

Violent Zeal

(Isa 9:6-7) ⁶For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

God is Zealous about His Son, His Government manifest on Earth

(1Pe 2:9) ⁹But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

(Rev 5:10) ¹⁰And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.”

(2Co 5:20) ²⁰Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

The Plan: Government Partnership (Authority)

Full Representation - Governmental, Ministerial, Ambassadorial

The Original Plan (OT): same Partnership

(Ex 19:5-6) ⁵“Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. ⁶“And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.” These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”

The Original Response

(Ex 20:18-21) ¹⁸Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off. ¹⁹Then they said to Moses, “You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.” ²⁰And Moses said to the people, “Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin.” ²¹So the people stood afar off, but Moses drew near the thick darkness where God was.

Afraid to stay Near a Holy God: Distance, Relational Intermediary (story – Heb 4:16)

(Ex 20:22-23) ²²Then the LORD said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. ²³You shall not make anything to be with Me—gods of silver or gods of gold you shall not make for yourselves.

Golden Calf (Ex 32) - Worship without personally Drawing Near (Form)

Do you want a Golden Calf Church or a Fire on the Mountain Church?

(Ex 32:25-26) ²⁵Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies), ²⁶then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, “Whoever is on the LORD's side—come to me!” And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him.

Lost “Holy Nation” Government Partnership Vision

Violent Response: Levites killed 3000 (Vision: God’s Government vs man’s)

The Original Results

(Nu 1:47-50) ⁴⁷But the Levites were not numbered among them by their fathers' tribe; ⁴⁸for the LORD had spoken to Moses, saying: ⁴⁹"Only the tribe of Levi you shall not number, nor take a census of them among the children of Israel; ⁵⁰"but you shall appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the Testimony, over all its furnishings, and over all things that belong to it; they shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings; they shall attend to it and camp around the tabernacle.

(Nu 3:11-12) ¹¹Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ¹²"Now behold, I Myself have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of every firstborn who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore the Levites shall be Mine,

Partnership (offered to all) is given to those who Respond Zealously

Vineyard Workers Parable (Mt 20:16) response determines

Examples:

Balaam, Balak, Moabite women, plague, Phineas (Num 25)

(Nu 25:10-13) ¹⁰Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ¹¹"Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned back My wrath from the children of Israel, because he was zealous with My zeal among them, so that I did not consume the children of Israel in My zeal. ¹²"Therefore say, 'Behold, I give to him My covenant of peace; ¹³'and it shall be to him and his descendants after him a covenant of an everlasting priesthood, because he was zealous for his God, and made atonement for the children of Israel.'"

Jehu, Jezebel, Ahab's descendents

(2Ki 10:16) ¹⁶Then he said, "Come with me, and see my zeal for the LORD."

(2Ki 10:30-31) ³⁰And the LORD said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in doing what is right in My sight, and have done to the house of Ahab all that was in My heart, your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." ³¹But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart; for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin.

King David and Goliath (1 Sam 17 "is there not a cause")

Transition from Natural (OT) to Spiritual (NT)

(Mt 11:12) ¹²"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

NIV - forcefully advancing, forceful men lay hold of it

Our Violence is now Spiritual - real enemy isn't people (Eph 6:12)

Jesus Cleansing the Temple (Mt 21, Mk 11, Lk 19, Jn 2)

(Mt 21:13) ¹³And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,'" (Jn 2:17) ¹⁷Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up."

Prayer is our Primary Zealous Response! (Zeal doesn't have to be flamboyant)

The only time Jesus got physically violent was to protect the place of Spiritual Violence.

We Govern through Partnership Intercession. (Rom 8:34, Heb 7:25, Eph 2:6)

Spiritual Violence against whatever hinders God's Government