass...
- (a) The law of conservation of mass or principle of mass conservation states that for any **system closed to all transfers or exchanges of matter and energy**, the mass of the system **must remain constant over time**, as the system’s mass cannot change, so the quantity can neither be added nor be removed.
  - (b) The law implies that mass (and energy) can neither be created nor destroyed, although it **may be rearranged in space**, or the entities associated with it may be changed in form.
- (6) Again, these laws are observed, described, named and accessed by man, but they were all created by God.
- (a) The law of conservation of mass, for example, is what we learned that Y’shua accessed when He fed the 5000+ and 4000+. He took what was ALREADY THERE and rearrange its form!
  - (b) In other words, every molecule that makes up a piece of bread and a fish was already in existence from the

moment of creation, and Y'shua used His authority over creation to rearranged those molecules in an instant, thus bypassing what we normally see as necessary in the earth to grow grain, bake bread, birth fish, and catch them in a net.

- (c) Please see [All That Will Be Already Is!](#) to study these prophetic concepts. This is critical because this is exactly what Y'shua was training His disciples to do and we are His disciples!
- (d) He said... ...*“All authority [over creation] has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore [I give you that same authority to do the same things and to make other disciples who can do the same things.]...”*  
Matthew 28:18-19
- (e) Consider this Great Commission to go beyond evangelism. First we make converts with the Gospel of Salvation (that's evangelism). Then make disciples with the Gospel of the Kingdom (that's discipleship training).
- (f) It's a Multilevel Marketing (MLM) approach. Go wide with evangelism and go deep with discipleship! We need to do BOTH!

## **B. Legal Terms**

- (1) Legal Precedent

- (a) Precedent refers to a court decision that is considered as authority for deciding subsequent cases involving identical or similar facts, or similar legal issues.
  - (b) Precedent is incorporated into the doctrine of \*stare decisis and requires courts to apply the law in the same manner to cases with the same facts.
    - 1. \*Stare Decisis: a Latin term that means “let the decision stand” or “to stand by things decided.”
    - 2. It is a foundational concept in the American legal system.
    - 3. To put it simply, stare decisis holds that courts and judges should honor “precedent,” the decisions, rulings, and opinions from prior cases.
- (2) Case Law
- (a) The law as established by the outcome of former cases, thus setting precedent.
    - 1. In other words—in other cases like this case, from here forward, you should use the same ruling because we now have a standard (precedent).
  - (b) There are two ways precedent is set in the Bible...
    - 1. One: a real event ruled on by God (Yahweh in the Old Testament and Y’shua in the New Testament).

2. Two: a parable that teaches us how the Messiah would rule if such a case was real.
  - a) Food for Thought: As a Kingdom Scribe (Kingdom Lawyer; Biblical Law Expert), you should become adept at few things.
    - a) One: recognizing existing precedent in similar cases already ruled upon in the Scriptures!
    - b) \*Two: combining one or more precedents, along with other biblical laws, and with how God has ruled on real circumstances in your own life, in order to establish a new precedent in an altogether different case.
- (3) \*We have precedent for this way of thinking!
  - (a) You are a Kingdom Lawyer who is being instructed!
  - (b) When you know the law, case law and precedent, you know God's will (how He rules). Armed with such, you can then ask in alignment with His will, and you can be confident that your petitions will be granted!

### **C. A Real Bible Case**

- (1) Y'shua as a Kingdom Scribe (Attorney) and Judge
  - (a) The woman accused of adultery
    1. Let's examine the elements of this case:

- a) First of all—it's all a test to see how Y'shua will handle the law... The law states that one caught in adultery should be put to death (see Leviticus 20:10-12).
- b) The biblical lawyers and religious leaders present to Him a woman whom they say was literally caught in the act of adultery.
- c) This clearly indicates there are witnesses!
- d) Jesus responds by kneeling and writing in the dirt with His finger, as if He did not hear the accusation—as they continue to press for an answer.
- e) He finally responds by offering for any of those biblical lawyers and religious leaders, who are present, to initiate the capital punishment as long as they can do so with a clear conscience (meaning they are sin-free themselves).
- f) Then He again writes in the dirt? What is He writing?
- g) All the accusers who were convicted by their conscience begin to walk away one at a time. What are they guilty of?

- h) When Jesus was left alone with the woman, He asks her the whereabouts of her accusers.
- i) Are there any witnesses present to condemn her?  
No!
- j) Was there ever any true witness to begin with? We don't know!
- k) So, what does Jesus conclude in this case according to the law?
- l) "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."
- m) He brings light into dark places. If you follow Him you too will experience the light!
  - 1) We see both a proper defense and a fair ruling!
- n) Serious Meditation: Whether she was originally guilty or not of committing adultery, what is her status after Y'shua says... "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more"? In other words, is she an adulteress?

#### **D. The laws in action with woman accused of adultery**

(a) Witnesses Needed!

1. Eventually there were no eye witnesses left to accuse her, which begs the question: was there really anyone who saw what they claimed?

2. It's possible there were eye witnesses, but that they were so convicted by their own sins that they backed off.
3. It is also possible that the sin that convicted them was the the very sin of bearing false witness against this woman!
4. No doubt that religious leaders know this command, and the consequences for bearing false witness!

(b) Consequences False Witnesses

1. A false witness receives the punishment due the person they are accusing had they been guilty!

(c) Examples of False Witnesses and Consequences

1. False witnesses were enticed to lie about Stephen.

a) What were the lies?

- 1) That Stephen spoke blasphemy against the Synagogue and the law.
- 2) And that he says that Jesus wants to destroy the Synagogue and change the laws given by Moses!
- 3) Remember... these are the fabricated lies of false witnesses. And because of those lies, Stephen is stoned to death.

- 4) Who was overseeing this impromptu kangaroo court? Saul! That is the man who would eventually become the Apostle Paul!
  - 5) And what would be the eventual consequences for his overseeing of the capital punishment of Stephen based on false witnesses (who accused him of speaking against the law)?
- (d) Throughout the many years that follow in ministry, Paul must contend with non-stop persecution and suffering fueled by ongoing false accusations!
1. Paul has his encounter with Christ on the Road to Damascus shortly after Stephen is martyred, certainly within a year or two (or less).
  2. He arrives in Jerusalem in Acts 21 approximately 20 years later, and all along the way he has faced this accusation... *"You teach all the Jews to forsake Moses."*
  3. He is asked to participate in a nazirite vow (as seen in Number 6) and to pay the expenses of others doing the same, as an outward testimony that the accusations are untrue, and that quite to the contrary of the charges, that He himself also walks orderly and keeps the law.



4. He has faced these false accusations for twenty years, the same false accusations that he allowed against Stephen.

(e) Exposing False Witnesses

1. Paul followed the crowd, didn't he?
  2. Paul used false testimony to pervert justice, didn't he?
    - a) Y'shua was aware of the more important reason they were making accusations against this woman. He knew that their intention was to use those accusations to convict Him of violating the law in some way.
    - b) But also, because He "spoke against them," Proverbs 21:28 leads me to believe they were indeed bearing false witness against her!
    - c) Ironically, He was the One who applied the law perfectly and used it to expose that they were the ones violating the law.
- (f) How did He do that? What did Y'shua write in the dirt with His finger? And why did all her accusers scatter?
1. He was writing the names and transgressions of those coming, possibly with the sin of false accusations, and certainly with many of their own sins.

2. And they knew that if they insisted, they would be exposed and become subjected to the punishment due an adulterer (or due for whatever other sins they were convicted of).
3. Thus, her accusers they shall be put to death or face whatever consequence is prescribed in the Bible for their transgression!]
4. This is a serious risk that a false witness is taking. They WILL BE subjected to the penalty equal to that which is commanded in the Bible for the sin of which they are falsely accusing the other party.

#### **E. Your Real-Life Cases**

##### (1) Your life as a Kingdom Scribe (Attorney)

- (a) “Tell your testimonies and God will give you more testimonies to tell!”
  1. Consider how many times God has showed up in your life in a tangible way.
  2. Consider how many times after that, you faced yet another opportunity to faithfully trust Him and to access His grace.
  3. Consider how effective it would be to recall past “cases” and use those memories (precedent) to build confidence in God in your current trial!

4. You will not be disappointed!
5. Then... “Tell your testimonies and God will give you more testimonies to tell!”
6. **Food for thought:** others can use God’s laws plus your testimonies as “case law” to create their own case law in their own unique circumstances.

## Summary: LEGAL PRECEDENT

### 2. Spiritual Case Laws

#### A. Rulings by the King of kings and Lord of lords...

##### (1) Legal Precedent

- (a) Decisions that are considered as authority for deciding subsequent cases involving identical or similar facts, or similar legal issues.
- (b) We can trust that the law will be applied in the same manner to cases with the same facts.
- (c) In each instance, consider the teaching a legal ruling.
- (d) In other words, this is how the King of the Universe interprets things!
- (e) There is no point in arguing—just soak it in and agree.

#### B. Who is the Greatest?

- (1) Ruling: the childlike are the most like Christ!
  - (a) Be converted like a child...

1. After Y'shua taught that "the sons (children) of the King are free" at the end of Mathew 17, as usual, the disciples take His words in the wrong direction:
  2. "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
- (2) Y'shua draws attention to a little child as an object lesson and then proceeds to teach many lessons using children.
- (a) The first is that disciples must, in their conversion, become like little children if they wish to "enter the kingdom of heaven."
1. We know this to mean, "to become Christlike."
  2. Children are humble, unassuming, teachable, innocent, moldable (not Old dogs!)
  3. The more "childlike" you become, the more "Christlike" you become.
  4. Do not mistake this for the other way children are used as an object lesson to mean "immature" or still in need of milk and not solid food (Hebrews 5:12-14).
  5. He caps this allegory by essentially saying that if you get this "child-like" comparison, you get Me!

### **C. Y'shua Warns of Offenses**

- (1) Ruling: those who cause others to sin are in serious danger.

(a) The Origins of Offense

1. Do not inspire “His children” to sin.

- a) You’d be better off drowned in of the sea than doing that!
  - 1) The guilty: anyone who get’s in the way of the maturing and development of His disciples...
- b) The world is full of offenses and the men who are responsible for them will be held accountable.
- c) You’re much better off being the one who is being offended than the one doing the offending!
- d) In fact, it’s as serious as this: you’d be better off going through life completely disabled than causing someone else to become disabled!

**D. The Parable of the Lost Sheep**

(1) Ruling: the ones furthest from God are His greatest priority.

(a) Y’shua chases down the lost...

- 1. What God sees in little ones is of such value that each is assigned angels.
- 2. We all have ministering angels who are on assignment to us.
  - a) Think of if like this:
    - 1) Y’shua is intent on protecting and developing every child of God.

- 2) If even one goes astray (gets enticed to backslide, not take their faith seriously), He will go after them every time!
- 3) Y'shua is most concerned for those who are wrestling, doubting and struggling.

### **E. Dealing with Sin in a Brother**

- (1) Ruling: there are specific legal procedures when dealing with Christians who sin against you. If you follow them step-by-step, your final decision will be binding!
  - (a) If your brother sins against you...Steps for Conflict Resolution (when one brother sins against another):
    1. Go tell him his fault privately (just the two of you). If you resolve it that way, brotherhood is preserved.
    2. If not, then go again with one or two witnesses, because the law says that is how a matter is proved.
    3. By the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established. (Deut. 19:15)
    4. If that does not work, bring him to the local church leadership.
    5. If he ignores the church leadership, then consider him a heathen and move on from him.
  - (b) At that point, Y'shua reminds us of what he promised Peter when he gave him the keys to the kingdom.

1. This is how the conflict must be settled if the brother is obstinate.
2. Unilateral Decision (Summary Judgment): God's side decides!
3. How does it play out in the natural? Once you walk through the whole legal process... *“If **two of you** agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For **where two or three are gathered together in My name**, I am there in the midst of them.”* Matthew 18:19-20 NKJV
4. In law, a summary judgment is a judgment entered by a court for one party and against another party summarily. Summary judgments may be issued on the merits of an entire case, or on discrete issues in that case, even without a full trial, by the authority of the judge!
5. In other word, “Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”
6. *“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that **if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever*

*we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.” I John 5:14-15 NKJV*

(c) The power of agreement!

1. When the two agree on earth (the believer in conflict along with his witnesses and/or Church leadership) concerning anything, the Father in heaven seals it!
2. When you do this, it's as if you have the witness of Christ sealing the deal!

(d) Utilizing the Keys to the Kingdom!

1. We have access to binding authority in what might be considered the Courts of Heaven.
2. This is why this sermon is called Legal Matters! All earthly matters are ultimately legal in nature and they all matter!
3. In other words, God's laws govern EVERYTHING and it is by applying them in EVERY circumstance that we can make proper judgments (decisions).
4. And when we do, those decisions are as binding as if God made them Himself!
5. Refer to the purpose parables in [All That Will Be Already Is!](#) They can be utilized to uncover the mysteries of the Kingdom.



6. How? By taking laws (things old) and applying them to current circumstances (things new) and establishing new rulings (case law) that God would be proud of!
7. How do you become excellent at doing that? You become a biblical scribe (lawyer) who is trained in solving kingdom mysteries!
8. Reverse Engineering
  - 1) We can take God's laws, along with how we see Him rule in actual historical events in the Bible (in both the Old and New Testaments), and with what He reveals to us in parables, and we can predict how He wishes to rule in every case (each situation).
  - 2) We can even use our own personal past real life experiences (testimonies), recall how He ruled, and sift through why He ruled as such by finding His laws, past biblical events, and parables to back that ruling, and use them to predict His heart on any matter.
  - 3) Note: we can even use the testimonies of other Christians to support our case! That is one reason it is critical to tell your testimonies.

- 4) We even have permission to add parables together to make new precedent (combining one or more precedents in order to establish new precedent in an altogether different case.) That is part of the mystery-solving mandate we are given.
- 5) Note: The next parable we will see here is what opened my eyes ten years ago (2013) to how all this works.

(2) Proper utilization of the LAW (when arguing cases and attempting to set precedent).

(a) The law concerning judging...

1. No partiality!
2. No bribes!
3. Follow what is completely just!

(b) The law concerning training...

1. Have your own copy of the laws in a book. (We all do, don't we?)
2. Write down all the laws, so you know them. (This might be a great practice!)
3. Read from it every day.
4. Let them teach you to reverence God.
5. Practice observing them yourself every day.
6. Allow them to keep you humble.

7. Let them guide you in every decision and judgment.
- (c) The law concerning witnesses...
1. It takes witnesses to establish a matter as true!
  2. False witness are subject to legal punishment, as if they committed the very crime they falsely accused an innocent party of committing.

**F. The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

- (1) Ruling: if you do not forgive others, you will NOT be forgiven! If you do, you will!
- (a) How often shall my brother sin against me, and I [again] forgive him?
1. Think about the placement of this question, "*How often shall I forgive?*" It follows Y'shua's teaching about how to legally resolve when "*Your brother sins against you...*" (Matthew 18:15)
    - a) We have been forgiven an immeasurable debt.
    - b) There is no debt that anyone can owe us that comes close to the magnitude of the debt of which we have been absolved.
    - c) Therefore, when one follows the procedures as previously prescribed, you are mandated to forgive EVERY TIME, no matter how often!

- d) The only time you are not obligated to do so is if the offender displays no interests in being forgiven, no matter how much you try to resolve the issues.
- e) At that point you can move on!
- f) However, if at any point they wish to be forgiven, you must forgive!

(2) Step-by-Step Explanation (Precedent: Case Law)

- (a) Peter then inquires about how forgiveness works. Is there a limit to the magnitude of offense that can be forgiven and how often? NO! And then Y'shua gives us an extreme allegory to demonstrate how forgiveness works! Y'shua begins with His classic, "The kingdom of heaven is like..."

1. The king has debts to settle with his servants.

- a) One servant owes him ten thousand talents.
- b) The talent represented different weights of precious metals (Gold and Silver) at different times in history, but it seems in the first Century it was minimally 75 lbs.
- c) If we use that for the calculation of debt, no matter how you slice it, the point here is that the debt is insurmountable... essentially permanent!

- d) Using the modern-day USD equivalents (Gold at \$2000 per oz. and Silver at \$20 per oz., this is the debt in USD)
  - 1) Ten thousand talents of Silver is \$240 million.
  - 2) Ten thousand talents of Gold is \$24 Billion.
- (b) He obviously has no way to pay, so he is about to be sold into slavery with his entire family.
  - 1. He begs his master to have patience, to give him time to pay (which is also obviously ridiculous).
  - 2. But, his master is moved with compassion and forgives the entire debt.
  - 3. But, then that same forgiven servant went out and approached a brother who owed him one hundred denarii.
    - a) One denarii is equal to 1/6000 of a talent (.20 oz.)
    - b) So, one denarii is equal to 4 USD (if silver) and 400 USD (if gold).
    - c) Therefore, one hundred denarii is equal to 400 USD (if silver) and 40,000 USD (if gold).
  - 4. He threatened him with physical violence and demanded payment.

5. Just as he himself had done earlier, his brother begged him for patience—to give him time to pay (something that would actually be possible).
6. But, unlike his compassionate master, he would not offer the same forgiveness to his brother.
7. Note: The other approach to calculating the debt equates the debt in day's wages.
  - a) A talent was a large monetary measurement equal to 6,000 drachmas or denarii, the Greek and Roman silver coins.
  - b) A biblical talent was the largest unit of currency at that time, enough money that a man who owned one could be considered rich.
  - c) The denarius was a standard silver Roman coin and equal to one day's wage.
  - d) So, if one denarius was what a man could earn in a day, a man would need to work 6,000 days to earn one talent (or approximately 19 1/4 years working six days per week).
  - e) Owning a talent would be like having 19 1/4 times your annual salary in the bank.
  - f) Ten thousand talents would then equal 60 million denarii or 60 million days of work (approximately

192 thousand years!). At today's minimum wage of 11.00/hr., it is \$5.28 Billion.

g) Ten thousand talents would obviously represent a debt that would last over 2600 lifetimes!

h) The other man who owed 100 denarii essentially owed 100 day's wages. At today's minimum wage of 11.00/hr., it would be under \$10,000.00.

i) In other words, one man owed \$5,280,000,000, and the other \$10,000.

(c) When others noticed the inequity, they notified their master.

1. The master called in the man who had been forgive 2600 lifetimes worth of debt and rebuked him!
2. You wicked man; I forgave you an insurmountable debt and you could not show any pity for someone who owed you pennies in comparison?
3. For such an atrocity I am reversing my forgiveness; your debt is reinstated and you will be punished daily until you pay every last cent (a sentence of permanent torture).
4. Lesson: If you do not forgive your brother, My Father will not forgive you. (Matthew 6:12-15)

5. Note: The law works in both directions. If I go out of your way to forgive someone, you can fully expect to be forgiven when you approach the Master!

(3) Laws that can be used to govern in this case!

(a) Cancellation of Debt...

(b) Generosity towards those in need...

### **G. Marriage and Divorce**

(1) Ruling: Divorce is an accommodation because of the hardness of the hearts of man. And even as such, it is only legal when adultery is involved.

(a) Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?

1. The Pharisees put Him to the test, yet again, by questioning Him on divorce. "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?"

2. He responds to their attempt to entrap Him by doing what He does so well, by asking a question and then He refers to the Torah (the Law) in Genesis.

3. Boys, haven't you read Genesis (the Law that governs your question)?

4. Then He proceeds to state that of which they are fully aware...



5. He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, yes? (from Genesis 1:27)
6. And this is the reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife as one flesh, yes? (from Genesis 2:24)
7. So then, they are no longer two but one flesh, yes? (Because that is precisely what the Word of God says—they are male and female joined as one!)
  - a) At this point you must see [The Image of God](#) which expands the idea of how Adam was created with both male and female DNA in Genesis 1:27 (“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”), but in order for Eve and the Child within him to become visible, (*“God blessed **them**, and God said to **them**, “Be fruitful and multiply...”* Genesis 1:28), He extracted Eve, who was already within Adam, and brings her to Him for all to see (Genesis 2:21-23) and then God reunifies them in marriage in (Genesis 2:24-25) so we would always remember they are to be considered one flesh, as in (Genesis 1:27)

- b) Paul teaches us that this is precisely why God made Eve visible, so many would be without excuse.
- (b) What Y'shua does then is to insert a powerful exclamatory statement!
  - 1. "Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate." (Man cannot alter what God created to be!) What it says in Genesis is that the man and his wife were both naked—an inference to the oneness created in the consummation of marriage!
- (c) Consider the rabbinic technique of answering questions by first asking a question.
  - 1. They ask Y'shua why Moses "commanded" to give a certificate of divorce, if you want to to "put her away?"
    - a) He clears up the confusion nicely, passing their test easily!
      - 1) Boy's, it's not a command in that My Father has this whole subset of regulations included in His rules for marriage, so unhappy people can get divorced.

- 2) No, it's an accommodation due to sin, the hardness of hearts, that had Him "permit" divorce.
- 3) But, that was not His plan in the garden, as should be completely obvious when you refer to what He said in Genesis.
- 4) Just like it was not His "plan" that man be deceived by the Devil and to eat from the forbidden tree.
- 5) His will was to give us freedom to choose, which might look like He "allows" sin.
- 6) Think of it more correctly by framing it this way. God knows man's heart and He set in place accommodations and a path to reconciliation and that is why Moses gave a certificate of divorce. That is the **case law** established by Moses!
- 7) He adds this stipulation; sexual immorality and adultery as the only acceptable reasons for divorce. (MORE CASE LAW)
- 8) His disciples standing by conclude they'd be better off staying single.

- 9) Note: Paul clarifies an accommodation later on in I Corinthians 7:1-16. {15} If a unbelieving spouse wishes to leave a believer, the believer can let them go without guilt!

## **H. Y'shua Teaches about Celibacy**

- (1) Ruling: one must be called by God to be celibate, otherwise they were created for marriage.
- (a) It's difficult to fathom...
1. Y'shua acknowledges that it is quite a hard choice to make—to stay unmarried and sexually pure, and that it is only right to choose so if you are called to it by God.
  2. Some people are born that way and some people choose to do so for the kingdom of heaven's sake.

## **I. Y'shua Blesses Little Children**

- (1) Ruling: children have many character traits of Christ
- (a) Children are a great object lesson...
1. Then He laid His hands on the little children and prays for them.
  2. His disciples don't like it for some reason, but He rebukes them and explains how children have many attributes of the kingdom of heaven.

3. Receptiveness, innocence, growth—the kingdom manifests in the same process that an infant grows into an adult—stage-by-stage.

**J. Y'shua Counsels the Rich Young Ruler**

- (1) Ruling: to be perfect, crafted into the image of Christ, you must surrender everything that hinders you.
  - (a) If you want to be perfect...
    1. Then we have the famous lesson for the young rich leader.
    2. He is obviously a faithful Jewish man. He asks...  
“Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”
- (2) Details....
  - (a) First Y'shua clarifies what is good! “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.”
    1. These words of Y'shua create a mass of confusion for Christians who would then ask, “But, isn't Jesus God?”
    2. Pause? Think of Y'shua's prevailing way of addressing questions. Ask a question first!
    3. But why this question? The depth of reasoning is extraordinary.

4. We have to fast forward to His eventual answer to the young man's initial question: "What good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" And His answer was... ""If you want to be perfect..."
5. Y'shua is not interested in teaching this man about how to become born-again.
6. If He was in that moment, He'd have just said, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* (John 3:16 NKJV).
7. The Salvation message is NOT complicated. It is any number of simple messages, none of which can be understood by the human intellect anyway, absent God's supernatural intervention.
8. Instead, Y'shua wants him to understand the Kingdom, which is the full manifestation of God in Man, and you are looking at Him buddy. "Why do you call Me good; only God is good!"
9. Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand—staring you right in the face. (Matthew 3:2 & 4:17) The kingdom does not come with observation of things on the outside; it's inside of you! (Luke 17:20-21)

(3) Layers of teaching

- (a) **Layer #1:** This man could not have recognized the divinity of the coming Messiah. So, when Y'shua proffers the question, "Why do you call Me good" and then tells the man, "Only God is good!" He is revealing His divinity. The man called him good and He wants the man to recognize that he did that. Think of it this way—you called Me good, and only God is good, BECAUSE I AM God—thus you prefaced your question, without even knowing it, with the acknowledgment that I am God.
- (b) **Layer #2:** We know that obeying God's commands is not the path to eternal life, and OBVIOUSLY, so does Y'shua! But this man does not, OBVIOUSLY, because he is living under the prevailing religious errors of the day! How can Y'shua first connect with him at his own level ("where he is at"), and then bring him along into kingdom understanding?
1. Paul said it like this...
    - a) "I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. "
- (c) The man's current level of understanding:

1. "If you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." (Exodus 20:1-17)
  2. "Which ones?" #6 "'Don't murder,' #7 'Don't commit adultery,' #8 'Don't steal,' #9 'Don't lie,' #5 'Honor your parents,' and, '**love your neighbor as yourself** [from Leviticus 19:18].' "
  3. **Y'shua does not mention the First Four:** #1 No other Gods; #2 No Idols; #3 Don't take His Name in Vain (bring His Name to nothing); #4 Keep the Sabbath Holy. **(This is how you love God with your whole heart...Deut. 6:5)**
  4. **Remember:** The Two Greatest Commands from Mark 12:29-31: Y'shua quotes Deut. 6:4-6 (love God) and Lev. 19:18 (Love your neighbor).
  5. Y'shua is USING THE LAW to establish precedent (Legal matters)!
- (d) The man is now hooked:
1. "I have been doing these my whole life!"
    - a) And he comes to the exact place Y'shua's question was meant to bring him!
    - b) The rich man asks...**"Am I still missing something?"**



- c) Yes, yes, yes! You are missing everything. Move past your wrong thinking.
- d) “Jesus says to him, **“If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have** and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”” Matthew 19:21 NKJV
- e) Y’shua had not mentioned command #10, Coveting the things of the world... and you can’t get past this, and for that reason you cannot surrender your whole life to God as command #s 1-4 demand.

**f) But if you want to be perfect...**

(e) Layer #3: Understanding the Kingdom

1. I am God!
2. Obeying commands is NOT the way to eternal life; they are the result of it!
3. So, “If you want to be perfect; if you want to become like Me, God in man... then you have to give up your whole life and follow me!” (Luke 14:25-35)
4. Then you will experience the treasures of the kingdom of heaven.
5. And you will have access to the keys and all the authority that comes with them.... LEGAL MATTERS!

6. He thinks he has it all. He has abundant wealth and he is a good Jew, and now he is being told..."That won't cut it!"
7. The religious grip on His life (of his religion and money) is just too much, so he rejects the offer!
8. See [Religionship or Relationship](#).

#### **K. With God All Things are Possible**

- (1) Ruling: it's easy to be born-again, yet it is very difficult to become Christ-like. However, anything you must sacrifice to do so will be exponentially restored!
  - (a) With men this is impossible...
  - (b) Detailed Explanation
    1. The disciples, who at this stage of their development still tend toward needing a bit more clarity after a deep message, are told this...
      - a) "It is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven."
      - b) "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."
      - c) The eye of a needle is the hole in a city wall designed as a pass-through for small objects, so the city gates do not have to be opened except for

large transactions coming in on the backs of camels.

- d) Yes, a man who is stuck in his religion and in love with his possessions will have great difficulty surrendering it all to follow Christ, to become like Him (giving up even their life as in Luke 14:26)
  - e) His disciples are disturbed at what seems impossible—the kingdom is as unattainable as it is impossible for a camel to pass through a small hole.
2. Their level of daftness is on full display (See: [May I borrow Your Handkerchief?](#))
- a) “Who then can be saved?”
  - b) No worries, you will get it one day, and with God all things are possible.
3. Peter believes the disciples have done just that—
- a) “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?”
  - b) Y’shua tells them that when the time comes, the original twelve who had followed Him will sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
  - c) Of course Judas is eventually replaced by Matthias.

- d) And everyone else who gives everything up for Him will be rewarded in this life and into eternity!
- e) It may not look like what you think because the Kingdom of God is upside down—the first will be last, and the last first!

## **Summary: THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM**

### **3. Whatever YOU bind...!**

#### **A. Kingdom Scribe Duties**

##### (1) Binding and Loosing

##### (a) Kingdom Scribes must be trained!

1. In kingdom matters... (The Gospel of the Kingdom)
2. In things new... (The New Testament)
3. In things old... (The Old Testament)
4. And putting them together, along with your own testimonies, to solve the mysteries of the kingdom!

##### (b) Kingdom Scribes have the keys to unlock the mysteries of the kingdom!

1. The keys open the doors
2. The keys confer authority and rulership
3. The keys allow us to bind and loose

##### (c) Kingdom Scribes in action in Conflict Resolution

1. Matthew 18, as we have seen, teaches us the step-by-step process for dealing with the sin and conflict with others. Must have agreement for decision to be binding
  2. It establishes precedent for how to resolve conflict and displays that when done so as prescribed, the final judgement **carries the same weight as if it was rendered by God Himself.**
- (2) In order for a Scribe's authority to be valid, he must obey the law himself...
- (a) Let's not minimize the seriousness of this... "**Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.**"
    - a) Sin is lawlessness!
    - b) Don't be deceived, sin compromises your authority.
    - c) Sin is the work of the enemy and Christ came to destroy that work, so don't ruin your ability to arbitrate by being caught up in sin yourself!
  - (b) The Practice of Righteousness
    1. If you wish to love well, you must practice living a life pleasing to God.

2. Children of God practice righteousness and children of the Devil don't!

(c) Love equals Obedience

1. There is no way around it—we obey God's laws because we love God.

2. Purposeful disobedience must therefore indicate that we don't love God.

## **B. The Keys to the Kingdom**

(1) Outrageous Authority and Immense Responsibility

(a) POST RESURRECTION—As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.

1. After the resurrection, Y'shua appears to the disciples and gives them an updated assignment.

2. As He was sent by His Father; He is also sending us!

(b) And here is the authority you will have if you are obedient!

1. Whatever you forgive will be forgiven...

2. Whatever you don't, won't

(c) You do not see it yet— but you will!

1. Maybe you cannot quite grasp the magnitude of this promise, but you shall be like Him!

## **C. You will become His letter, His case law!**

- (1) Ruling: your life and testimonies have become part of His laws in the earth!
- (a) What laws are you writing?

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

### **1. Consider the woman accused of adultery in John 8:1-12 and answer the following questions:**

- A. Why were the religious leaders questioning Y'shua?
- B. What was He writing in the earth? (See Jeremiah 17:13)
- C. What was Y'shua's final determination and why? (See Deuteronomy 19:15)
- D. In the end, is she an adulteress? (See: Psalms 103:12; II Peter 1:9)

### **2. The Bible imposes strict penalties on false witness...**

- A. Describe them in your own words. (See: Deuteronomy 19:16-21; Proverbs 19:5, 9)
- B. How were false witnesses involved in the capital punishment of Stephen? (See Acts 6:8-14)
- C. How was Paul involved? (Read Acts 7; Hint: Acts 7:58)
- D. How did Deuteronomy 19:16-21 play out in Paul's life? (See Acts 21:20-25; Exodus 23:1-2)

**3. Matthew 18:15-20 teaches us the step-by-step process of dealing with a brother who sins against you...**

- A. Describe the process in your own words.
- B. What might be the deeper meaning of its connection to Matthew 16:19?
- C. How does Deuteronomy 19:15 play a role and how does it explain why you have the authority to make binding decisions when you follow correct procedures?
- D. Use Deuteronomy 16:18-20; 17:18-20; and 19:15-21 to describe proper utilization of the law when deciding on cases.

**4. Each parable taught by Y'shua can be used as case law when making legal biblical determinations. (Refer to notes pages 13-19 for help.)**

- A. Case Law: The law as established by the outcome of former cases, thus setting precedent.
- B. Precedent: refers to a court decision that is considered as authority for deciding subsequent cases involving identical or similar facts, or similar legal issues.
- C. What precedent is established in Matthew 18:21-35? (Hint: Matthew 6:12-15)
- D. What precedent is established in Matthew 19:1-10? (Hint: read Genesis 1 & 2 and Romans 1:18-23)



E. What precedent is established in Matthew 19:16-22? (Hint: read the sermon note pages 60-66)

**5. Let's put it all together...**

A. Use Matthew 13:52; 16:19; and 18:18-19 to describe your calling as a kingdom scribe.

B. Use the following scriptures to craft a detailed narrative that describes kingdom scribe requirements. (See: I John 3:4-11; 5:2-3; John 20:19-23)

**6. Mediate on what we are called to become as written in I John 3:1-3.**

A. Use II Corinthians 3:2-3, 18 and John 21:25 to describe how the many testimonies over the course of your lifetime can be used to establish case law!