

# Divine Institutions – Preserving the Human Race

DIVINE INSTITUTIONS AND DIVINE ESTABLISHMENT ([Presented 7/12/2015](#) By John McReynolds)

[Genesis Chapters 1-11](#)

The Five Divine Institutions

- Volition
- Marriage
- Family
- Human Society
- Nationalism

Volition or Individual Choice, Authority and Responsibility

- Volition began with the creation of the first man and woman. They were responsible to correctly exercise authority over their own choices – [Gen. 2:7, 15-25](#).
- The most important choice is presented to all men: whether or not to have a relationship with God. Everyone has the authority and responsibility to make that choice.

Volition or Individual Choice Personal Liberty

- We must have personal liberty to make personal choices.
- Many in this world do not have freedom of speech, or assembly, or to vote as we do in this country.
- But all normal people have freedom of thought – and ultimately freedom to accept or reject the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

Marriage and Family Authority and Responsibility

- Marriage is a covenant between a man and a woman.
- God delegated headship in marriage to the husband.
- The husband's authority in marriage is limited.

## Divine Institutions – Preserving the Human Race (Continued)

- Both husband and wife are directly accountable to God – the husband for proper exercise of authority, the wife for proper submission to authority.

### Marriage and Family Freedom

- The husband's authority may not usurp the wife's freedom.
- The wife must have access to spiritual resources.
- The man is responsible for her health and well-being.
- The man must provide household help when needed.
- Children's freedom must be restricted at first, then gradually granted as they display increasing capacity.

### Marriage and Family Morality and Justice

- Both husband and wife are accountable to God for moral and just behavior.
- Immoral and unjust behavior in marriage and family has terrible consequences for all persons involved.
- There are many immoral actions in marriage and family, not just sexual: lying, deception, slander, violence, etc.

### Marriage and Family Free Enterprise

- The husband is responsible to provide for wife and family within the sphere of free enterprise.
- This does not exclude the wife from participating in free enterprise – [Prov. 31:16, 24](#)
- Children should be taught principles of free enterprise and be allowed to participate in it as appropriate to their age and development.

### Marriage and Family Social Responsibility

- Since marriage is the basic social unit, both husband and wife are to exercise social responsibility toward each other.

## Divine Institutions – Preserving the Human Race (Continued)

- Men need approval and respect; women need to feel loved, cherished and secure. [1 Cor. 7:3](#) commands husband and wife to fulfill each other's needs.
- A sense of social responsibility begins in childhood and is modeled by the parent's behavior.

### Marriage and Family Internal and External Security

- Husband and wife must both have safety and security in marriage.
- There are threats external to the family, and there are threats internal to the family.
- Children must feel safe and protected—there must be stability in the family. Sinful behavior witnessed by children is often perpetuated by them into their own families.

### Human Society

- An association of individuals and families that constitutes a living organism whose cells are families. Healthy families will make up a healthy society.
- Society's purpose is to provide mutual aid and cooperation to improve life for all its members.
- It should provide an environment of blessing that allows for the maximum development of human potential.

### Human Society Authority and Responsibility

- In a working society there must be leaders and followers.
- Authority orientation begins in the family.
- Authority orientation continues in school, athletics, church, the military, and in the workplace.
- A society characterized by lack of authority orientation suffers overflowing divine discipline and cursing.

### Human Society Liberty

- With freedom comes responsibility.
- Freedom without boundaries is chaos.
- A free society contains the seeds of its own destruction.

## Divine Institutions – Preserving the Human Race (Continued)

- The prosperity of the USA has created a sense of entitlement among many of its citizens.

### Nationalism

- God instituted nations during the Tower of Babel incident.
- God had commanded men to disperse into the earth.
- Men had one common language or way of communication. God scrambled their communication causing them to develop languages common only to their own tribes.
- The resulting inter-tribe conflicts caused them to separate and to move out into the earth as they were supposed to.
- Eventually people refined their grunts and gestures into languages specific to their own tribes—which eventually became nations.
- In this way God isolated people into groups in order to quarantine evil and keep it from infecting everybody. This has worked effectively for the last 6,000 years.
- With the advent of communication technology in the last 100 years we have seen an unprecedented surge of evil.

### Nationalism Authority and Responsibility

- Authority in a nation is vested in a national government.
- The type or style of government varies greatly:
  - Dictatorships
  - Democracies
  - Monarchies
  - Constitutional Republics
  - Bureaucracies

# Divine Institutions – Preserving the Human Race (Continued)

## Nationalism Liberty, Morality, and Justice

- The type of government and standard of living is a reflection of the norms and standards of the populace.
- A populace with respect for God and high morals generally has an enlightened government and high living standards.
- One with no respect for God and low morals generally has a repressive government and low living standards.

## Nationalism Free Enterprise, Social Responsibility and Security

- Under repressive governments free enterprise is not free.
- Care for the poor is restricted.
- Security is weak or non-existent.
- There is often persecution of minorities & even genocide.
- The Gospel of Christ is suppressed, and Christians are persecuted or killed.
- Governments rooted in Divine Establishment principles provide maximum freedom for its citizens.
- A high sense of morality is the norm, and justice is fair.
- Travel is unrestricted, freedom of association, speech, activity, and worship is assured.
- Property rights are respected and sharing, and disposal of wealth is unrestricted.