Consistent Christian Faith and Mandated Experimental¹ Medical Procedures

Because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead. Acts 17:31

Synopsis:

The empty tomb in Jerusalem proclaims with final authority the truth that Jesus of Nazareth was who He claimed to be, the Jewish Messiah prophesied centuries before His coming, the Son of God giving His life to redeem mankind, the Incarnate Creator who made and upholds all things, and the King of all kings, the Ruler of all rulers, to whom all authority has been given in heaven *and upon earth*. Jesus reigns over all the earth, and all are called to be subject to Him.

Jesus calls His people to obey His commandments, and to love God and neighbor. His law commands us to honor human life especially as having transcendent value and worth. We are not to harm ourselves. We are to love neighbor by seeking their protection and well being. Such could and often does require protecting others from those seeking to bring harm, that is, in military and policing actions that promote what is good and punish what is evil. God defines good and evil, and blesses those nations that submit to His law in these matters.

The events of 2020-2021 have introduced an unprecedented situation in human history. Man has never responded to the rise of a viral infection as we have to SARS-CoV-2. Never has a global response been so coordinated and based fully upon a consistently secular narrative and worldview. Governments around the world have shown themselves more than willing to violate their own stated principles of liberty and freedom in the name of "public safety." This has led to the new commitment to attempted prevention of a respiratory virus through use of vaccination—something never attempted in human history. Until 2020, we were all accustomed to the seasonal flu shot (which helped as often as not), but we all knew the flu shot was not intended to "wipe out" the flu. It would be back the next year. We treated symptoms when they developed and moved on, recognizing that such infections were part of the human experience.

The introduction of mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna, primarily, along with AstraZeneca) and DNA versions (J&J) immediately raised the basic question of long term safety studies. Until 2020, such genetic therapies would have required at the very *least* five years of safety studies and, if any issues arose (such as pericarditis, blood clots, heart attacks, etc.), much longer than that. This was considered simple, common medical sense, even for a vaccine that might be left completely to the individual's choice, let alone one that would be forced, by government action, into every man, woman, and child on the face of the planet.

¹ Until 2020 any kind of vaccine or drug that was brand new in its technology and usage (as the mRNA and DNA coding vaccines currently being used globally) would have required many years of human studies, producing a large volume of safety data, interaction results, etc. The sudden and highly questionable change of standards is only made the more objectionable by the FDA approval of the Pfizer Vaccine without public comment and questioning which, given the VAERS reports and other factors is unprecedented. Logically, these substances will remain "experimental" for at least a decade, whether the terminology is used or not.

No rational person can object to anyone who has serious, grounded concerns about the safety of the current vaccines in use against SARS-CoV-2. Literally hundreds of medical papers and studies are now available that raise very legitimate concerns about the long term impact upon the health, vitality, and even fertility, of those receiving them. Serious questions are coming to light at this very time regarding Antibody Dependent Enhancement (ADE), with many widely acknowledged experts voicing concern that we are already seeing the beginnings of ADE's impact upon the population.

No matter how all of these developments are resolved, the fact is that we are facing a unique situation in 2021, with a unique set of circumstances. Christian wisdom, seeking to apply God's law in Christ's wisdom to all of life, would call us to protect ourselves, our loved ones, and future generations. How best to do this? Plainly, without long term safety data, the global rush to inject these substances into not only every adult, but, amazingly, every child, is utterly without warrant.

Asserting, then, the ultimacy of Christ's authority, which grounds our concern for our own lives, the lives of our families, and especially our children, as well as our neighbors, we assert that a Christian must reject the demand that we subject ourselves to such mandates. A Christian may well choose to voluntarily take the vaccine, given their own study of the relevant data and reports, but that action is just as much a claim to their freedom as the rejection of the mandates. It is the usurpation of the individual's responsibility before God inherent in the mandated action that must be rejected.

Substantiation

Needed Definitions

"Consistent Christian Faith"

"Consistent" refers to seeking to believe all that God has revealed in Jesus Christ. This, in Christian teaching, is to be found primarily in the written Scriptures, comprised of the Hebrew Scriptures (Tanakh, or Old Testament) and the Christian Greek Scriptures, the New Testament. Christians believe these to be not merely human documents about God, but to be God-breathed revelation, just as Jesus Himself said. Consistent Christian faith seeks to follow Christ in all things, including in His own presentation of the Scriptures as God's revelation to all of mankind. Therefore, such Christians believe Scripture is the sole, infallible rule of faith and life for the believer, and that therefore we must believe all that is revealed therein. We are not free to pick and choose, but must submit to the entirety of this revelation. We likewise recognize that elements of truth about God are revealed in His creation, such as the reality that God exists and that we are to be thankful to Him (general revelation).

"Consistent" likewise means that we seek to live constantly under the Lordship of Christ. Our faith is not simply a Sunday add-on experience. The daily decisions we make are ordered by our recognition of who it is we are called to serve, and under whose authority we live. A Christian faith that does not order the entirety of our lives is not consistently Christian.

"Christian" must be defined as well in light of the wide variety of expressions that use the title today. When we speak of consistent Christian faith, we are referring to "Christian" in its fullest sense. This faith springs from its central and core doctrine, that of the Trinity. While the Christian faith is fully monotheistic, affirming one and only one Creator who made all things (and therefore has full sovereignty over all things), it likewise affirms that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have eternally existed in perfect harmony and communion with one another, indivisible, yet in perfect love and fellowship. This is foundational to the faith's affirmation of the nature of Jesus, who, while fully man, born a descendant of David, was likewise the very incarnation of the Second Person of the Trinity, the Son, who voluntarily entered into human flesh to accomplish redemption to the glory of the Triune God. The lesser, ingenue expressions of Christian faith today that do not profess a fully divine Savior in Jesus offer very little in the way of truth when compared to the rest of the religions of men. Only the biblically based, historic confession that the one who died upon Calvary's tree, and who rose from the dead that Sunday morning, and, later, ascended on high, taking His seat at the right hand of the Father, can provide a proper foundation for claiming His law and word is relevant in the 21st century. A mere moral teacher cannot speak to today's secular world and warn of a just judgment to come.

Further, it is central to this paper's position that any believer, in any context in this world, by confession that they are willing to "take up their cross" and follow Christ, dying with Him to the things of this world, submits to His Lordship as the highest authority in their lives. No state, government, or movement, can supersede that commitment. This is why His will and His law must be the believer's highest authority. It should be emphasized that this can only strengthen a true believer's commitments to truth, to justice, and to doing what is good and proper in this world. Who better to define those things than the One who created all things and upholds all things? Thus the Christian would be the best citizen a nation could desire, if that nation upholds God's standards of what is true and honest, good and evil. The conflict has always centered on who gets to define those categories. The Christian claims the cross and the empty tomb decisively answer that question.

Finally, the term "faith" is not in reference to a simple predilection or hunch. The Christian faith has objective reality across history. It is ground in the consistent testimony of the Christian Scriptures, and in the faithful lives of God's people down through the ages. Scripture itself speaks of the "once for all delivered to the saints faith," so we use the term to refer to that body of truth to which we are called to submit and obey, and which gives us light and direction in this life. We do not get to edit it, remove unpleasant parts, or modify it, so as to modernize its tone. The faith comprises all God has revealed to us for our good and His glory.

The Central Relevant Claims of Consistent Christian Faith Regarding the Law of Christ, His Lordship, and the Life of the Christian in America in 2021

With these definitions in place we now lay out the central authority claim that must be understood before application to governmental mandates related to experimental medical procedures can be made.

The Triune God is the Creator of all things. He sustains all things, and made all things for His glory and purpose. Objective truth exists because God has made His universe to communicate such truth. He is eternal and unchanging, and hence harmony and consistency exist in His universe. Man, made in God's image, is called to "think His thoughts after Him," to contemplate His goodness and beauty, and to think and reason in light of His revelation. Good and evil exist within the context of God's purposes and will.

The claims of the Christian faith regarding Jesus are simply outlandish from a secular or natural perspective. Believers gladly grant this reality. It is beyond natural belief to accept that the God who created this vast, vast universe containing a hundred billion galaxies would care about what takes place on one tiny speck of dust in the midst of it all. But then to claim that God would create a being on a planet that is the object of His love and care, and would set in motion a drama that would actually display His wisdom and power and glory to the rest of the universe is beyond the bounds. That's not even the end of it! To say that that God would then enter into His own creation in the person of Jesus, would live a life of quiet obedience in the backwaters of the Roman Empire, and then would give Himself voluntarily into the hands of rebellious creatures to be beaten and executed, only to then rise again from the dead on the third day and ascend into heaven to take His place at the Father's right hand to rule and reign over heaven and earth, is a message that, we gladly confess, requires supernatural faith—a faith borne in the heart by the Spirit of God.

Christians proclaim Christ crucified, risen, and ascended into heaven. The little baby in the manger, so central to the truth of the Incarnation, did not remain in that state. The Jesus presented to us in John's Revelation is one ruling and reigning, not only over His churches, but over the nations, and that with a rod of iron. Upon His ascension into heaven, Scripture tells us that He was given "dominion, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed" (Daniel 7:14). This is why Christ's law-Word supersedes any human authority that would seek to usurp it. The decrees of men who live a few decades and then pass away cannot displace the law-Word of Christ who sits enthroned in the heavens and is confessed as Lord by all of creation (Philippians 2:10-11).

This crucified, risen, and reigning King, being the Creator of all things (Colossians 1:15-17), reveals through His Word the truth about man and how we can have peace in this world. Since His reign is one of justice and truth, when we are submitted to His lordship we can live in peace and harmony with our fellow creatures who are, likewise, submitted to their Maker. This is the great promise of Christ's Kingdom: God blesses those who seek to live in submission to His will. A true and proper foundation for law and justice is to be found in the reality that the Maker did not choose to remain hidden, but has revealed Himself in perfection in Jesus.

Yet, we do not see peace and harmony reigning in every nation on the globe. We see evil and injustice all around us. For us to experience the peace and harmony that is possible in submission to Christ's lordship, there must be a fundamental change in the heart of man. This is a gracious work of the Spirit of God who raises undeserving rebels from spiritual death to spiritual life. Scripture reveals that men are born dead in trespasses and sins, rebellious and hostile toward the very giver of life. One need only look at the secular world today to see the clearest evidence of its animosity toward God's ways and law. Man is incapable, outside of God's gracious and powerful work, to extricate himself from his fallen state.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ brings man into a state of peace with God, not through anything man does, contributes, or adds, but solely through the perfect work of Father, Son, and Spirit in their great work of redemption. Even man's repentance and faith are graciously provided for in the Gospel so that all the glory goes to the Triune God who draws His people unto Himself. The man or woman who turns in repentance and faith to God and looks to Christ as his or her all-sufficient Savior will never be disappointed. God the Father declares all such repentant and believing sinner just, righteous in His sight, in and through the sacrificial death of Jesus in the place of His people. The peace we have with God, having been justified by faith (Romans 5:1), is based

solely upon the all-sufficient work of Jesus in our place. This divine work is brought to fruition in our lives by the life-giving Holy Spirit.

Those who wish to walk in Christ's footsteps in submission to His lordship look to His law-Word for guidance so as to define good and evil, right and wrong, justice and righteousness. While some Christians believe the kingdom of Christ is limited to a spiritual capacity and realm, so that nations and peoples are left to define good and evil, right and wrong, in their own ways, it is clear that this cannot be the case, for Christ's death, which brings them peace, was a death offered to fulfill the penalty of God's law, not man's.

Foundational to that law is the complex of commandments and exhortations relating to life. Man is distinguished, in Christian truth, from the animals in that only man bears the Imago Dei, the image of God. While we share this world with the animal kingdom, we are to recognize a higher calling and plane of existence than any other creature upon earth. In direct opposition to the conclusions of secularism, we are not merely collections of fizzing chemicals doomed to extinction in a short period of time. We are not merely ugly bags of mostly water, moist robots, collections of star dust. Human life has transcendent value, assigned not by human choice but by God's. Because of this, Scripture not only commands us to honor the living but to seek to safeguard life. The challenge we face in our modern context is applying God's wisdom in a world where our scientific knowledge has far out paced our cultural maturity.

Christians have clear guidance on the sanctity of human life. We have clear guidance on loving neighbor. When we recognize the lordship of Christ, His rule in time and space, the here and now, the conversation moves from abstract considerations of general morals and ethics into the concrete realm of making real decisions about our lives now and in the future. We likewise recognize the need to consider not just the present, but the future as well. We become a people who think much about our children, our grand-children, and our great grandchildren, a feature of Christian societies in the past now very much abandoned in our modern situation. We therefore make decisions with a long-term view in mind rather than decisions focused upon short-term desires or goals.

The Reality of Experimental Vaccines for SARS-CoV-2

The following concerns would have been considered almost naively obvious through 2019. No one would have disputed the need for thorough long term-study of genetically derived therapies and their impacts upon the human population. No one would have questioned the wisdom of requesting basic, foundational safety data, data provided for every other vaccine or drug we might be asked to utilize and ingest. But the entire landscape of medical ethics has changed, radically, in less than two years. What was denied as a possibility six months ago is now considered a moral imperative. Assertions that were recognized to be highly questionable six months ago are now accepted as "settled science" today because any discussion of the topic has been banned by social media "fact checkers" and mainstream media intervention. The required levels of data and testing that were standard in the United States through 2019 have been abandoned with stunning speed, but also with equally stunning flippancy.

These are the facts, no matter how unpopular they may be, or how they may run counter to a simplistic media narrative.

- 1) The two major vaccines in use in the United States are produced by Pfizer and Moderna, and utilize mRNA technology.
- 2) mRNA technology for the treatment of a current outbreak of respiratory virus in humans is a first.
- 3) There are no long term safety studies in humans (and almost none in animals).

These three facts alone are more than sufficient basis for a calm, rational assertion of concern for almost any person relating to these vaccines. There is no historical precedent for the global and rushed "warp speed" development of, and then, mandate of, these kinds of genetic therapeutics, and hence no parallel to one's use of tested, non-genetically based vaccines in the past can logically be made. Many people have taken all sorts of vaccines in the past when traveling to exotic locations where they would be exposed to known, studied diseases that are not present in their home contexts. These vaccines were for diseases well known to medical science for decades, and sometimes even centuries. The vaccines themselves have been used sometimes for decades, with lengthy studies relating to their safety and efficacy. And none, until these mRNA vaccines, actually injected a genetic mechanism to force our own cells to produce an unnatural, incomplete immune reaction.

So we must state the obvious, as the obvious is not being stated in most of the discussion in the United States today:

- 1) There is no data as to the long term impact of this mechanism of immunization in humans. None.
- 2) There is no data on the impact of these vaccines on fertility in either males or females.
- 3) There is no data on possible organ function issues such as the heart, lungs, etc.

Mandates, then, require all citizens to forego any kind of long-term analysis and thought about the impact of these actions, *the very kind of long-term thinking that is required by the Christian worldview and lordship of Christ.* Not only are such mandates, then, foolish from any pre-2020 medical perspective, they are, by their very nature, anti-Christian in application. One cannot obey Christ's commandment to honor life now and in the future when the long-term impact of these vaccines has yet to be determined.

Fair minded individuals will likewise recognize other key issues in this current situation. The reality is that SARS-CoV-2 is not a major death risk for healthy individuals under the age of sixty. This has been established by studies all across the world. From the start it has been recognized that this virus is primarily dangerous when combined with other factors, that is, in the presence of co-morbidities. As such, the virus is a relatively minor danger to younger adults in comparison with all sources of death within that age group. This is important in making sound and rational decisions. Studies have shown that due to the media's handling of this virus, many people believe it to have a fatality rate a hundred times or more higher than it actually does. Panic is not a sound basis for any decision, let alone public policy decisions, or personal decisions relating to life in the long term.

But this situation does not present to us merely a lack of data. Instead, there are many sound, rational reasons to question the claimed "safety" of these vaccines. Though initially disputed by the manufacturers, it is now admitted that these vaccines produce highly negative results in younger individuals, specifically, pericarditis, an inflammation of the heart, that has led to death in certain individuals, and a loss of health and well-being in many others. Blood clotting has especially been documented with the Astra-Zeneca formulation, which has led to many deaths. When nations have means of reporting negative reactions to drugs and immunizations (such as the VAERS database in the United States, and similar resources in the UK and Europe), tens of thousands of

reports have been submitted for these vaccines, a far higher rate than any before. This makes sense, given the radical push to force everyone to take the drugs, but the numbers are still way out of proportion to previous vaccines. In the pre-2020 world, these vaccines would be slated for a very long, intense examination before being introduced into the public realm.

Numerous studies are showing a declining efficacy of the current vaccines. Discussion of "boosters" is rampant. As it has been observed, we are vaccinating for last year's virus, not the current prevalent strain. This is the nature of respiratory viruses, which is why, until 2020, it had never occurred to medical science to attempt to eradicate such a virus with vaccinations. No respiratory virus (please note the specificity) has ever been eradicated through the use of vaccines in the history of mankind.

Very troubling are the papers being published that refer to the stark possibility of the development of ADE, Antibody Dependent Enhancement, a condition that developed in the earliest use of mRNA formulations long before the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak, and which led to the cessation of testing of those formulations.² It is very concerning to note that even including the acronym "ADE" in many social media platforms results in censorship or warnings. Why would there be a moratorium on discussing the subject of published scientific papers?

At least one highly trained expert in the field³ has been warning for months that to follow the current path is the lead us all into disaster, for the use of narrowly defined genetic vaccines simply increases natural selection pressure, resulting in newer, faster developing variants. The result is that we are always two steps behind and can never actually accomplish what we are seeking to accomplish in this fashion.

Conclusion

There are many reasons why any rational, thinking person would hesitate to take the current batch of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines. But this is a Christian paper, defining a Christian position. So in summary, when we combine the theological structure built upon the reality that Jesus Christ is enthroned in heaven, and all authority has been given to Him there, and upon earth, and He is, in fact, reigning and His kingdom is one that cannot be destroyed, and that His people, then, look to His law-Word for guidance and instruction in all things, and that His word instructs us to think long-term, toward the future in the protection of life, we come to the conclusion, given the current facts as they have been presented regarding these vaccines, that the Christian conscience has

Liu, Arase, Kishikawa, Hirose, Li et al, The SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant is poised to acquire complete resistance to wild-type spike vaccines. August 23, 2021. https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.22.457114v1.full.pdf

Yahi, Chahinian, Fantini, Infection-enhancing anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies recognize both the original Wuhan/D614G strain and Delta variants. A potential risk for mass vaccination? Journal of Infection, August 9, 2021, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jinf.2021.08.010

² Chau, Ngoc, et al., Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant Among Vaccinated Healthcare Workers, Vietnam, August 10, 2021. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3897733

³ https://www.geertvandenbossche.org/post/the-last-post

more than sufficient grounds to reject the mandates of any and all magistrates who would require us to violate our commitment to Christ and the resultant conclusions of our conscience.

In the Service of the King,

Jumos wate

Dr. James White

Pastor, Apologia Church