GOD'S RIGHTS

INTRODUCTION:

1. "RIGHTS" means "a just claim".
2. We hear a lot about rights -- everybody is concerned about his rights.
3. Not many people are concerned with God and His rights.
4. Many seem to think they can pay no attention to God's rights and that all will be well with them.
5. God's rights come from who He is:

   (1) He is CREATOR and SUSTAINER of the universe -- Heb. 11:3; Psa. 33:6, 9; Gen. 1:1; Col. 1:16-17; Psa. 36:6; Acts 17:25-26; Matt. 5:45

   (2) He is ETERNAL -- Psa. 90:2

   (3) He is ALL-POWERFUL -- Gen. 17:1; Matt. 19:26

   (4) He is HOLY -- I Pet. 1:16

I. IT IS GOD'S RIGHT TO MAKE DIVINE LAW

1. God gave LAW to Adam and Eve -- Gen. 2:15-17
2. God gave LAW to Noah -- Gen. 6:13-22
3. God gave LAW to the Israelites -- Ex. 20:1-6; Heb. 8:7-13
4. God has given us LAW today by His Son -- Heb. 1:1-2; Matt. 28:18; James 4:12; II Tim. 3:16-17; Gal. 6:2; James 1:25; Rom. 3:27; Rom. 8:2
5. God's LAW stands above any human law -- Acts 5:29

II. GOD HAS THE RIGHT TO SET THE MORAL STANDARD FOR MAN -- Lev. 18:1-4

1. He has a right to set the limits of SEXUAL ACTIVITY

   (1) It is right only in marriage -- Heb. 13:4

   (2) All sexual activity outside of marriage is fornication -- I Cor. 7:2; I Thess. 4:3; Gal. 5:19-21; I Cor. 6:18

   (3) He has a right to define marriage -- Matt. 19:4-6

   (4) He has the right to condemn homosexuality -- Rom. 1:26-27; I Cor. 6:9-10; Lev. 18:22

2. He has the right to set the STANDARD for our DRESS -- I Tim. 2:9-10
3. He has the right to set the STANDARD for our THINKING -- Matt. 5:28; Phil. 4:8; Mark 7:20 - 23

III. GOD HAS THE RIGHT TO RESTRICT RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

1. The right NOT TO ACCEPT WORSHIP based on the COMMANDMENTS OF MEN -- Matt. 15:9; Col. 2:8

2. He has the right NOT to accept WORK he has NOT AUTHORIZED -- Matt. 7:21-23

3. He has a right to condemn ALL that GO BEYOND the doctrine of Christ -- II John 9 - 11

IV. GOD HAS A RIGHT TO SPECIFY WORSHIP TO HIM

1. It must be IN SPIRIT and IN TRUTH -- John 4:23 - 24

2. Items of worship:
   (1) Singing -- Eph. 5:19
   (2) Giving -- I Cor. 16:1 - 2
   (3) Prayer -- Acts 2:42
   (4) Lord's Supper -- Acts 20:7
   (5) Teaching -- Acts 2:42

V. GOD HAS A RIGHT TO FORGIVE SINS

1. Pardon takes place in the MIND OF GOD -- Isa. 55:7

2. God pardons on CONDITIONS
   (1) Eph. 2:8; Acts 2:37 - 38

3. God pardons the children of God on CONDITIONS -- Acts 8:22

4. Man's sins are against God -- Psa. 51:4

VI. GOD HAS A RIGHT TO ADD TO THE CHURCH

1. All that are saved are ADDED TO THE CHURCH -- Acts 2:47

2. Reconciled unto God in one body, the church -- Eph. 2:16

VII. GOD HAS THE RIGHT TO SET THE END OF TIME

1. It is in the power of the Father to know the times and the seasons -- Acts 1:7

2. It is in the power of the Father to set the end of Time -- Matt. 24:36
VIII. GOD HAS THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF MEN IN THE JUDGMENT

1. All will appear before the JUDGMENT seat of Christ -- II Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20: 11 - 15; Matt. 25: 31 - 41

2. The standard of JUDGMENT for us will be the Words of Christ -- John 12: 48

CONCLUSION:

1. God has rights that man must respect.
2. The man that does not respect God's rights will be lost.
3. Have you respected God's rights?

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