

How Should We Then Vote?

Series

Lesson #09

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# How Should We Then Vote?

**Divine Institution #1:**

**Personal Responsibility – Part 2**



# The Foundations of Social Order

## The Divine Institutions

**Psa. 11:3, “If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”**

An iceberg floating in the ocean, with only the tip visible above the water. The background is a deep blue sea under a clear sky.

## Political/National or Individual Decisions

**Ethics:** What is right? What is wrong? What is good or bad?

**Epistemology (Knowledge):** How do we know truth? Right from wrong? Just or unjust?

**Metaphysics:** Ultimate reality, i.e., God, matter, energy, “the universe”, nothing

**Foundation of *all* thought**



# **What is a Divine Institution?**

**Absolute social structures instituted by God for the entire human race—believers and unbelievers alike.**

**These are given for the perpetuation, stability, protection, and freedom of the human race.**

# The Divine Institutions

1. Individual Responsibility

**PRE-FALL**

2. Marriage

3. Family

**Designed to promote  
productivity and advance  
civilization**

4. Government, judicial

**POST-FALL**

5. Nations

6. Israel

**Designed to restrain evil**

# **What is a Divine Institution?**

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**Gen. 1:26, “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’**

**Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”**



**Gen. 1:28, “Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ ”**

**Gen. 1:28, “Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ ”**



**Gen. 2:15, “Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.”**

**Gen. 2:19, “Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.**

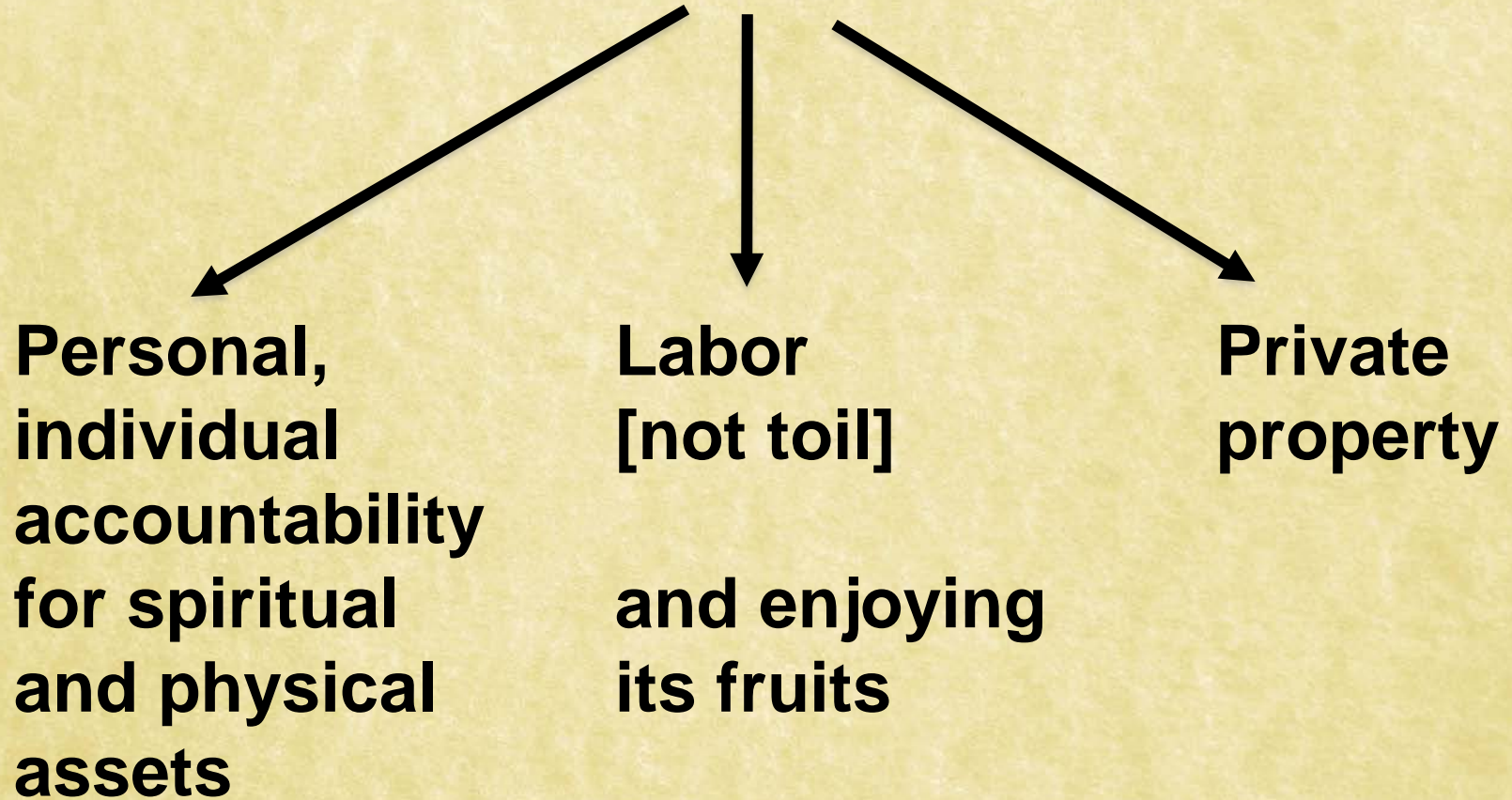
**Gen. 2:20, “So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.”**



**Gen. 2:16, “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;**

**Gen. 2:17, “ ‘but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’ ”**

# Divine Institution #1: Individual Responsibility





# Consequences

**Gen. 3:13**, “And the LORD God said to the woman, ‘What is this you have done?’ The woman said, ‘The serpent deceived me, and I ate.’”



**Gen. 3:14**, “So the LORD God said to the serpent: ‘Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.’ ”

**Gen. 3:14, “So the LORD God said to the serpent: ‘Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.**

**Gen. 3:15, “ ‘And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.’ ”**



**Gen. 3:17, “Then to Adam He said, ‘Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it”: Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.**

**Gen. 3:18, “ ‘Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field.**

**Gen. 3:19, “ ‘In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.’ ”**

**Gen. 3:23, “therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.”**



## **Consequences of Sin**

- **The physical world is corrupted.**
- **Humans will be born spiritually dead.**
- **All living things will eventually die.**
- **Earning a living for food, water, shelter, clothing, education, health care, child care, will be a constant struggle.**
- **There will be disease, famine, violence, wars, failure, misery, pandemics, economic collapse, extreme poverty, abuse of authority, and much more all because of sin.**

## Consequences of Sin

- **Earning a living for food, water, shelter, clothing, education, health care, child care, will be a constant struggle.**
- **Our constitution recognizes some God-given rights: Right to life, liberty, the [opportunity] to pursue happiness. Rights to liberty of speech, assembly, self-defense, to bear arms, to worship as we desire, and live out our convictions. Today some want to include the above.**



**2 Thess. 3:6, “But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us.**

**2 Thess. 3:7, “For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you;**

**2 Thess. 3:8, “nor did we eat anyone’s bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you,”**

**2 Thess. 3:10, “For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.**

**2 Thess. 3:11, “For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.**

**2 Thess. 3:12, “Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.”**



**Gen. 4:4, “Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,**

**Gen. 4:5, “but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.”**

**Gen. 4:6, “So the LORD said to Cain, ‘Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?’”**

**Gen. 4:7, “ ‘If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.’ ”**



**Gen. 4:8, “Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.”**

**Gen. 4:9, “Then the LORD said to Cain, ‘Where is Abel your brother?’ He said, ‘I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?’**

**Gen. 4:10, “And He said, ‘What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood cries out to Me from the ground.**

**Gen. 4:11, “ ‘So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand.’ ”**



**Gen. 4:12, “ ‘When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth.’**

**Gen. 4:13, “And Cain said to the LORD, ‘My punishment is greater than I can bear!**

**Gen. 4:14, “ ‘Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me.’ ”**