

God's Word on Governing

A Study
Through Discussion

Part IX: Forum and Jurisdiction

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IX. FORUM and JURISDICTION

- Can I choose a forum?
- Can I change judges?
- Can I appeal the decision of a legitimate court?

What are principles—or patterns—we see in the transfer of persons or cases to a new forum or jurisdiction?

1. a) In what -ways might one under (“subject to”) one government: have a choice of moving under a different one? Luke 15:12-15, 18-20; I Cor. 11:31-32
b) To whom did Jesus promise freedom? (John 8:31-32). By what means would they be made free?
c) From what power would they be freed? (vv. 33-34)
2. How does God view a choice of a spouse to leave the jurisdiction of (or cease being subject to) a marriage? Malachi 2:16; Mark 10:9-12
3. How did David receive a choice of sanctions, and why did he choose to suffer a pestilence to be visited upon the land? II Sam.24:12-14
4. Can you suggest principles which distinguish when it is or is not proper to appeal to civil judicial authority?
 - a) 1. Cor. 6:1 (rationale in verses 1-7)
 - b) Acts 25:9-12

5. What about transfer to an unfriendly jurisdiction? 1Cor. 5:2-5, 11-13
What has Paul decided should be done? (vv. 2-5)
What body is to act, and in whose name? (v.4)
Who is to have oversight of the culprit's body, and who of his spirit? (v.5)
What rule of practice for fellowship or association does Paul enunciate, and with what reasons? (vv. 11-12)
What should be the jurisdiction? (v.13)

6. Why did God not allow an escape of His people, from subjection under Babylon to protection under Egypt? Ezekiel 11:12-18; 2 Kings 24:17,20; 25:5-6

7. Why might Jesus refuse to take jurisdiction and judge a case? Luke 12:13-14