

## God's Rights

**Jeremiah 18:1-12**

(All Scriptures NASB 1995 Unless Otherwise Noted)

- God establishes Law, and all rights come from Him. (Authority)

*"For the Lord is our judge, The Lord is our lawgiver,  
The Lord is our king; He will save us ..."*

**(Isaiah 33:22)**

*"There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?"* **(James 4:12)**

*"And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.'"*

**(Matthew 28:18)**

- Law is good if it is used lawfully.

*"But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully ..."*

**(1 Timothy 1:8)**

*"Also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules."*

**(2 Timothy 2:5)**

- Pilate would not have rights (authority) unless given to him from God.

*"So Pilate said to Him, 'You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?' Jesus answered, 'You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.'"* **(John 19:10-11)**

- All God's ways are righteous.

*"Let my tongue sing of Your word,  
For all Your commandments are righteousness."*

**(Psalm 119:172)**

- God is great, His work is perfect, His ways are just, He is faithful, righteous, and upright.

*"For I proclaim the name of the Lord; Ascribe greatness to our God! The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He."*

**(Deuteronomy 32:3-4)**

## The Authority of God

- God raises the nations and destroys them.

*"At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy it; if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it. Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant it; if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it."* **(Jeremiah 18:7-10)**

- Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, learned that God rules in the kingdoms of men. **(Daniel 4)**

## The Authority of God

- God the Potter – Man the clay.

*"On the contrary, who are you, O man, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, 'Why did you make me like this,' will it? Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use?"* **(Romans 9:20-21)**

*"Woe to those who deeply hide their plans from the Lord, And whose deeds are done in a dark place, and they say, 'Who sees us?' or 'Who knows us?' You turn things around! Shall the potter be considered as equal with the clay, that what is made would say to its maker, 'He did not make me'; Or what is formed say to him who formed it, 'He has no understanding'?"*

**(Isaiah 29:15-16; cf. Isaiah 45:9)**

## The Authority of God

- God made heaven and earth.

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

**(Genesis 1:1)**

*"By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host." (Psalm 33:6)*

*"You alone are the Lord. You have made the heavens, the heaven of heavens with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them and the heavenly host bows down before You." (Nehemiah 9:6)*

*"By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible." (Hebrews 11:3)*

## The Authority of God

- All things created through Him and for Him.

*"For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things have been created through Him and for Him." (Colossians 1:16)*

*"All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being."*

**(John 1:3)**

*"... yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him."*

**(1 Corinthians 8:6)**

## The Authority of God

- Only He is worthy of honor, glory, power, dominion, forever and ever.

*"And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying, 'Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.'" (Revelation 4:9-11)*

**(Revelation 4:9-11)**

*"... and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father — to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." (Revelation 1:6)*

## Therefore, God has the right to:

- Make divine laws and require man to obey.

*"Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. The LORD God commanded the man, saying, 'From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.'" (Genesis 2:15-17)*

**(Genesis 2:15-17)**

*"For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24)*

## Therefore, God has the right to:

- Make divine laws and require man to obey.

*"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter." (Matthew 7:21)*

*"And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation ..."*

**(Hebrews 5:9)**

*"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' declares the Lord. 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.'" (Isaiah 55:8-9)*

## Therefore, God has the right to:

- Condemn every religious teaching of man.

*"Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son." (2 John 9)*

*"I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!" (Galatians 1:6-9)*

*"But He answered and said, 'Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted.'" (Matthew 15:13)*

### Therefore, God has the right to:

- Condemn every religious teaching of man.

*"You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME, BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'"*

**(Matthew 15:7-9)**

*"Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them."* **(Romans 16:17)**

*"See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ."*

**(Colossians 2:8)**

### Therefore, God has the right to:

- Specify the worship He will accept.

*"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers."*

*God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."* **(John 4:23-24)**

*"Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you may learn **not to exceed what is written**, so that no one of you will become arrogant in behalf of one against the other."* **(1 Corinthians 4:6)**

### Therefore, God has the right to:

- Specify the worship He will accept.

*"So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the Lord of the fruit of the ground. Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and for his offering; but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell."*

**(Genesis 4:3-5)**

*"**By faith** Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks."*

**(Hebrews 11:4)**

*"So then **faith comes by hearing**, and hearing by the word of God."* **(Romans 10:17 NKJV)**

### Therefore, God has the right to:

- Specify the worship He will accept.

*"Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. Then Moses said to Aaron, 'It is what the Lord spoke, saying, "By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, and before all the people I will be honored."' So Aaron, therefore, kept silent."* **(Leviticus 10:1-3)**

*"He shall take a firepan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the Lord and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring it inside the veil. He shall put the incense on the fire before the Lord, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on the ark of the testimony, otherwise he will die."* **(Leviticus 16:12-13)**

### God has the right to:

- Forgive sins or retain sins.

*"While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body.' And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.'"*

**(Matthew 26:26-29)**

*"Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."* **(Matthew 18:18)**

### God has the right to:

- Forgive sins or retain sins.

*"If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."* **(John 20:23)**

*"Peter said to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" **(Acts 2:38)***

### God has the right to:

- Record names in the book of life or blot them out.

*"Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."*

**(Luke 10:20)**

*"Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life."*

**(Philippians 4:3)**

*"Then Moses returned to the Lord, and said, 'Alas, this people has committed a great sin, and they have made a god of gold for themselves. But now, if You will, forgive their sin — and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.'"*

**(Exodus 32:31-33)**

### God has the right to:

- Record names in the book of life or blot them out.

*"He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."* **(Revelation 3:5)**

*"Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."*

**(Revelation 20:14-15)**

*"... and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life."* **(Revelation 21:27)**

### God has the right to:

- Bless the obedient and punish the disobedient.

*"The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."* **(Matthew 13:41-43)**

**(cf. Matthew 25:31-46)**

*"But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."* **(Revelation 21:8)**

### God has the right to:

- Bless the obedient and punish the disobedient.
- Man is sufficiently warned.

*"He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day."* **(John 12:48)**

*"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."*

**(2 Corinthians 5:10)**

### God's Rights ...

- Man is sufficiently warned.

*"For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed — for our testimony to you was believed."* **(2 Thessalonians 1:6-10)**

### Conclusion:

- God has the right to:
  - Make divine laws and require man to obey.
  - Condemn every religious teaching of man.
  - Specify the worship He will accept.
  - Remit sins or retain sins.
  - Record names in the book of life and to blot them out.
  - Bless the obedient and punish the disobedient.

### Conclusion:

- God has given the right to become a child of God to those who receive Him.

*“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name ...”*

**(John 1:12)**

### How To Obey The Gospel Of Jesus Christ

**Hear the word of God**

(2 Thessalonians 2:14-15; James 1:21)

**Believe the gospel message**

(Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24)

**Repent of sins**

(Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31)

**Confess Jesus Christ**

(Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32-33)

**Be Baptized for Forgiveness of Sins**

(Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)

**Remain Obedient**

(Matthew 7:21; Hebrews 3:12)