

Code of Noah HOWTO

Catacomb Resident

Introduction

We are under no obligation whatsoever to help anyone change the social or political context. Our duty is to help people live with the situation as it is. A primary tenet of Covenant mysticism is that the human context is of little consequence, always changing and unreliable. Even if we could change society or the government, it wouldn't last long. As it is, we place such things in God's hands and keep our attention focused on the mission and calling of living by faith within the context.

Our faith is in Christ. Following Him means embracing His Covenant. If you have a long way to go from where you are to understanding what His Covenant demands, knowing the law code of the Bible is not a bad place to start, as long as you don't dive into legalism. The code will teach you how to begin thinking about how to please the Lord. If you are a Gentile, then the Law of Noah is the appropriate code to follow. There is a lot of overlap between Moses and Noah; we properly view Moses as a very specific application of Noah. Thus, Noah is the fundamental code in God's revelation, not Moses. Jesus pointed this out in His Sermon on the Mount, because He referred to a far more ancient code during the series of statements that begin with, "You have heard it said..." (Matthew 5).

Until your heart begins to understand grace, the Code of Noah is a good place to start.

01

So, what are we to make of this Code of Noah? It is the currently applicable Biblical Law for the world. It is the standard by which God judges human behavior at large. If you understand the Code of Noah, you will understand why things are so chaotic and hideous in our world, and you'll understand the wrath of God on the human race.

In order to come at this from a western point of view in general, and an American point of view in particular, there are things we must state clearly that the original revelation did not have to mention, since those things were presumed *a priori*. In other words, back when God revealed His Law to Noah, the whole human race (those who survived in the Ark) bore with them a cultural orientation that is quite alien to ours. But theirs was more correct; ours is profane and defiled way more than the sins that caused the Flood. That's why we are in line for solar catastrophes worse than the Flood, to include an ice age.

So the first item of business as a prerequisite to the Law of God is that you must embrace mysticism. I'm not talking about the meaningless froo-froo we get from most folks who call themselves "mystics". There is an academic definition that gets at the real point here. We aren't looking for a higher level of intellect, or something else built into the fallen nature of mankind. We are looking for something inside of us that is eternal, something that will still be with us after this human life ends. You must move your conscious awareness into your heart, because

that's where God speaks. He does not normally address Himself to the fallen human nature. He's not going to tap your intellect directly, but will work through your heart to reach your mind.

I keep telling you this folks: In a certain sense, the facts don't matter. What you can know with your intellect is of no great importance. What really matters is moral truth. All of Creation is infused with a moral significance that you simply cannot arrive at through factual knowledge. You must grasp it through your heart. Thus, your heart is the higher awareness.

The single greatest lie of Western Civilization is that there is no higher awareness, that the heart is nothing more than ingrained fleshly sentiment. It says this is nothing more than your feelings about things, from wherever it is those feelings came. The western position is that your feelings get in the way of ultimate truth, and that they emanate from the heart. This is a flat out lie. For ages, mankind throughout the Ancient Near East knew that the heart was a higher moral consciousness; the ancients had a highly developed habit of using parabolic language (parables) to discuss what the heart could know.

Your feelings are actually from your guts (more or less), not your heart. Once you move your conscious awareness into your heart, both your intellect and your emotions will come to order. Your heart knows how to put everything in its place and make it work properly. In truth, your intellect is utterly incapable of escaping the influence of your emotions. The fleshly nature is all one thing, and the other great lie of the West is that it's possible to silence the emotions in favor of pure reason. In the very act of deciding that the intellect is superior, your mind does so at the urging of the emotions. All of your reasoning will be heavily seasoned by emotions because intellect cannot escape their influence, ever.

Thus, "mysticism" properly defined is placing trust in your heart to inform your mind about what really matters and why. Your intellect will never arrive at the definition of good and evil by itself. It is not a question reason can handle. That must be answered first on a higher level and the mind must be told what is good and evil by something far more competent to address the matter. In terms of how you experience heart-knowledge, it can be explained as convictions. Your mind holds opinions, but your convictions hold you. Christ lives in your heart, not in your head. It is your obligation to grasp this and to commit yourself to discerning the difference. He will help you along that path.

God's Law stands firmly on our commitment to Him personally in our hearts.

02

The Code of Noah is not by itself peace with God, but is the gateway to knowing Him. If that's how you use it, He still honors your obedience.

The Law of God cannot require spiritual birth. That is something only God can choose for us. However, His Law does require full feudal obedience from the heart. You see, even in a fallen state, you do have the choice of living in your heart or not. The whole point is that God has said repeatedly that He requires everyone in the whole human race to personally commit to Him as feudal Master and Lord. And, since the coming of His Son, everyone must become a Christian.

Yes, to avoid God's wrath requires you turn to Christ regardless of whether you are "born-again". It's because of Christ that the Code of Noah no longer requires sacrificial offerings on a stone altar. Instead, the Code of Noah now requires that you acknowledge Christ died in your place. You still have to confess that you are a sinner, and you are obliged to honestly believe that, but God is the only one who can know if you fulfill the underlying obligation.

In terms of a law code, you still must confess Christ as Lord. You are fully capable of committing to Him as feudal Lord. Not western feudalism, we are talking Ancient Near Eastern feudalism. Your commitment must be personal, individual and total. The whole world is supposed to be that kind of Christian. That is God's Law.

Technically speaking, you could do this by conquest, because it does not require a spiritual change. But that assumes the people and government doing the conquering are actually Christian in the sense of Noah's Code and avoiding divine wrath. It would have to be a covenant nation. Of course, we will never see that, but my point is that all of this can be done by human decision. Avoiding God's wrath in this world isn't that hard, with or without spiritual birth. However, it didn't work too well with Israel, and there's no way to know if it would work with any other nation.

But Western Christian religion is a complete failure; it is a very poor man-made substitute that violates Noah. It fails primarily because it's western. It is cerebral-emotional and rests entirely on a false understanding of the mystical nature of divine revelation. Mainstream western Christian religion is structured on the basis of human cultures that are long departed from the Bible.

But let me reiterate: It does not require spiritual birth to access the kind of authority to perform miracles. It is all within grasp of a human decision. It's built into Creation. It didn't require the priests to be born-again in Israel to get a Word from the Lord. It required they obey Moses, which included the same thing we need under Noah – mysticism and a heart-borne commitment to Jehovah as Master and Lord.

Let's make this clear: God's Law requires Hebrew mysticism. If you don't make the study of how to get from where you are to where you need to be, then you have failed God's Law, and you are subject to His wrath. Notice that I said it has to be Hebrew, not Israeli or Jewish. Neither modern Israel nor Jews are Hebrew at all in terms of culture. So anti-Semitism is actually required by God's Law, but you must grasp the essential nature of Hebrew mystical traditions, not simply ape the outward trappings of it. The trappings are contextual, but if you aren't a Hebrew mystic, you aren't a Christian.

If your church doesn't adhere to this standard, then it is not following Christ. We already know that not a single government in this world meets these requirements.

Now, there is one more implication on this point: It is utterly necessary that you take for granted that you are two people in one. Your fleshly nature is not the real you. The real you is your heart and spirit. Your conscious awareness is merely a manifestation; it's not really a person. It can be moved from the head to the heart, and when it does make that move, the personality is likely to change significantly. This understanding of our nature is a requirement to serve Christ, even in

a nominal sense.

03

Creation itself is feudal; the Hebrew approach to feudalism is God's own approach to everything.

So it's only natural that Noah is cut from the same feudal cloth. And that fabric emphasizes people as the real treasure, not real estate or other property. In God's view, nobody really owns territory or resources except Him. Any human activity in nature is by His permit. Otherwise, it's abuse and defilement. Earth is not some passive participant in what we do; it is God's servant. Unlike us, the natural world is not fallen, but we can defile it by how we use it. That's what comes back to haunt us.

All my blather about nature being alive, sentient and willful was not some joke. This is fundamental to God's Law for the world today. Like God, the natural world is patient, but once stirred by God's command, He has granted it a lot of power of its own to execute His will. If you are disrespectful of that power, you will pay dearly in the long run.

Thus, it is part of the *a priori* assumptions that you must recognize Creation as a person. Everything you encounter that grew or came into existence naturally must be treated with respect as a person. It has the desire to serve us effectively, but will not appreciate abuse and defilement. Creation is very generous, but there is a limit to its patience.

It's not as simple as anthropomorphism. Creation is not fallen as we are. Rather, it is a different kind of person in its own right. When Jesus commanded the storm to be silent, it wasn't a dramatic metaphor. He exercised authority over the natural world that should be ours, but we must first learn how to do it. So, for example, it's okay to extract and use petroleum for our needs, but it's not okay to spill that stuff in places that aren't capable of handling it. Thus, the crime is not in petroleum extraction and refining, but in the slapdash operations of petroleum companies trying to act like an oil spill is just a little accident. They are cutting corners out of disrespect for Creation.

You can disregard this all you like as the ranting of an insane guy on the Internet, but if you want to claim Christ's protection from Satan and His Father's wrath, you will have to embrace this approach. It's exactly how the Hebrews looked at things.

Creation is God's slave. Don't abuse the privilege He grants for getting it to serve our human needs. This is another of those underlying assumptions that we are missing on our way to God's Law and avoiding His wrath. Learn that your heart can actually hear these other persons talking: rocks, dirt, grass, trees, flowers, birds, animals, wind, sun, etc. Your heart operates on their wavelength; if you don't learn to operate that way, you will certainly never be able to command the storms the way Jesus did. Every miracle He performed was based on communicating that way. It's built into reality.

04

The purpose of a law code is to get you acquainted with God's character. It comes with a

promise that you can make peace with God and avoid His wrath. It opens the door to three options: You can be part of His family, or a good servant and ally, or just a slave. You can also be an enemy slave. Whatever you choose, the law code is a reflection of His character and the fundamental nature of Creation.

Conduct alone is not the point. The Code of Noah expects you to capitulate and subject yourself to God in your heart. The law is not legislation, but an image of who God is. Once you can embrace the broader image, you are in a position to understand divine priorities, and not be chained down by the provisions. Very little of the code is inflexible. The idea is that you develop a desire to please the Lord.

The code puts His mercy and blessings within reach of every human born, Elect or not. Granted, for westerners in particular, this is a very hard path. Still, it is possible for everyone to walk in miracles and *shalom* with or without spiritual birth. Consider the meaning of Matthew 13:44-46. Some people stumble into spiritual birth and then have to explore what they have found. Others must work their way into it, striving to figure it out up front before they can discover where it all leads. The Code of Noah is designed to accommodate either approach. Regardless, spiritual birth is not the end of the matter; the code still applies. If you want the blessings, you must obey it.

Let me say that again: The Code of Noah is binding on Christians. If you claim to follow Christ, the only outward evidence is that you obey the code and harvest the blessings. That is your testimony.

So far I've cited three primary requirements for those who have been falsely conditioned by Western Civilization. One: You must embrace the mystical approach to understanding reality. Our mortal existence is not ultimate reality; it can be compared to a mere simulation. You are obliged to see the moral truth first and foremost, so that the question of living in this mess is not figuring out what your senses can tell you, but to sense the hidden truth directly with your heart. You must embrace the idea that this world is not really all that important.

Two: Creation itself is feudal. God owns everything that exists, and parcels it out in vassal domains as He sees fit. Your obligation is to discover your assigned role, knowing that at least part of it is likely to be a moving target. You must go into this knowing that it is your duty to sense the subtle shifts in dominion among humans based on the fluidity of the context. Western individualism is a sin; no one is totally free of all government. On the other hand, no human government can argue with God.

Three: Creation is also alive and sentient. In the same way that you are accountable to God for how you deal with other people, so you are to treat all of Creation as a person and as many people. We do not conquer nature; it is our ally in serving the Lord. It is not fallen; we are. But it will obey you in degrees based on your understanding and obedience to God's Law.

So a primary issue is embracing that you are fallen and that the flesh is not your real self, but it belongs within this simulation. Our human mortal existence is rather punitive in nature. We should strive to work our way out of it. This is part of the Code of Noah. It's not just works of the flesh, but a lifetime of diminishing the flesh.

Following those three prerequisites is one fundamental truth: The Code of Noah assumes that you will not worship any other deity. Be very careful to poll your own convictions about what constitutes idolatry. Jehovah alone is God. After the Cross, His Son is the image of God that we pursue. Worship is no longer what it was before Christ; we no longer offer sacrifices on a plain altar of uncut stones. All that is required is that we bow our heads and hearts to Him in any place set apart from common human use.

Ideally, worship would be out of doors, in a natural setting, but that depends on the context. Nature would love to sing along with you. Nothing stops you from praying in any place at all in your heart, but community worship requires that the community try to set aside at least one place for no other use. There should be praying, singing and discussion of the Bible. Nothing else is required, and a great deal of variation is permitted within those guidelines.

05

Normally, we would not trust anything coming out of the Talmud. Not only is it a dishonest record of what God said, but it doesn't even accurately portray the life of common Jews in Bible times. Rather, it is an elitist document from the wealthy Pharisees, as if their experience was wholly normative for all Jews, when they knew darned well it wasn't. The various comments Jesus made about Pharisees should put that lie to rest. So we might have good reason to be suspicious of the Talmud's report on the "Seven Noachide Laws". However, it seems, this time at least, broader research from Gentile sources bears out the list.

1. Justice required
2. No blasphemy against Jehovah
3. No idolatry
4. No illicit sex
5. No murder
6. No theft
7. No consuming blood

Supposedly this was more or less what Israel handed to nations within the Land of Canaan that were not driven out for whatever reason. Thus, we know that the Gibeonites were bound by this, as well as the Jebusites who had previously occupied the fortress David conquered as his new capital (they weren't slaughtered). There were a few others, like the Kenites who had shown kindness to Israel on the Exodus, Jethro's clan, the Rechabites, and so forth – all of them were bound under this code so long as they lived among the Israelis and were subject to Israelite feudal sovereignty.

Which brings us back to (1) **justice required**. The definition of "justice" starts with the Ancient Near Eastern tribal feudal covenant social structure, government and economics. It's not a strict order of stratified feudalism as with western European history, but a much simpler approach. Feudal authority in the Bible wasn't based on land ownership sovereignty, but on ownership of the people. It's the reverse of western feudalism, where a lord owns the land and the people come with it. And in typical Ancient Near Eastern fashion, a lord regarded his people as his greatest treasure. He could lose all his property, but if he still had good people, he could regain

property again.

It's not a complex batch of laws as with Moses, but the idea itself of having a government that wielded the sword in justice. Your government *must* be related to you by blood or marriage. Their authority must be a birthright, rising to prominence from among you. If anyone is going to punish you, it has to be your own family, people close enough to know you and having to live with whatever they do to you. Any judgment executed must be a response to some moral threat so serious that they know it will be their loss, too. They need to recognize your actions as a danger to their standing with God.

The quintessential chief of the clan, or warlord or king, is a shepherd over the people in his flock. That is the proper image of care and compassion over your extended family household. Exercising any kind of human authority must be based on familial relations. *Any other form of government defiles the land and the people.*

The issue of defilement will show up throughout this study, because it's a key concept for understanding moral truth. What defiles you must be cleansed, or you will stand in the place of God's wrath, outside the Covenant boundaries. Thus, every law is based on putting distance between the people and defilement. It doesn't matter if, for example, some Old Testament law had a very practical application, the ultimate issue was defilement before God. That's how you understand Moses, and it's how you understand Noah.

One of the larger objectives of this whole thing is to create an atmosphere in which people find it easier to obey God's Law than to stray into defilement. The structure of society and daily human activity must promote holiness. It was not simply the government keeping the people under the code, but everyone must actively do their part to keep peace with God. And it required a multi-generational outlook, building one generation after another to a stronger covenant life. This is the Law.

06

So, the next item is (2) **no blasphemy against Jehovah**. Keep in mind that the formulation we have been handed is for subject nations that did not convert en masse to the Covenant of Moses. It was understood that these nations were recognizing themselves as vassals of Israel. It was common in the Ancient Near East that anyone taking up the role of vassal was obliged to worship the sovereign's chief deity. It was simply part of the game. This is why Abraham refused to become a vassal landholder under the Hittites, but insisted on full ownership of the gravesite he wanted. He could not compromise on worshiping his own God. This also explains Naaman's odd request after his healing that he be forgiven for having to enter his lord's temple and perform rituals. He already knew something about the Code of Noah.

The biggest issue is that those coming from a pagan background might not understand the issue of blasphemy. The best explanation is that blasphemy is equating man and God, either by pulling God down to a human level, or by elevating man to His level. You can't even do it as a figure of speech. Jokes that suggest God has limits, or that someone is like God in any way, are forbidden – "even God can't..." or "...has more money than God". Furthermore, there is the matter that no other deity was on Jehovah's level.

Keep in mind that the vast majority of the human race back before Christ could not comprehend the notion that there is only one God. It just completely flew over their heads. Even Israel suffered from this false assumption. Moses said God was the only deity, but it never registered with the nation during the Exodus, or for a very long time after the Conquest. It was just too foreign of a concept. So, instead of monotheism, a lot of the Old Testament speaks in terms of **henotheism** – there might be other gods, but you are accountable to this One.

Thus, this line about blasphemy was included to instill reverence for the name of Jehovah. And not just His proper name, but also any of His titles are protected in speech and writing. It's not that our Lord is so touchy, but that our fallen nature can get stupid and we defile ourselves. This reverence was really not so different from what a lot of human rulers required of their own people, so it's all the more applicable to a divine ruler. Never compare your Lord with someone else; contrast is the proper grammar.

You can be sure the Devil takes this stuff seriously. He is bound by this code, as well. His options are highly restricted when someone obeys these laws. That is, he's bound by your intent, not your performance. If you really want to please God, the Lord declares it so, and Satan is forced to restrict his contact with your life.

07

If we understand the historical context, we stand in a better place to know how it applies to us.

The issue of (3) **no idolatry** is, on the face of it, pretty simple. This was included to prevent ritual defilement in the land Israel had conquered. All pagan worship defiles. It twists Creation into the adoration of demons. As clearly noted in the Bible, every false god is the masquerade of a demon. There is only one Creator, and everything else is fake. Yes, all those poor souls throughout the centuries who did not acknowledge the true God of Creation were bound under demons. We are all born under Satan's dominion as our default condition.

Again, Scripture makes it clear that spiritual birth is a matter of divine election, not anything any human can do. Humans cannot even want it on their own. At the same time, God always honored those who sought honestly to find Him. The connection between seeking Him and spiritual birth is never explained to our satisfaction. It is supposed to be inexplicable. However, a heart borne commitment to please Him always comes with clear promises.

Paul testifies that a lot of people who never heard the Hebrew message, or its primordial equivalent in Noah's Law, managed to obtain a measure of Covenant blessings because they listened to their convictions. Don't get hung up on this; the whole issue with a covenant is to provide blessings on this fallen earth. It's all about obedience. If we walk in the light we have, God will draw us to Himself, and grant to us a growing familial relationship.

Thus, the point of including this item in the Code of Noah is that you now do know the truth about the Creator and you have no excuse for chasing demons. The only question, then, is what constitutes defiling idolatry. Some things are obvious. Jehovah was particularly sensitive about Israel mistaking Him for some other pagan deity. At the same time, a great many bits and pieces of the ritual code of Moses are exactly the same as what one can see in pagan rituals. Indeed, the

similarities with Baal worship were the single greatest temptation to idolatry after the Conquest. To the fallen Hebrew mind, it looked a lot like the common notion that the same god had many manifestations – Baal (Lord) of this and that.

The more modern problem is rather different from that. We struggle with giving too much of ourselves to things that aren't God. White European culture in particular tends to compartmentalization. Our reflex is that religion is one thing; all the other things we do in our lives are something else. That's evil. God does not simply fit in one compartment or another; He is the whole thing, or He is not involved. Every breath we take must be submitted to Him. Folks in the Ancient Near East never struggled with that, but it's a major trademark of Western Civilization to keep everything separate, limiting God's authority to certain boundaries.

We prefer a highly specialized expertise for everything, and God is just one more expert in a small field of specialty. We have other experts for everything else. We condemn the all-encompassing devotion to God as if He were some kind of abusive controlling romantic partner. Our western vision of government competes with God over issues He says belong to Him. One of the single biggest issues for white people to overcome is stumbling across yet one more issue not yet surrendered to the Lord.

This is the western version of idolatry.

08

Do we really need to explain (4) **no illicit sex**? You know the drill: The only sex permitted is one man, one woman, married for life. Of course, this stands on the assumption that you get married under the code in a covenant community. This is a major element in why there is such a strong emphasis on building a true covenant community: so that marriages can be done right. Stability is not a given.

The problem with illicit sex in the West is almost wholly our own fault. We don't understand how attraction is entirely the wrong reason for sex. This was part of what Jesus warned about in the Sermon on the Mount, referring to looking upon someone with lust. It's not just the mistake of lusting for the wrong person, but relying on your lust to guide your choices. The purpose of sex is to build, not to consume or destroy.

Yes, a covenant community assumes that men are true covenant men and awesome to the sweet young ladies. But let's make one thing clear: The white Northern European emphasis on romantic attachment as the guide to matching a couple is a failure. Idolatry over what turns us on becomes the excuse for a vast world of perversion. God doesn't care about your sexual orientation; that's just a manifestation of your fallen nature. The vast majority of white people do not understand that a very strong, true attachment can arise afterward, when the match is made for the right reasons. Marriages built on romantic attachment are not that stable. It's the primary reason the US is such a toxic wasteland when it comes to marriage.

Matchmaking should rest on elders considering what is best for the community. When it blesses the community, there is strong support to keep the marriage stable. Married couples are then more likely to develop that strong bond of attachment based on much better dynamics. The

business of males pursuing a woman and “winning her hand” is a horrible idea. It has developed a frame of reference for gender egalitarianism that has been the main source of feminism. It also builds a frame of reference favoring adultery and fornication. Those things are defiling and they destroy community stability, because people stop trusting each other.

Thus, a flat prohibition against all sex outside of marriage is not going to work in a western setting. We must tear down the false expectations. Most men have no useful idea what they really need until long after they are ready to marry. They really need someone older to choose for them. Most women have no idea what their roles are in the first place, and female emancipation is easily the single greatest disaster in western culture. Truth be told, women are the ones most likely to stray and defile a marriage covenant in our current culture.

So, we end up with a host of bogus exceptions because women are seldom virgins at marriage, and men are used to playing around just get any at all. There is no expectation of waiting for sex, and almost nobody waits; children are encouraged to explore their sexuality very early in life. We are left with a lot of really clunky marriages, or people already badly defiled before marriage, and they would bring this into a covenant community. All I can tell you is that western cultural biases about sex and marriage are the reason so few western churches see any genuine miracles. They are all so deeply defiled that the path to what little holiness remains is seldom found.

On top of this is the expectation of coupling only with age peers. This is also a disaster. Men should be at the very least five years senior to their women. A critical element in the respect demanded of women for their men in the Bible rests firmly on the man being enough older that she would not dare treat him with the level of contempt that women do today. Women need to marry when they are still young virgins, awe struck by the favor of the men to whom they are given in marriage. The men need to be rather established as substantial figures in the community, guided and supported to that place by a strong brotherhood.

We have an awful lot of work to do building a context in which God’s very severe command about sexual purity makes a lot more sense. If there is one thing that defiles the community – indeed, the very ground on which you stand – it is illicit sex. It can destroy your calling and mission. At the very least, it leaves you morally crippled for life, always coming up short of the covenant strength needed to pursue heroic deeds for the glory of the Lord.

I can personally testify to what a huge difference it makes to start and stay pure.

09

Jesus said during the Sermon on the Mount that (05) **no murder** meant a whole lot more than what the words alone suggest. He included unjustified hatred and contempt as part of this sin. It’s one thing to dislike certain people; that’s how we are wired. No one is called to reach everyone in the world. It’s another thing entirely to seethe with spite for people when they are just being human. The proper attitude is pity and sadness that some people are walking in a kill zone.

Whether or not you have an obligation to reach out to them is a matter of calling, conviction and

context. No one of us can reach the whole world. It's the same when it's your mission to kill whatever or whoever is in your kill zone. It's not a sin to have a kill zone; it's a sin to mark one without first consulting the Word and your convictions, and discerning the context. By no means does God say we cannot kill people – He says it must be justified under the code. A major element in the Code of Noah, directly stated in Scripture, is that some people must exercise authority to take the lives of those who murder. Further, that authority rests at a much lower level than westerners usually imagine.

This requires organizing under the Covenant and, as much as possible, exercising the justice God has revealed. Cain was exiled for murdering his brother, but by the time we get to Noah, the penalty has escalated to execution. Granted, there may be intervening human authorities, and for this reason, the New Testament emphasizes ostracism (exile) as the fallback replacement for execution. However, that some sins are such a serious threat to *shalom* that people must be removed from the community has not changed since we left the Garden of Eden.

The issue is first having strong moral leadership that discerns when a threat is deadly. You must have a strong sense of moral purity. Second is that the individual who confronts the sins of others must know their calling, their convictions, and the context. What is your interest in the matter? What role has the Lord vested you with, and how should you react for His glory? You should always carry around in your heart an awareness that fallen people do sin, and you'll need to take some action appropriate to your role in the community.

If you never go down that path in the first place, you have no business raising your hand in violence to anyone. You'll never have a proper sense of divine justice, and you will surely react from the flesh. The biblical concept of "murder" is not just killing, but any violence of hand, mouth or even mind that falls short of God's standard.

We'll be connecting this to the last commandment of the seven.

10

It should be obvious what (6) **no stealing** means. The problem is that, like everything else Jesus discussed, there's always more to it. The wider principle is being content with what God provides. He promised to give us all we could possibly need to carry out our mission in life for His glory. I can testify that this tends to be extravagant. When we lack anything, we should ask Him. His answer is the final answer. He will speak in your convictions.

The business of stealing arises from rejecting what God says is enough. In most cases, it comes from being disconnected from your feudal submission to Him and failure to search your convictions. As you might expect, getting this right covers all kinds of related sins: fraud, deception, coveting, unjustified violence, etc. Instead, you will be looking for ways to bless people with what God has given you.

Taking this a little farther, I've already asserted flatly that the Code of Noah does require you to move toward the place where you just don't care that much about this life. Mystics have no reason to want someone else's stuff, and every reason to respect what God has ordered by His hand.

The real problem is that people are lusting after stuff they don't have because they aren't submissive to God. What isn't yours belongs to God, along with what is yours. You and everything you have is His to dispose of at His whim. Embrace that.

11

The matter of (7) **no consuming blood** is not so obvious to us. It's directly stated in Genesis 9:4. On the one hand, it's obvious that if you drain the blood from an animal, it's no longer alive. Eating the flesh of a live animal should be repulsive to human instinct. Let the creature die first. But there's more.

On the other hand, blood is sacred. Shedding it must be justified. The basic principle is that all blood must be an offering to the Lord, or it defiles the land and everyone who stands on it. This is why it impinges on the fifth command. Regardless what moving creature you kill, it must meet God's purpose, and the blood is reserved as an offering to Him. It is His minimum portion of all things that we kill.

Noah was permitted to kill anything necessary for his own survival, but the blood was always God's. So it is with killing humans; the blood must be accounted for to avoid defilement. Otherwise you bear "blood-guilt" on your soul. If the killing is according to the code, then the blood is an offering to God that He accepts. The whole point is reverence for Him as the Creator, and recognizing that this fallen existence is brutal. The cost is very high.

Thus, we are obliged to take a moment for the blood ritual – stopping for a moment to give thanks to God for His provision and protection. Naturally, when your convictions move you to acts of war, the ritual of blood comes before and after the battle. The same goes when killing for food. When you are killing for defense without warning, there would be a moment of blood ritual afterward. The main point is that you are aware of the duty to do these things in righteousness.

Yes, it's obvious to us that the blood from your food animals carries all the health threats, It's a sanitation issue, but that's really not the point here. The whole point is that only in pagan idolatry would anyone in ancient times consume meat with blood in it. There were a few pagan rituals that called for ritual strangling the animal and then it was to be eaten with its blood intact as part of the ritual. In some cases, it was sucked from the strangled animal. From at least the Flood of Noah, this has been forbidden for all humanity.

By the way, most meat you buy in the stores has no blood. What runs red and congeals in the pan from meat is not blood, but a liquid protein that was trapped in the meat fibers. It's extremely rare in the US that slaughter workers and butchers don't bleed the animal properly.

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The record for the Code of Noah is not like that of Moses. The reason should be obvious. While Noah can be used to build a covenant nation, it's not the primary intent. In the case of Moses, it is very specifically the intent. So, with Moses, we have a large bundle of ritual law that is completely unnecessary for Noah. There's also a host of added commands and a lot of implied

law in Moses that Noah doesn't require.

You see, Moses was for one nation, in that land and during that time frame. Moses does not apply to Gentiles in any way. Noah is for the rest of the human race from the Flood to the End of the World. It shows up in the symbol of the rainbow in visions of God on His throne. It is the default code for all humanity. Noah was formulated with the expectation that a vast array of different cultures and peoples would need a basic guide on which to build their own unique collection of laws. You are expected to work from conviction without a lot of the handholding that Israel got.

But the blessings are not diminished. What Israel was promised in terms of *shalom* was not unique to the Covenant of Moses. On top of this, the clarification wrought for us in the teachings of Christ indicates a far greater emphasis and expectation of Noah's Code being for individuals and small groups, with far less emphasis on whole nations; this was a matter of prophecy. The covenant blessings take on a different flavor in a scaled down setting. We still study the Code of Moses for clues to God's character.

At the same time, every nation on this earth is still held accountable regardless of whether they know about the Code of Noah. Keep in mind that Israel was bound to Moses during a long period under the reign of King Manasseh when the Book of the Law was lost and forgotten, and only much later rediscovered by accident. Under King Josiah, Judah came to the realization that they were in deep trouble for the neglect of the Law; no excuses. There is no excuse for not keeping Noah, either, because the same far simpler code is implanted in everyone's convictions. It doesn't require an extensive history and written record of God's commands.

Thus, we come back to where we started. The real issue is whether people will walk by divine revelation or by their own human capabilities. If the latter, they are doomed to random storms of politics and natural disasters, with no word from God on how to avoid His wrath. If you commit yourself to the covenant implicit in the Code of Noah, God will keep you informed of His plans for you. You'll always know how to claim His promises and avoid His wrath.

Addenda

It becomes necessary to point out particular implications of the Code of Noah in our American setting today. This is just a sample of things Noah demands of us as Americans.

Tithing applies only to food. That is, you should tithe only agricultural output. In my opinion, you should add hunting and gathering, but the point is that it's only a tithe in-kind. You do not tithe any other income or production. Everything else is a matter of freewill offering.

On the other hand, human government taxation is call inclusive, and is limited to about ten percent. It is a tax on human productivity in general.

Americans in particular have a serious problem with physical property in contrast to the Code of Noah. The concept of corporations as legal persons is an abomination to God. Contracts are also inherently evil. The Code of Noah honors only covenants, the relationship and commitments between real people.

You cannot have a non-human entity owning property, nor bearing fiscal liability under the law. You cannot invest impersonally in someone else's business. If you do not have your hands in the work, you cannot take any profit from it. You can appoint a proxy steward from your own household, but you cannot dodge personal liability under any circumstances.

Thus, all contracts, insurance, investments and any shield to personal liability, along with the profits sought, are invalid in God's eyes. That doesn't mean you can flout human laws, but you should be aware of God's attitude about them. All property is the personal liability of some particular individual, and He will hold people accountable under His wrath.

People are legally property based on feudal organization. It's not slavery, but more like protection from outside entities. Children are sole property of their immediate parents until roughly age twelve, when they become the property of the wider extended family household. No external government entity has any claim on people for any reason. Unless the government is a proper feudal entity based on family kinship, they have no claim at all on the people, only a ten-percent portion of their productivity.

Women are always the property of one household or another. They have no sexual freedom at all under the Code. American women soaked in feminism are wholly unlikely to embrace the Code of Noah without strong convictions. The Code restricts them socially. In general, women can have no social contact with non-family males. No mixed swimming is just a tiny slice of a much broader demand from God. Mixed education is forbidden, as is any social mixing. There is zero tolerance for the notion that men and women are socially interchangeable in any way.

While I cannot bluntly state a modesty code, I'm going to suggest a model that I believe meets the Code: In public you are covered from shoulder to shoulder and down to the knees. It cannot be too form fitting. Aside from things like wedding rings and watches, all jewelry is defiling. Spending too much money on clothing and hair is a mistake.

As currently organized, mainstream Christian churches are an abomination. A church properly arises as the natural organization of an extended family household under an elder or chief of some kind. It will also have a priestly figure who is considered separate from the family in many ways, even if he rises up from within the family. A church does not build a sacred facility except in places with extreme weather. The default is that any worship rituals take place in a natural setting. Obviously, anything built like a corporate entertainment facility is an abomination. It should be a multipurpose gathering place that becomes temporarily sacred during the activity of worship. Actual natural worship sites, on the other hand, can be set aside permanently as sacred and excluded from common use.

Conclusion

The Code of Noah is not simply external force compelling men to obey. It is a call for a change in hearts. This is why the Covenant of Moses failed; it was the intransigence of the people. One of the primary lessons of the Old Testament is that laws cannot save souls. We want to see people coming to the Code of Noah by the drawing of the Spirit, not at the point of a gun.

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