

GOD & THE RULE OF LAW PSALM 82

It doesn't take too long to recognize that justice must have some sort of basis / foundation...

What makes something:

The good

The right

The true

(The beautiful)

Leviticus 11:44 For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; **for** I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Leviticus 11:45 For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, **for** I am holy.

Leviticus 19:2 Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: **for** I the LORD your God am holy.

Leviticus 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: **for** I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 20:26 And ye shall be holy unto me: **for** I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.

Leviticus 21:8 Thou shalt sanctify him therefore; for he offereth the bread of thy God: he shall be holy unto thee: **for** I the LORD, which sanctify you, am holy.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Psalm 119:160 Thy word is true from the beginning: And every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.

James 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Proverbs 22:21 That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; That thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?

1. God stands in judgment on the gods!

Psalm 82:1 God (אֱלֹהִים) standeth in the congregation of the mighty (בְּעֵדוּתֵי אֱלֹהִים); He judgeth among the gods (אֱלֹהִים).

Psalm 82:6 I have said, Ye are gods (אֱלֹהִים); And all of you are children of the most High (וּבְנֵי עֶלְיוֹן). **Psalm 82:7** But ye shall die like men, And fall like one of the princes.

2. God stands in judgment because the gods stand in for God Himself!

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Exodus 21:6 Then his master shall bring him unto the judges (אֲלֵי־הַשֹּׁפְטִים); he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and he shall serve him for ever.

Exodus 22:8 If the thief be not found, then the master of the house shall be brought unto the judges (הַשֹּׁפְטִים), to see whether he have put his hand unto his neighbour's goods.

Exodus 22:9 For all manner of trespass, whether it be for ox, for ass, for sheep, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing, which another challengeth to be his, the cause of both parties shall come before the judges (אֲלֵי־הַשֹּׁפְטִים); and whom the judges (אֲלֵי־הַשֹּׁפְטִים) shall condemn, he shall pay double unto his neighbour.

Exodus 4:16 And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God (לְאֵלֵי־הָאֱלֹהִים).

Exodus 22:28 Thou shalt not revile the gods (אֱלֹהִים), **nor** curse the ruler of thy people.

What does this mean?

- The gods aren't really gods but humans
- These humans are judges

➤ **These human judges are called gods because they stand in for God!**

As proxys	As substitutes
As surrogates	As delegates
As representatives	As ambassadors

- **The human judges judge for the ultimate judge → God!**
- **The human judges (gods) are to judge as God would judge**
- **The gods / judges are accountable to God → The ultimate judge**

John 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask **in my name**, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

John 14:14 If ye shall ask any thing **in my name**, I will do it.

John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father **in my name**, he may give it you.

John 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father **in my name**, he will give it you.

John 16:24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing **in my name**: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

John 16:26 At that day ye shall ask **in my name**: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:

3. God stands **for** justice & **as** justice!

Psalm 82:2 **How long** will ye judge **unjustly**, And accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.

Psalm 82:3 **Defend** the poor and fatherless: **Do justice** to the afflicted and needy.

Psalm 82:4 **Deliver** the poor and needy: **Rid them** out of the hand of the wicked.

What gives you the right to judge?	What is the basis of law?
English common law	The Constitution
Natural law / the laws of nature	Judeo-Christian backdrop Never simply the Old Testament

What is the **ultimate** basis of law itself?

➤ **Who God is!**

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Leviticus 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: **for I am the LORD your God**. **Leviticus 20:8** And ye shall keep my statutes, and do them: **I am the LORD which sanctify you**.

Leviticus 20:26 And ye shall be holy unto me: **for I the LORD am holy**, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.

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1 Peter 1:15 **But as** he which hath called you **is holy**, **so** be ye holy in all manner of conversation; **1 Peter 1:16** Because it is written, **Be ye holy; for I am holy**.