

BASIS, PREMISE

Even though Abram told Pharaoh that Sarai was his sister, and even though Pharaoh took her on that **basis** and didn't know he was taking someone else's wife, God was still angry with him. (The fact that Pharaoh sinned in ignorance didn't excuse his actions in God's sight. The Lord holds people accountable for sins committed in ignorance.)

- **Genesis 12:17:** "And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife."

Under the Mosaic Law, some sacrifices had to be offered on a daily **basis** in the tabernacle.

- **Numbers 28:3:** "And thou shalt say unto them, This is the offering made by fire which ye shall offer unto the LORD; two lambs of the first year without spot day by day, for a continual burnt offering."

The animals that were to be sacrificed to the Lord on a regular **basis** had to be without blemish.

- **Numbers 28:31:** "Ye shall offer them beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, (they shall be unto you without blemish) and their drink offerings."

Under the Mosaic Law, a person couldn't be convicted on the **basis** of a single individual's testimony. There had to be at least two witnesses.

- **Deuteronomy 19:15:** "One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin

that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established."

The princes of Israel believed that since they had sworn an oath to the Gibeonites, they had to keep it. This was true even though they had been tricked into it, and the oath was made on the **basis** of lies.

- **Joshua 9:19:** "But all the princes said unto all the congregation, We have sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel: now therefore we may not touch them."

The tabernacle shewbread was made on a daily **basis**.

- **1 Samuel 21:6:** "So the priest gave him hallowed bread: for there was no bread there but the shewbread, that was taken from before the LORD, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away."

When Ziba lied to David and said that Mephibosheth remained in Jerusalem because he thought the kingdom of Israel would be given to him, David gave Ziba everything that Mephibosheth owned. (However, that was a violation of the Mosaic Law. A person could only be convicted on the testimony of *at least two witnesses*. It was wrong for David to take away everything Mephibosheth owned on the **basis** of a single person's testimony.)

- **2 Samuel 16:4:** "Then said the king to Ziba, Behold, thine are all that pertained unto Mephibosheth. And Ziba said, I humbly beseech thee that I may find grace in thy sight, my lord, O king."

Even though David had unjustly taken away everything Mephibosheth owned on the **basis** of a single false accusation (which the Mosaic Law forbade), Mephibosheth didn't criticize David or ask him to fix that injustice.

- **2 Samuel 19:27-28:** "And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king; but my lord the king is as an angel of God: do therefore what is good in thine eyes. For all of my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry any more unto the king?"

David broke his vow to Jonathan to always be good to Jonathan's offspring. He took away everything Mephibosheth owned on the **basis** of a single false accusation, and then refused to allow Mephibosheth to defend himself.

- **2 Samuel 19:29:** "And the king said unto him, Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I have said, Thou and Ziba divide the land."

Satan has access to Heaven (since he presents himself before God on a regular **basis**).

- **Job 1:6:** "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them."
- **Job 2:1:** "Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD."

It's not wrong to pray that God would hear our cries on the **basis** that our time in this world is short.

- **Psalm 39:12:** "Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were."

The enemies of the psalmist reproached him on a daily **basis**.

- **Psalm 42:10:** "As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God?"

We need to listen carefully to a person's words, so we can determine whether they're wise or a fool. The reason this is important is so we can take steps to avoid being around fools. (In other words, we're commanded to judge people on the **basis** of what they say.)

- **Proverbs 14:7:** "Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge."

It's not wise to act on the **basis** of what a single person has to say, because that person is unlikely to tell you the full story.

- **Proverbs 18:17:** "He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him."

Even children are judged on the **basis** of their conduct.

- **Proverbs 20:11:** "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right."

We must not judge simply on the **basis** of what we see or hear. There may be more going on than is apparent at first glance.

- **Isaiah 11:3:** "And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears."

God said the Jews had no **basis** for finding fault with Him. Instead they were the ones who had sinned.

- **Jeremiah 2:29:** "Wherefore will ye plead with me? ye all have transgressed against me, saith the LORD."

There are times when wicked people use lies as a **basis** for refusing to know God.

- **Jeremiah 9:6:** "Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, saith the LORD."

The reason the Jews reproached and derided Jeremiah on a daily **basis** was because he faithfully proclaimed the word of the Lord.

- **Jeremiah 20:8:** "For since I spake, I cried out, I cried violence and spoil; because the word of the LORD was made a reproach unto me, and a derision, daily."

Since Jeremiah was persecuted on a daily **basis** for proclaiming God's word, he wanted to stop speaking in God's name. (However, he found he couldn't do that.)

- **Jeremiah 20:9:** "Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay."

God said that when He sent His judgment upon Egypt, the city of Noph would be in distress on a daily **basis**.

- **Ezekiel 30:16:** "And I will set fire in Egypt: Sin shall have great pain, and No shall be rent asunder, and Noph shall have distresses daily."

Jesus accepted the **premise** that some people in the kingdom of Heaven will be greater than others. (He could have told His disciples that no one in the kingdom of Heaven would be greater than anyone else, but He didn't.)

- **Matthew 18:1-4:** "At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

When Jesus told the religious leaders at His trial that He was the Son of God, they said there was no need for further witnesses. They were willing to convict Him on the **basis** of that statement alone. (However, Jesus was telling the truth.)

- **Luke 22:70-71:** "Then said they all, Art thou then the Son of God? And he said unto them, Ye say that I am. And

they said, What need we any further witness? for we ourselves have heard of his own mouth."

In the earliest days of the church, it tried to take care of widows on a daily **basis**. This was referred to as the "daily ministration".

- **Acts 6:1:** "And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration."

Although Paul ordained elders in every city, he never ordained any pastors. Instead the people who were in charge of churches were the elders. The modern position of pastor (and the idea that he's the head of the local church) has no Biblical **basis**.

- **Acts 14:23:** "And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed."

The Jews tried to prosecute Paul on the **basis** of lies. (Paul hadn't profaned the temple, and had no intention of doing so.)

- **Acts 24:6, 9:** "Who also hath gone about to profane the temple: whom we took, and would have judged according to our law. ... And the Jews also assented, saying that these things were so."

The promise that God made to Abraham was made on the **basis** of righteousness that comes through faith (not works).

Since Abraham believed God and had faith in His promise, God gave him righteousness.

- **Romans 4:13:** "For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith."

Our reconciliation to God was accomplished on the **basis** of the sacrifice of Christ. Our works play no part.

- **Romans 5:10:** "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."

God's decision to save one of Isaac's children but not the other wasn't made on the **basis** of anything they had done or would do. Instead His decision to love Jacob and hate Esau was made solely on the basis of His sovereign will.

- Romans 9:11-13: "(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."

It's good to use Scripture as the **basis** for arguments. (The apostles often quoted the Scriptures to defend their positions.)

- **Romans 10:11:** "For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

Christians must be careful about judging people on the **basis** of personal convictions. We must not despise other Christians who have different convictions than we do if God has accepted them.

- **Romans 14:3:** "Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him."

It's not our place to judge other Christians on the **basis** of personal convictions. One day Christ will hold them accountable.

- **Romans 14:10:** "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ."
- **Romans 14:13:** "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."

Those who have doubts about the morality of an act and decide to do it anyway are committing a sin because they aren't acting on the **basis** of faith. Since they believe what they're doing might be wrong, but they choose to do it anyway, they're doing something evil.

- **Romans 14:23:** "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin."

The **basis** of our faith matters. It makes an everlasting difference if it's built upon the wisdom of this world, or the power of God.

- **1 Corinthians 2:5:** "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

It seems the apostles belonged to the churches that they wrote to in some way, even though they didn't live in those cities and attend their services on a regular **basis**.

- **1 Corinthians 3:22:** "Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are your's;"

Money wasn't collected in the Corinthian church on a regular **basis**. Instead it was done when a need arose. (Paul didn't want any money to be collected while he was present with them, and asked them to gather it before he arrived.)

- **1 Corinthians 16:2:** "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."
- **2 Corinthians 9:5:** "Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness."

It's wrong to measure yourself against other people. You can't use others as a **basis** to determine how good you are, and you can't set your own standard either. (Instead we must measure ourselves against what the Scriptures have to say.)

- **2 Corinthians 10:12:** "For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that

commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise."

When Paul had his vision of Heaven he didn't immediately tell everyone or try to use the experience to make money. Instead he kept it a secret, and referred to it with great reluctance. When he did bring it up he refused to give any details about what he experienced. (This is very difference from the "Heaven tourism" books that are released on a fairly regular **basis**, which seem to be obvious frauds.)

- **2 Corinthians 12:2-4:** "I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter."

The church must not discipline an elder on the **basis** of an accusation made by a single person. (At least two witnesses are required.)

- **1 Timothy 5:19:** "Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses."

It's a serious sin in God's sight for churches to show partiality on any **basis**. That's something He hates.

- **1 Timothy 5:21:** "I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe

these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality."

Paul spoke of oppositions to the Scriptures that were being made on the **basis** of false science.

- **1 Timothy 6:20:** "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:"

The author of Hebrews expected Christians to gather and exhort one another on a daily **basis**. (Given the technology of the times, the only way they could exhort one another day was to do so in person.)

- **Hebrews 3:13:** "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."

Under the Mosaic Law, priests offered the same sacrifices on a **daily** basis. This was evidence that those sacrifices couldn't actually forgive sins. (If they had that power then there would have been no need to keep offering them. The death and resurrection of Jesus really *does* have the power to forgive sins once and for all, which is why He was only offered once. There's no need to keep offering sacrifices for a debt that's already been paid.)

- **Hebrews 10:11:** "And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:"

It's wrong for the church to treat one person better than another on the **basis** of their wealth.

- **James 2:2-4:** "For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?"