THE MASTERCRAFT:

"IF YOU ARE LED BY THE SPIRIT, YOU ARE NOT UNDER LAW" GAL 5:18

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Text: Gal 5:18 "if you are led by the spirit, you are not under law"

Law is made for a purpose, often to bring order and guidance to living life. In Matthew 5:17, Jesus said: "do not think that I have come to abolish the law"

- The ten (10) commandments are still in place.
- The law of gravity is still in place throw something up and it will come down.
- The laws and customs of men are all still in place.

Romans 13: 17 charges us to "Pay everyone what you owe him: taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due."

Matthew 17: ²⁴.... the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, "doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax?" ²⁵ "yes, he does," Peter replied. Jesus said to Peter ²⁷ "so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw

out your line. take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."

So Brethren, the laws are there and the laws are to be obeyed.

However, Gal 5:18 says "if you are led by the spirit, you are not under law" Brethren, this is where God's intervention comes to play. Examples:

1. We know that lion devours. Yet when Daniel was thrown into the lion's den, he was not devoured. God suspended the normal for Daniel.

Daniel 6: ²² "My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty."

²⁴ At the king's command, the men who had falsely accused Daniel were brought in and thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children. And before they reached

the floor of the den, the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones.

²⁵ Then King Darius wrote to all the nations and peoples of every language in all the earth: ²⁶ "I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel."

One thing said about Daniel:

⁵ The men said, "We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God." Daniel was righteous and well connected with the Spirit. Administrators conspired against him and decree was passed that made praying illegal just to get at him. Being led by the Spirit, he continued to pray.

Once we are righteous, God can suspend the laws on our behalf, especially when they are against the will of God, His plans for us or when our course is for the betterment or greater good of others.

2. In Acts 16, the doors of the prison opened, on their own, for Paul and Silas

23 Paul and Silas were wrongly accused. After they had been severely flogged,

they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. ²⁴ When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

25About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God (*they were led by the Spirit to do so*), and the other prisoners were listening to them. **26** Suddenly a strong earthquake shook the foundations of the prison. At once all the doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose.

Brethren, this is what God can do, He suspends the laws for His children.

27When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, presuming that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³⁹ The magistrates (who imprisoned them) came to appease them and escorted them from the prison, requesting them to leave the city.

In 1 Timothy 1:9, bible says "the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderer.

Once we are righteous and led by the Spirit, we are not under the law because God will always intervene on our behalf.

So lets never short-change ourselves, never let the world make us think "we can't". No law, no precedence, no principle can hold us bound if the Lord is on our side and we are doing what we believe the Spirit has led us to do.

In Luke 19, ³ Zacchaeus wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a fig tree to see Him. ⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, He looked up; said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.

Zacchaeus was led by the Holy Spirit to position himself for God's attention. Let nothing stop you, once you are led by the Spirit, Jesus will "look up" for you. Woman with issue of blood was led by the Spirit to position herself for God's attention.

Mark 5: ²⁴ ... a large crowd followed Jesus and pressed around Him. ²⁵ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. ²⁶ She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. ²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." ²⁹ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. That thought is the leading of the Spirit.

³⁰ At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" ³¹ "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' "

³² But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. ³³ Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the

whole truth. ³⁴ He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

When one is led by the Spirit, there is an inner urge and push that drives the person's action. This woman did not look at the possible inhibitions:

It did not matter that she is not a follower of Jesus, she does not know anyone in the crowd, Jesus does not know her, the crowd consistently pushed her back.

She was convinced in her Spirit and pressed on until she tested out what she was convinced about.

She did not allow negativity and thoughts around her shortfalls to hold her back. She did not stop until she carried out the singular focus: "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

She did and she was healed.

The Spirit leads us unto all truth

Ezekiel 36:27

"And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Once we allow the Spirit to lead the way, every other law, precedence, principle or customs will be Subject to God's ways