

Untouchables No More

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It is scandalous to see the different standards of judgment based on political stripe, economic background, or media affiliation in this day and age. The argument can be made that this is nothing new because similar things have occurred throughout man's history. However, it has never been so widespread, openly blatant, and publicly available with the mass media unique to this generation,

How can the American people take the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court seriously when it doesn't do so itself? That's our view of Friday's sentencing of former FBI lawyer Kevin Clinesmith, who admitted to falsifying evidence submitted to the court for a warrant to spy on onetime Trump foreign-policy adviser Carter Page.

In their brief arguing for prison time, prosecutors contended that Mr. Clinesmith's behavior "struck at the very core" of the candor the FISA court "fundamentally relies on", and "allowed the FBI to conduct surveillance on a U.S. citizen based on a FISA application that the Department of Justice later acknowledged lacked probable cause." Prison time for Mr. Clinesmith, they said, was also necessary to "deter others from committing similar crimes." (Wall Street Journal Editorial Board; Jan. 29, 2021)

To reinforce that there is a double standard based upon political affiliation, the judge in Mr. Clinesmith's case imposed only lenient probation, which confirmed in the minds of many observers that the so-called justice system is clearly biased in the U.S.A.,

Friday's sentencing will fuel cynicism about two-tiered justice. While George

Papadopoulos served time in prison for making false statements to the FBI, and a federal judge refused to drop charges against former national security adviser Michael Flynn after the Justice Department said they had no basis (to charge him), while a top law enforcement official (Clinesmith) who abused his police powers; operating in secrecy escapes with probation (Wall Street Journal Editorial Board; Jan. 29, 2021).

These actions are clearly against God's word, which is an irony when the American courts have people swear on the Bible.

It is not good to show partiality (favoritism) ***to the wicked, or to overthrow the righteous*** (innocent) ***in judgment*** (Prov. 18:5; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; Ed. notes in parentheses).

You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the great; you shall not be afraid in any man's presence, for the judgment is God's (Dt. 1:17a; emphasis added).

*These things also belong to the wise: **It is not good to show partiality in judgment.*** ²⁴***He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous," him the people will curse; nations will abhor him.*** ²⁵***But those who rebuke the wicked will have delight, and a good blessing will come upon them*** (Prov. 24:23-25; emphasis added).

Sadly, showing favoritism toward someone, or a specific group based on their political stripe, economic background, or media affiliation is far too common in today's world. Depending upon one's "politics", that person can be untouchable when it comes to "the penalty fitting the crime." In fact, many literally get away with murder if they have enough money for the right lawyer.

Although it is no consolation right now, no one who has dispensed biased judgment will get away with it because there is a higher court that will pass judgment on those who have abused their power or position during this lifetime.

*But I (Christ) say to you that **for every idle word men speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.**³⁷ **For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned** (Mt. 12:36-37; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

*Then I (John) saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before the throne, and books were opened (books of the Bible). And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And **the dead were judged according to their works, by the things (standards) which were written in the books** (Rev. 20:11-12; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

In the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, it is clear that any injustice or partiality that we are responsible for in this life, will not escape God's justice. Instead, every unrepentant sinner will give account for it in a future judgment, which will include experiencing the appropriate punishment.

There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day.²⁰ But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate,²¹ desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores (Mt. 16:19-21).

When both Lazarus and the rich man died, the rich man had to experience the emotional trauma that Lazarus went through because the rich man did not "lift a finger" to lessen Lazarus's suffering. This confirmed the rich man's self-serving attitude that was devoid of any mercy.

*(The rich man) being in torments in the grave, lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.²⁴ Then (the rich man) cried and said, 'Father Abraham, **have mercy on me**, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame'* (Mt. 16:23-24; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

This parable exposes the cruelty of those who will not lift a finger to assist someone whose fortunes have taken a turn for the worse. There are many examples of this today and, sadly, some of the perpetrators are in a strong position to help but, "to add insult to injury", they will go out of their way to cause further harm and ruin.

Carter Page, former volunteer adviser to the campaign of then-presidential candidate Donald Trump, has detailed how an FBI investigation based on unfounded claims led to his ruin, both financial and personal. Rather than the investigation itself, it was the constant leaks to the media regarding allegations against Page that cause him the most difficulty. Even though the allegations ultimately proved to be unsubstantiated, the damage was done. People distanced themselves from him, his business declined, and even his girlfriend left him (Former Trump Campaign Volunteer Caught in 'Spygate:' 'FBI Ruined My Life'; The Epoch Times; Updated October 5, 2018).

Often when someone like Carter Page is being 'tormented', it's at the hands of liars and leakers in politics and the media. These liars and leakers

will eventually have to give account for their conduct, and a major part of this will include them experiencing the same emotional trauma that Carter Page went through. This is one of the main lessons in the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, but it is lost on those who do not believe that Almighty God exists, and that He will bring judgment to the unrepentant who's actions confirm that they "dwell in the dark".

*Then He said to me (Ezekiel), "Son of man, **have you seen what the elders** of the house of Israel **do in the dark**, every man in the room of his idols? **For they say, 'The Lord does not see us**, the Lord has forsaken the land.'" (Eze. 8:12; cf. 9:9; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

In the absence of genuine repentance for the lies that have negatively impacted other people (cf. Ex. 20:16), those responsible will be excluded from everlasting life.

*Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of (everlasting) life, and may enter through the gates into the city (of New Jerusalem; cf. Rev. 21:1-3). ¹⁵But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and **whoever loves and practices a lie** (Rev. 22:13-14; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*For **the wages of sin is (everlasting) death...** (Rom. 6:23a; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

Someone much smarter than "the movers and shakers" of this current era, knew that Almighty God exists and that He will execute righteous judgment upon everyone who has caused harm during their short physical sojourn on this earth.

For what is the allotment of God from above, and the inheritance of the Almighty from on

*high?³ **Is it not destruction for the wicked, and disaster for the workers of iniquity?** ⁴**Does He not see my ways, and count all my steps?** (Job 31:2-4; emphasis added).*

So those who believe they are untouchable, when it comes to receiving any meaningful punishment for their crime/s in this life, will find all their lies and other evil deeds exposed when they come up in the second resurrection of the dead (Rev. 20:4-6).

*For **God will bring every word into judgment, including every secret thing, whether it is good or whether it is evil** (Eccl. 12:14; cf. Jn. 3:20; Eph. 5:13; emphasis added).*

Sadly, because man's justice systems are not equitable, and punishments do not fit the crime for those who are untouchable due to their political/societal positions and/or wealth, many "average" people are denied true and fair justice, and those who are actually guilty are not deterred from continuing their various forms of abuse.

***Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil** (Eccl. 8:12; emphasis added).*

The good news for those who seek true justice is that Almighty God is "the Great Equalizer", even though patience is required on the part of those who are currently on the "receiving end" of injustice.

*Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know that **it will be well with those who fear** (have deep respect for) **God, who fear before Him.** ¹³**But it will not be well with the wicked;** nor will he prolong his days (in the*

absence of genuine repentance), *which are as a shadow, **because he does not fear before God*** (Eccl. 8:12-13; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Many “untouchables” have convinced themselves that their actions are somehow excusable because “the means justifies the end”, but they will experience how it feels when they are on the “receiving end”, which will occur during a future resurrection of the dead. As they go through this “unpleasantness”, they will also learn to have deep respect for Almighty God and His son Jesus Christ, whose death is the only means through which their sinful conduct can be forgiven (Heb. 9:22; Ac. 4:12).

In this lifetime, it is never too late to repent of one’s sins and begin living a new life of willing obedience to Almighty God, which includes treating your neighbor as you would like to be treated (Ac. 2:38; cf. Lev. 19:18; Mt. 19:19; 22:39; Rom. 6:1-4).

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