

DIVINE INSTITUTIONS

1. Definition of a Divine Institution.
A principle of Divine Operation directed toward the human race for its orderly direction and preservation.
2. God set up four Divine Institutions:
Free will, Marriage (Right-man, Right-woman), Family, Nationalism
 - A. FREE WILL: The right to be dependent upon God, or to act independently of God.
The individual has the right, the authority to make certain decisions and to be responsible for those decisions. The human race uses Divine Institution #1 to get into Divine Institution #2. In Genesis 2, 3 animals were named, which indicates choice in the Garden.
 - B. MARRIAGE: Basic organization in a national entity. Genesis 2:18-25. The husband is the authority. He is to be the head of his home. Marriage is for believers and for unbelievers. If the Biblical doctrine of marriage is violated on a wide scale, a nation can be destroyed.
 - C. FAMILY: The institution set up to raise and train children as far as respect for authority, for the rights of others, for the privacy of others, to respect common law, to respect the property of others, plus many other principles. Genesis 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. The parents have the authority in this institution.
 - D. NATIONALISM: Genesis 10, 11. Nationalism is the means of protecting and preserving the human race, so that no segment of individuals gets enough power to destroy the rest of the human race, and eventually themselves.
 1. Nationalism is a human barrier against the supremacy of evil in the world controlled by Satan, and protects from the power lust of the old sin nature.
 2. The purpose of nationalism is to provide protection so that the individual volition can operate under maximum freedom and liberty.
 3. Internationalism is anti-Biblical. Like the United Nations, Communism, any religious or political group that is international in scope.
 4. The authority is vested in the governmental leaders. Romans 3:1-7. 1 Timothy 2.
3. God gave us the four Divine Institutions:
 - A. For the entire human race, not for believers only.
 - B. For the preservation of the human race.
 - C. So that the unseen conflict can run its course.
 - D. So that the human race is free to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour, or reject Him.
4. A Divine Institution is different from a Christian Institution like a local church, which is designed for believers only.

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