

CIVIL GOVERNMENT



“Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood will be shed; for in the image of God He made man.” Gen. 9:6

Discourse Structure of Chapter 7

Chapter 7

7:1-5, 17-26 Holy war & the procedures of executing it

7:6-16 The (contractual) relationship with Yahweh

“The chief whose forces are not turned out in full and who leaves one man behind will incur the disfavor of king. ” (Mari correspondence)

Meredith Kline, Treaty of the Great King, p105

“Do you give leave to those that have lately built them houses, and have not yet lived in them a year’s time; and to those that have planted them vineyards, and have not yet been partakers of their fruits, . . .as well as those also who have betrothed, or lately married them wives, lest they have such affection for these things that they be too sparing of their lives. . . .” Josephus, Antiquities, IV, 8, 41

“The identification of God’s kingdom with the earthly kingdom of Israel brought an Old Testament anticipation of the final judgment which is to overtake those who remain outside the redemptive kingdom of Christ. This Old Testament judgment, however, could not be executed universally. For then the age of grace for the nations would have been prematurely terminated, and the covenant promise that Israel should be a blessing to all the nations through the messianic seed of Abraham (Gen. 12:3) would have been nullified. Therefore, the typology of final judgment was strictly applied only in warfare against nations within the boundaries claimed by Yahweh in his typical kingdom.”

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