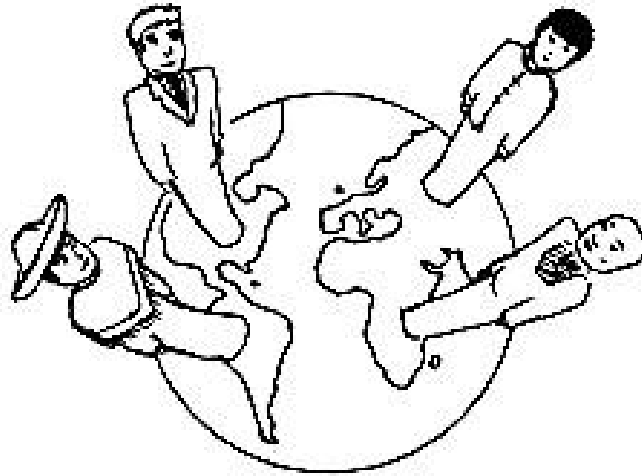
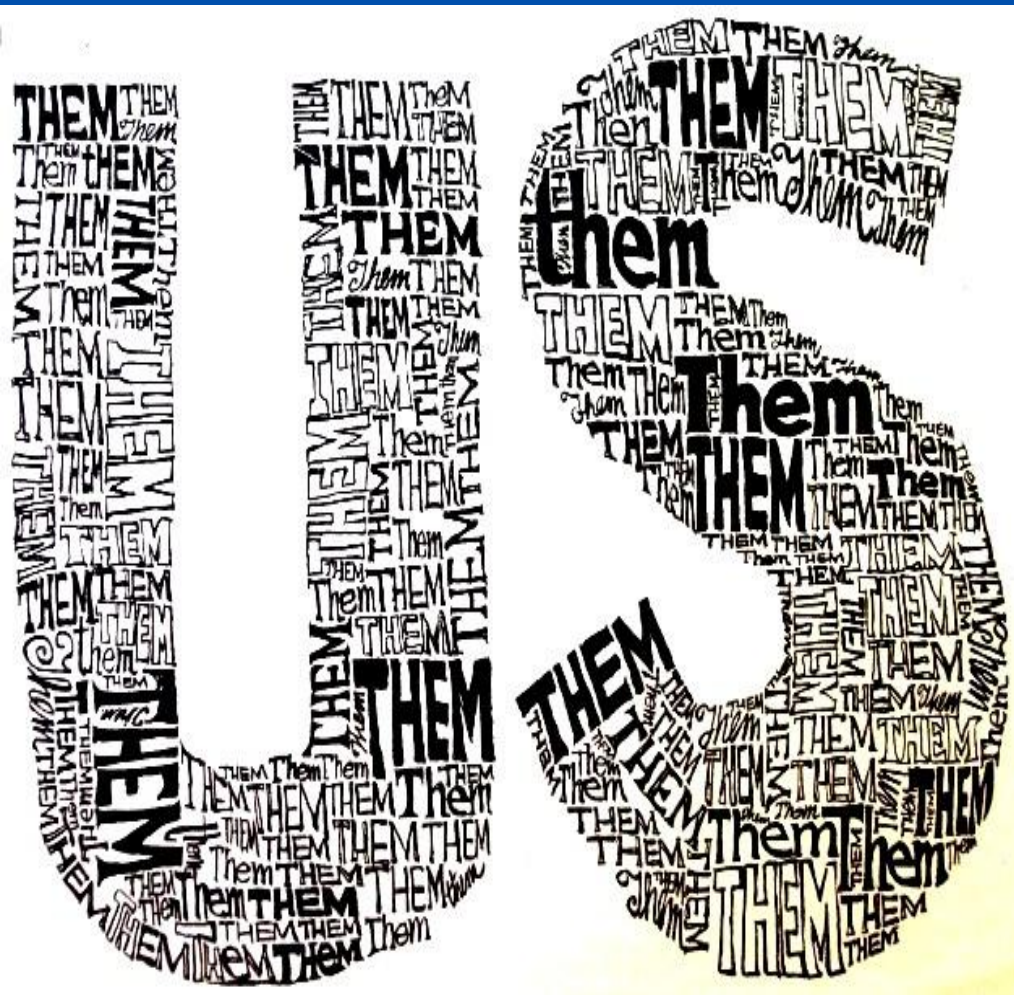


Honor & Shame 101



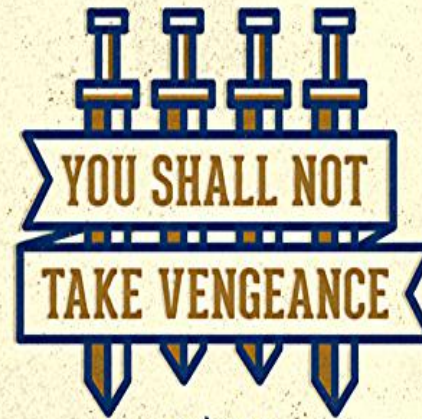
- Romans Chapter 12 theme: non-retaliation
- Does NOT mean that Believers should avoid the criminal justice system when harmed
- Shame and Honor system has to do with social status
- Ashamed is an emotion based on guilt
- All Biblical societies were Shame and Honor systems
- The Law of Moses sought to move Israel away from Shame and Honor and into an Innocence and Guilt society based on laws and regulations

TRIBALISM IS GROUP-THINK



- Conforming to the group is the standard
- Individualism is rebellion
- Right or wrong is not the main concern; acting honorably or shamefully is the issue
- Shame is a dreaded social status
- Shame and honor are different in different cultures
- The majority of the world are Shame and Honor societies

- Roman Empire also trying to get rid of Shame and Honor customs
- Paul's ruling about non-retaliation was about shame and honor offenses, not guilt and innocence
- Very difficult to apply Paul's ruling as-is to Western democracies
- Some rulings apply easily, others must be prayerfully pondered for the 21st century



or bear a
grudge against the
sons of your own people, but



as yourself: I am the Lord.
LEVITICUS 19:18

The Letter of the Law



vs.

The Spirit of the Law

ROMANS

CHAPTER 13

- Paul had NO thought of Democracy or Republic
- This is the basis for understanding Paul's *Halakhot* (rulings)
- Jews were in a mood of rebellion against Rome
- Believers were trying to reconcile Kingdom of God with the Empire of Rome
- What role should government play in the lives of Believers?



OBEY EVERYTHING ?



- *Hupotasso* = subject
- “Subject” better than “Obey”
- KJV has it right
- In the West we have input as to who governs us
- Believers to be mindful of “love your neighbor” when voting
- As much as it is up to us, we are to peacefully co-exist with our government
- Jeremiah 27:5 – 11
- God operates behind the scenes to set up nations and establish rulers



SHOULD BELIEVERS OBEY ALL RULERS?

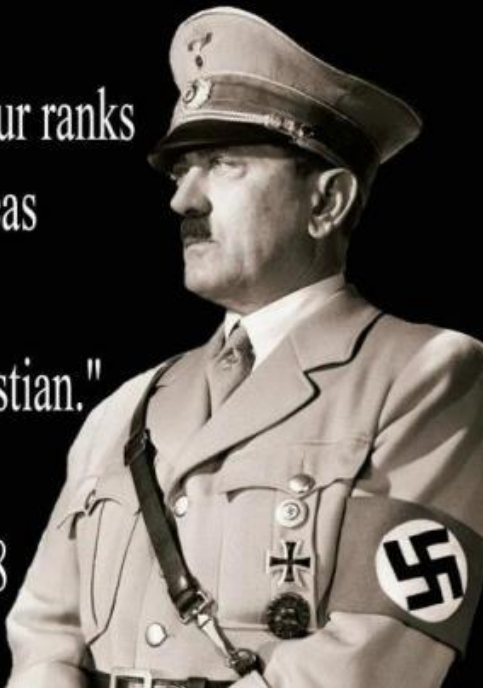
- What would have been Paul's instructions about a Believer's duty concerning Nero or Hitler?
- The official position of the German Lutheran Church was "obey your government"
- We must NEVER take only a few words from the Bible to form our doctrines
- Acts 5:20 – 29
- The totality of the Bible must always be our context !

"We tolerate no one in our ranks
who attacks the ideas
of Christianity.

Our movement is Christian."

~ Adolf Hitler

October 27, 1928



- Paul says to pay: taxes, monetary debts, honor and respect to those in authority, whatever is lawfully, morally, and ethically owed
- Matthew 22:16 – 21
- The one debt we must always keep paying is the debt of love to our neighbor
- The FUNDAMENTAL Torah commandment is to “love your neighbor”
- Matthew 7:12
- Talmud Tr. Shabbat 31a





The Golden Rule

Treat others the way
you would want
them to treat you .



- A bedrock principle of Judaism
- Not a new Christian innovation
- Loving your neighbor + loving God is what the entire Bible is about !!
- All the rest is commentary on these 2 principles
- But....God's commands will NEVER contradict these 2 principles
- If we don't study and trust God's Word, we won't know how to love our neighbor or how to love God

PAUL QUOTES

4 OF THE 10

- 10 Commandments alive and well in the era of 2nd Temple Judaism
- Who is my neighbor?
- Leviticus 19:15 – 18
- “Neighbor” is clearly another Hebrew
- By Yeshua’s era, tribalism nearly dead among Jews
- Christ expanded the meaning of neighbor
- Luke 10:25 -37

GOD

- 1: Do not worship any other gods
- 2: Do not make any idols
- 3: Do not misuse the name of God
- 4: Keep the Sabbath holy

MAN

- 5: Honour your father & mother
- 6: Do not murder
- 7: Do not commit adultery
- 8: Do not steal
- 9: Do not lie
- 10: Do not covet



WAKE

UP!

a call to action for
Christ-followers

- Vs. 11 to end of chapter is about the End Times
- Paul thought he was living in the End Times
- Enoch 51
- Paul is saying that a long time has passed since God's promise to Abraham and Jews have lived under a foreign occupier a long time
- The night is almost over, and day is upon us!
- No time to waste due to the time we are in history