



In view of the *Present Global Crisis*, and especially our nation's *Crisis*, all are invited to read this document and its contents listed below. It speaks of Jesus' attempt at peace, and of the 1 Command he initiated through his blood, so that through this 1 Command, no other blood would attempt to initiate peace... on Earth.

- : Greatest 1 Command, in the Last Day**
- : Why 1, and not 2?**
- : Making the transition from earth, to the Kingdom of Heaven...on Earth**
- : A Concerned Citizen**

NOTE: Freely received, freely give. Please give this to a friend, and, an enemy.

Greatest 1 Command, in the Last Days

In the last days, many will come to Jesus and say, “Lord, Lord, did we not praise you, give glory and honor to your name? Did we not build great churches, give 10%, and keep your Sabbath? Weren’t we outwardly religious enough for you?” (Matt.7: 21-23) Then Jesus will answer, “Don’t you remember when I was on earth I once said, ‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me ...’” (Matt.25: 31-36) If you do this for someone here on earth, you would do it to me; in fact, this is the only way to reach me or affect me. I tried very hard to get Peter to love John, Andrew to love James, Bartholomew to love Philip, and Matthew to love Thomas and vice versa, but they kept trying to show love towards me alone. I knew, deep down inside me, that it wasn’t true love coming from inside them, but affection tainted with ulterior motives. They wanted something in return for their actions like: power, money, or glory. (Mark 10:37) But, the only way they were to truly love me, was to truly love each other, as I had loved them. (St. John 13:34) In that way, I would have known that I had rubbed off on them. Consequently, when they would have tried to show any affection towards me, I would have believed them. It took a while, but most of them learned eventually. Do you think that I, or the Father in heaven, are concerned with simply our own well being? Remember, the Father and I, are the same yesterday, today, and forever.” (Hew. 13:8)

Edited by: The Community, Family and Friends

Why 1 and not 2?

In this brief essay, I will attempt to convey my reasoning on how and why I have chosen to write often on Jesus' one greatest command. I hope this essay will simplify the main theme in the whole of Jesus Christ's message, and that it will also simplify salvation to the world!

In one of my previous essays, I point out that long ago a Pharisee (a teacher of Moses and the Old Testament) asked Jesus which one of the many commandments in the Old Testament was the greatest. (St. Mark 12: 28-34) I also noted that this Pharisee did not intend to hear either about a second commandment, nor that it was comparable to his, but Jesus specifically gave him two.

What the teacher of the Law (Old Testament/ Jewish Religion) wanted to hear from Jesus, in regards to which is the greatest commandment, was solely: God, who is above all, is to be loved with all of ones' heart, mind, and soul (Deut. 6: 4, 5). The Pharisee believed, as many do today, that through his vertical form of worship (going to church and singing songs that pertain to God, giving money to the church or to the poor through the church) he would love God, and thus fulfill the 1 commandment. However, is this truly the way to love God? Was Jesus satisfied with these ideals?

Also, one must note that in the Jewish religion, three main items: circumcision, laws pertaining to food, and the Sabbath, were what distinguished a Jew from the rest of the world. It has been calculated that an estimated 613 additional rules and regulations were instituted during Jesus' time. If you begin to inspect the Pharisee's ideals closer, you will see that in actuality loving God with all your heart, mind, and soul is really not 1 commandment, but many. I don't think that commandment could ever be 1 command- singular, but always commandments- plural. As do many today, the Pharisee tried to sum them up into 1.

But then again, in the Jewish Old Testament there was this 1, truly singular, commandment. This 1 commandment, love your neighbor as thyself found in (Lev. 19: 18), was added by Jesus to the Pharisee's greatest 1 commandment: Deut. 6: 4, 5. But, how does one love their neighbor as oneself? What if one does not love themselves? And what kind of love, and to what degree, could people who treat themselves badly offer others? This commandment, in Jesus' perception, was not complete but would at least bring the Pharisee closer to the God's ideal command. In time, the Pharisee could mature to the degree that Jesus wanted. Although this commandment was closer to what Jesus intended to teach, it was often neglected and lacking in the people of his generation. When the Pharisee agreed with Jesus' addition, it showed he was moving away from the old. For this, Jesus told the Pharisee he was not far from the Kingdom of Heaven or the ideal command. (Mark 12: 34).

Therefore, Jesus' ideal and mature 1 command is, as stated in the Bible: "A new command I give you. Love each other, as I have, loved you." (St. John 13: 34) As far as this essay is concerned, here are my main reasons for this assertion. First, Jesus could not reveal or preach his ideal command at the beginning of his ministry to the Pharisee or his Disciples until he had fulfilled it through his own example; reconciling the two commandments into one holistic command. It was only after 2-3 years of historically displaying his ideal treatment of humans, that Jesus could then refer to his history, and cry out on the cross, "It is finished". (St. John 19: 30) Only then, could he say, "As I have". Second, on the last day of an individual's execution, aren't they allowed last rights or last words? Wouldn't those individuals speak of things of great importance? Jesus, knowing that it was his last night alive, never spoke of two separate commandments, but of one. (St. John 13: 34 /15: 12) Third, the Apostles did not write of the 2 commandments as being crucially bonded together, as many believe today. In 1st John 4: 19- 21, John mentions something in regards to loving God, but that is only when one has learned to love humanity, will there be evidence that one loves God! In fact, Deuteronomy 6: 5 is never mentioned in the New Testament, other than, when Jesus combined it and bridged it with Leviticus 19: 18 towards the final horizontal product as the new 1 command. Finally, the Apostles always reminded and alluded to Jesus' new 1 command. (Romans 13: 8) (1John.2: 7/ 3: 11 & 23/ 4: 21) (2John 5, 6) (1Peter 1: 22) (2Peter 2: 21/ 3: 2) (1Thess. 4: 9) ...

In conclusion, Jesus gave the world an example to follow! (1Peter 2: 21) What the world needs to accept and duplicate is Jesus' denial of himself and his behavior towards his neighbors, not his presumably churchy behavior! Jesus always sought after the well being of the community (Kingdom of Heaven) and it's Righteousness (love), because he knew that a healthy community would turn around and seek his well being, and that in the end, all will equally receive their daily bread. (Matt 6: 33/ Mark 10: 29 & 30) I'm not trying to glorify Jesus for what he's done, so that people will begin to love Jesus, but I'm trying to get people to love people, as Jesus did. The tax collector in St. Luke 19: 1- 9 is a good example, for he repented and displayed the fruit of the Greatest 1 Command, and he received blessings from Jesus. As a word of encouragement, "people who learn and accept the call to love people, generally, will figure out their responsibility to their community".

Making the transition from earth to the Kingdom of Heaven...on Earth

As man develops a more considerate consciousness, so develops his mediums for conveying that conscience, which includes many behavioral forms of expressing it. One good example of this conscientious behavior is in politics where an older system gives way to new innovations. For example, if one were to enter a video store, one would notice that one section may contain the older VHS system, and the other would host the newer DVD system. Although the VHS medium has been a good system, a change has come and a newer system is steadily replacing it. Mankind is always in transition for the better. But also, a transition can be very threatening and uneasy for many, especially for those who rely on the older system. There are two main reasons for Digital Video Disk's slow entrance into public reception. First, in the beginning, it was too expensive for the consumer; and second, many who have been employed through VHS have been maintaining themselves and their families by the product. Both sides must consider these conditions. For the second reason, and our main point, is that our government regulates the people so that in time the prices will drop, the old will become obsolete, and those who rely on the old method, can themselves make a transition to the newer, with harmony and equality. Our government should be commended for establishing such a conscientious transition on behalf of the people of the Video Industry.

Likewise, 2000 years ago, mankind was confronted with a transition. Many in Jesus' generation did grasp his vision of the Kingdom of Heaven as being on earth. (Matt.6: 10) As it is clearly written in the N.I.V., "There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the Apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need." (Acts 4:34, 35) Unfortunately, that earlier transition never transpired completely. It began as a good race, but took a turn for the worse. (Galatians 5: 7) Similarly, St. Peter, who walked on water, also began confidently, but he too lost faith. (Matt.14: 28- 31) So then, what caused the overall loss of faith in that first generation that witnessed Jesus? Could it have been averted? Also, can that transition be finally completed?

At the forefront, the force that caused the rejection was primarily the infancy of man's consciousness, for that's why Jesus could state, "Father forgive them, for they do not know what they do." (Luke 23: 34) But then again, when that generation claimed to see and understand, Jesus would then tell them that their guilt remains. (St. John 9:41) Jesus' exhorted, not just the leaders of the religious establishments, but the secular leaders as well. Both were the class of people who were most threatened by Jesus and his new ideals. Although their leaderships served their purposes well, their glory was now fading and becoming obsolete. (2 Corinthians 3: 6-11 & Hebrews 8: 13) Also, these leaders, whether secular or religious, were employed or held some material gain from the system, and both had families who relied on them. So then, you can imagine what they thought of this new guy having no status quo, and sharing knowledge from God with all peoples, as though they were equal to the priests and kings. (St. John 11: 48) (St. John 15: 15) (1 Corinthians 4: 8) What would the religious

establishment, who were Jesus' main opponents, do if everyone became a priest as in the way St. Peter wrote? (1 Peter 2: 5, 9) This is what is meant by "Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. (Luke 3: 5)

Therefore, like the government towards the video industry, Jesus, being conscientious of the leaders and their families, began his ministry stating that he did not come to destroy the Law or Prophets (Old Mediation), but to fulfill them, and not until then, will there be a change / transition. (Matt.5: 17, 18) In fulfilling that old and impersonal mediation, it was meant that Jesus would disclose a new, personal medium of communicating God's "Will" for all leaderships and fellowships. Can anything be more conscientious and personal than his admonishment, "Love each other, as I have, loved you"? (St. John 13: 34) (St. John 15: 12) Would not the new, in following Jesus' personal example towards the old, bring harmony, equality, and an eventual transition into the present? Also, would not this admonition (1 command) complete the transition that started 2,000 years ago?

Evermore, conscientious commitment is what transforms a divided community into a harmonious community. When the people asked John the Baptist, "what should we do then?" he simply stated, (and we state this in modern terms) "you can begin by lowering the cost of living!" (Luke 3: 10- 14) But many mistrusted and believed that others would not continue in their "citizen participation." Everyone sought for his or her own livelihood. Most importantly, many in that first generation misunderstood and pressured those who accepted the new concept into giving up. They misunderstood the long-term ramification for fear of the short-term implications.

In conclusion, very much like in the video industry illustration, the religious and secular establishments are like the old VHS mediation, and Jesus would be like the newer mediation, "DVD". Ironically, the VHS medium used a black and dark tape representing being in darkness; while DVD, which uses light as the primary source of mediation, would represent Jesus. Thus fulfilling, that the world is in darkness, and Jesus with his conscientious Greatest 1 Command, is the light! (Matt. 4: 15-17)

A Concerned Citizen

October 24, 2002

To Our Community,

In view of the present Global Crisis, and especially our nation's crisis, there has never been a time in our nation's history that the combined voice of the people has been needed to the extent that it is needed today. What our nation decides will affect not just our nation, but also the world. And just as one nation can affect the international community, one individual can affect a community; to the point, that it can affect a nation.

Two hundred twenty-five years ago, our nation began under the presupposition that the people would come together in their particular towns and continue their participation. Responsible commitment is what built our nation, and I'm sorry to say, the lack of it is what brought us to our nation's *Present Crisis*, and quite possibly, our demise. The "Town Meeting" as it was called is still in existence. The title may have changed, but its principle is still alive.

In Dade County Florida, the "Advisory Committee" and its principles is a good match for the old "Town Meeting". This committee's meetings connect to the government in the way that a human cell connects to the blood system; much like its counterpart did two centuries ago. This is how they work. First, there is the monthly community meeting, which is the cell/Advisory Committee. There, the will of the people is heard. Then, the will is carried to the O.C.E.D. (Office of Community Economic

Development) as if through capillaries. Finally, the will reaches the veins and arteries of the governmental branches of the county to their leaders. Their leaders in turn will pump back to them, as best they can, their requests. It will help their leaders hear their voices, and they will hear each other. With this in practice, this will rekindle a spirit in one's community, and onto the nation, as it was with our forefathers. And like the analogy of the cell, the community, truly is a living breathing person.

It is time for "We the people" to take back our country, for it's not a matter of being Republican or Democrat, but a matter of being truly human. Our community can be what we want it to be – a safe and healthy community with a vibrant economy. Whether it is to change a law or add a new one, raise or lower taxes, develop new medical and transportation programs, or even develop a new business district in the community, the need for these institutions will work its way straight to the highest position in government, even to the Oval Office, *if it is the combined voice of the people*. With these ideals in practice, the world will also learn from us!

Writing to your congressman is a good idea, but participating in your "Community Town Meeting" is a better idea. The "Advisory Committee", or whatever it may be called, cordially invites you (the community) to the next "Town Meeting" so we can put you in contact with your government and the various organizations that are making your neighborhood into a community. Believe this, "Together," our government will do what we tell it to do just as it did 225 years ago.

For more information, call your local: "Citizen Participation"

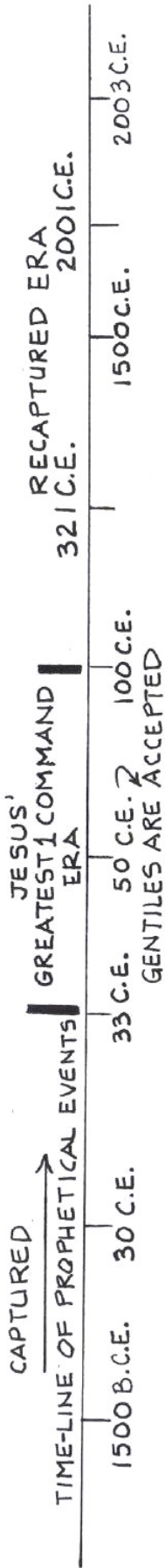
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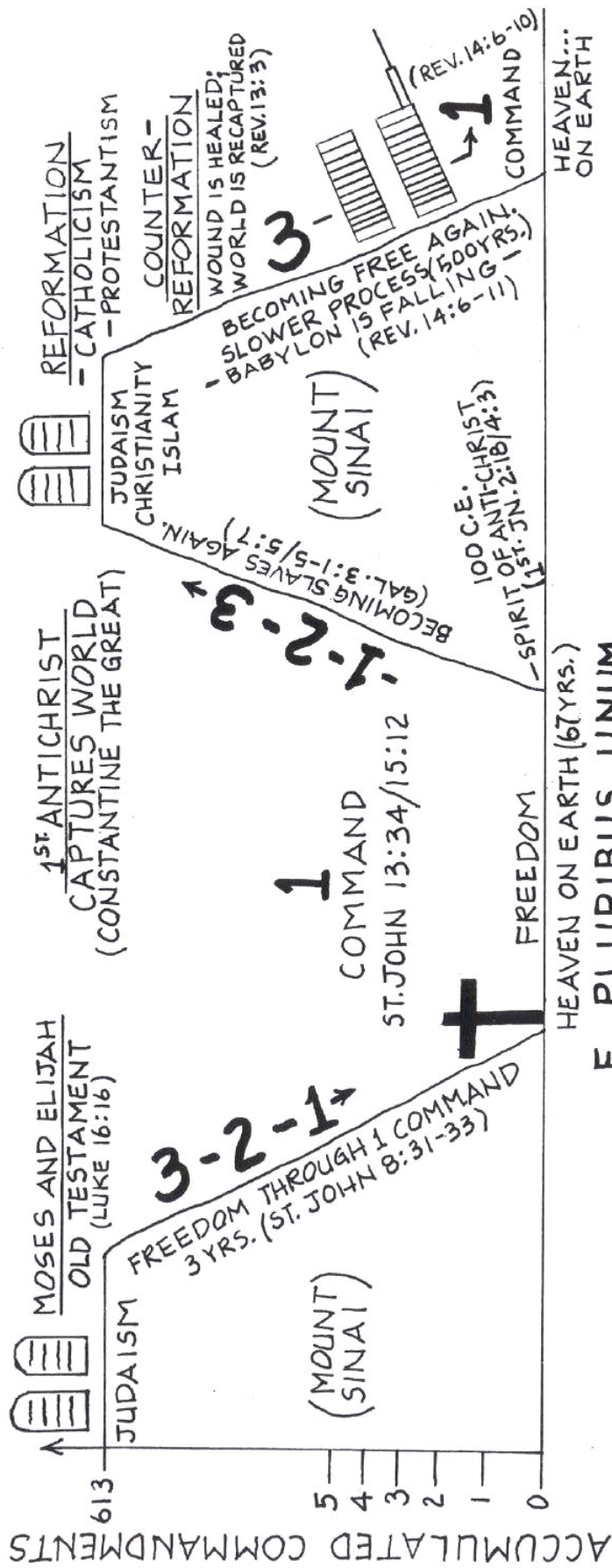
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