

Law vs. Opinion

Introduction:

- A. "Against the Law"?
- Marrying a non-Christian
 - Holding political office
 - Serve as police/military
 - Wearing jeans to service
 - Wearing shorts
 - Eating inside church building
 - Serving Communion 2x
 - 2nd serving of L.S.
 - Wearing jeans to church
- B. We don't need to be biblical scholars to know the difference between "law" and "opinion."
- Law: creed or regulation with binding authority.
 - Opinion: an interpretation regarding a fact or statement ... or law.
- C. Still, numerous opinions are presented as "laws" of God. cp. **Mk. 7:1-13**

Discussion:

- I. Difficulty: Our Application
- A. You can take Christians brought up with the same hermeneutical methodology yet still have different / opposing conclusions.
- B. Why?
- C. Who loves the Lord ... His Word ... His commandments, more?
- D. **Example: Modesty**
1. Scripture (law): "I want the women to adorn themselves with **proper clothing, modestly ...**"
1 Timothy 2:9
- II. Affirming or Establishing Laws?
- A. Affirming "laws." **Gal. 5:19-23; 6:2**
- B. Creating "laws?":
1. Use all biblical passages on subject matter.
 2. Note statements or principles from passages.
 3. **Establish law?** Based upon passages.
- C. **Example: Modesty**
1. Passages speaking on "nakedness"
 - a. **Gen. 3:7-8, 21**
 - b. **Exo. 28:41-42**
 2. From texts like these we conclude that it is immodest to expose clothing exposing the thigh (skin above the knee).
- III. Inconsistency
- A. We just used the O.T. to find out what constituted "nakedness" and applied it to a N.T. passage (**1 Timothy 2:9**).
- B. Just as others use the O.T. to find out what constituted "worship" that used instrumental music and applied it to N.T. singing. Cp. **1 Chron. 25:1-2ff**
- C. How About These? Should we (in the name of consistency) accept the charge to "*greet one another with a holy kiss*" (**Rom. 16:16**) the way we accept "*put aside*" money "*every first day of the week*" (**1 Cor. 16:2**)?

Conclusion:

Let's be careful in how we distinguish between laws and what might be opinions mistaken for "laws."