

The School of Biblical Law

Covenant and Law

Lesson Thirty-Two: “The Covenant Model and Commandment Seven, Part 3”

Commandment seven not only identifies the yoke of labor as the covenantal union between husband and wife, forbids any assault against that union from all types of sexual sin or moral infidelity, but also encompasses the structure by which the yoke functions. Protection of the family and government of the family are included within commandment seven.

Commandments 1-5 (Love God)	Covenant Model	Commandments 6-10 (Love thy neighbor)
No other gods	Transcendence	Do not Kill
No graven images	Hierarchy	Do Not Commit Adultery
Do not take God’s Name in vain	Ethics	
Remember the Sabbath Day	Sanctions	
Honor thy Father and Mother	Continuity	

1. The family unit is a government in and of itself and, as with all governments, contains several components.

A government is a delivery or distribution system for a vision.

All governments have the following components:

- Organizing Principles (e.g. a constitution in the civil, a vision statement in a business, a charter in a non-profit, a code of ethics in a family)
 - Rights and Duties (e.g. Citizens and Leaders, Employees and Employers, Congregants and Elders, Children and Parents)
 - Authority Structures that define the rank and file in the government
2. Government and authority structures mean subordination, which is not about identifying the one who has control but rather to know the one who has authority.

Subordination is modeled in the Trinity.

- God is one God (Deut.6:5) in three persons.
- God’s plan for government is observed in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Within the Godhead there is equality of being yet submission in terms of function, which is called economic subordination.

God the Father serves in the executive role, meaning that He sets the will purpose, and destiny.

- God the Son, Jesus, fulfills the will of the Father (Jn. 4:34, “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me.” Other verses – Jn. 5:19; 6:38; 10:30; 14:31; 15:10).
- God the Holy Spirit oversees and administrates the purposes of the Father and the Son (Jn. 16:13-15).
- The pattern for all government, which is unity of persons but subordination of function, is demonstrated in the Trinity.
- Unity is discovered in the Trinity and is the goal of all human government.

Submission is not enforced; no person of the Godhead subjugates the other parts of the Godhead.

3. In the family unit, wives are called to submit to husbands (Eph.5:22).

Submission is the Greek word *Hypotasso* – Strong’s #5293, and is a military term meaning to rank under.

The female (and children) possess equality of being while functioning in economic subordination.

Submission serves to ensure unity of purpose. Just as seen in Commandments One and Two, the control of the yoke must not be usurped but the believer must submit to the yoke of God, so does Commandments Six and Seven communicate the parallel authority structure in the yoke of marriage. Each partner must fulfill his or her part of the union in the manner demonstrated within the Godhead.