

### The Law and a Calling

The purpose of this document is to define ethics. In that definition I will relate God's Law to a Christian's personal calling or word from God. In other words, it answers the question: "How does the Law help when you have a calling?" Because I believe they are the best fit for the job, I use business modeling terms like: character, confidence and motivation. Other terms are: business rules, authority and responsibility relationships and types, three-fold relationships, purpose, command, ethics, courtesy, cause and effect, and integration. As Christians with the mystery of the Holy Spirit, we are able to communicate personally with God. Through this personal communication, we are able to first get a calling or purpose for our life, and then (as we live out this purpose or command) God will continue to speak to us, refining our purpose as we communicate with him. God communicates with us personally about our purpose. But business is not done in a vacuum. God also uses other people to communicate with us about their purpose. You could say each one of us has a piece of God's Word that we all need. God's Law gives us the rules or courtesy or ethics we should use for communication with God and other people.

### Ethics: Business Rules and Courtesy

We do business with God and other people, and God's Law gives us the business rules and courtesy or ethics to use. Jesus fulfills the Law. In his previous business he fulfilled the sacrificial portion of the Law and in his current business he fulfills the rest of the Law. In his current business blessings and curses are still in effect. He is still using his chosen people for their purpose and he is using Christians (the Body of Christ (the Church)) for their purpose. His people (the Jews who have been dispersed to every nation of the world) even though they may not profess to believe in him, are united in character by his law. For God's purpose they are blinded from becoming Christians at this time, but because that law has them sanctify themselves (stay separate from the world) they are still a unit after all these years. Christians under the same law are able to stay sanctified and reach out to the world through the motivation of their callings. Business ethics are God's ethics. Only Christians and Jews bring business ethics to the world. They are found in no other culture.

### Confidence, Character and Motivation

In relations with other people in business we use the ethics of friends, teachers, students, customers, and suppliers. Since it teaches us how to relate to each other, we discover all these ethics in God's Law. From God's viewpoint, his laws facilitate his business. Ethics are found in our character. To get there they must be learned. They used to be taught by our schools and parents. Now, they must be taught by our parents. In New Testament life, each Christian has a business or calling in that life. God's Laws are the business rules he set up to help us in our business. In our character, they help form a three-fold relationship: our confidence, character and motivation. Our calling is our motivation. This is a three-fold integration where (like a three leg stool) we need all

three to stand. Without our calling's motivation, we cannot live the law, and even with a calling God uses our sin in the process of our motivation. As it always has done, the Law lays out rules that help us live with each other and see our sin. But, to a Christian the law does not lead anywhere or mean anything without motivation and its resultant historical cause and effect confidence. Unless a Christian communicates personally with God (respecting God's expert and command authority in the people around them) he (he/she) is like anyone else with a conscience, under the Law but not able to use it for its purpose.

### Confidence and Ethical Relationships

A Christian needs character, motivation and confidence. Confidence is gained as we see the cause and effect relationships created by God's word in our life. That confidence results from using the ethics of the law and the motivation of the holy spirit in living our calling. Ethics are found in Character. To understand anything you have to understand parent and sibling relationships. Ethics grandparent is Character and other attributes of character are: product or purpose, process or ability, and facility or activity. Ethics facilitate activity. Other things that facilitate activity are: location, rooms, events, and equipment. Those ethics ring true with our inner conscience. This ringing of truth attracts us to the Lord in the first place. Even though they are in our conscience, they must be learned to be used as business rules. In other words, if you can make the big decisions ahead of time business activity will be facilitated. Unless our inner conscience has a hard outer shell caused by the pride of self reliance, God's Law will attract us to his goodness. If not, that hard shell will be broken by blessings and curses.

### Summary: The Law and a Calling

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