

“You Can’t Legislate Morality”

by Warren Berkley

Of course, if we are talking about making people change and adopt godly values merely by acts of legislation, it is true that morality cannot be legislated. Legislation doesn’t necessarily or automatically change a person’s basic values and attitudes. Yet, our civil laws should reflect correct principles of morality!

Two fundamental functions of civil government (as ordained by God) are: {1} The punishment of evil doers, and {2} The praise of those who do good. {See 1 Peter 2:13,14}. How can government identify, apprehend and try “*evil doers*,” without laws against evil doing? How can government praise and protect “*those who do good*,” without legislating against evil and in favor of good?

We **can** and **must** write, promote and enforce laws based on what is morally right. And, we must penalize immorality, so far as possible. God calls for “*the punishment of evildoers*” and “*the praise of those who do good*.”

Editor’s Note: It would be humorous if not so serious to hear government officials tell us today that you cannot legislate morality. Indeed, the irreligious left is forcing Americans to accept their gross immorality on the basis of “acceptance” and “tolerance.” But there is nobody more unaccepted by the so-called tolerant than the Christian and the Lord’s church today. We are being **forced** to accept homosexuality, homosexual marriage, and now transgender values by the government and big business. May we always keep on our lips the words of the apostles in Acts 5:29 — “...*We ought to obey God rather than men*.” Besides, doesn’t the left-wing liberals know that you cannot **force** someone to believe something? A man forced against his will, is of the same opinion still! **Wayne Goff**

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