

The Master's Tools

a catechistic dialogue

by Kem Regik

All Rights Reversed



MMXXVI

Kindly Redistribute

" Sometimes you eat the steak, oh

Baby, the steak eats you

Sometimes you eat the steak, oh

The steak eats you

Red meat, oh, red meat

Oh, red, red meat

Red meat, oh, red meat

Oh, cold, cold red meat "

- Otis Taylor, "Red Meat" (Hey Joe Opus/Red Meat)

Dante Nostri Temporis: "Explain it to me again."

Uriel Nostri Temporis: "...how many times are we going to do this?"

DNT: "As many as it takes. Until I understand."

UNT: (Sighing) "This is the Kingdom of the Lord Yahweh, My Father."

DNT: "Who is your father?"

UNT: "My Father is the Lord Yahweh, the supreme and all-powerful creator of this Kingdom."

DNT: "And what orders this kingdom?"

UNT: "The Law of the Lord, the supreme and all-powerful code of this Kingdom."

DNT: "And what is this law?"

UNT: "The laws which the Lord Yahweh, My Father has spoken into being."

DNT: "He can do that?"

UNT: "Of course, and in the same manner he spoke all of this Kingdom into being."

DNT: "And how do you know that this is true?"

UNT: "Because he spoke it into His Law."

DNT: "What does the law say, exactly?"

UNT: "The Law of the Lord says: '**We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.**'"

DNT: "Oh. And how do you know that your father's law truly is supreme?"

UNT: "He spoke this into his Law as well. It says: '**This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.**'"

DNT: "Oh. Question: What does your father's law say about slavery?"

UNT: (Incredibly tired, soullessly) "...funny you should ask, the subject lies just beyond the gate I am guarding."

DNT: "Wait, but aren't you the guardian of the gate to Eden?"

UNT: "Yes, but that is only your name for it. Its true name is written into the Law of the Lord."

DNT: "Oh. So what is it called?"

UNT: "It is called the Thirteenth Amendment. It says: '**Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.**'"

DNT: "Does this mean your father abolished slavery in his kingdom?"

UNT: "No. In fact, He did the exact opposite: He enshrined the practice into His Law."

DNT: "But I don't see any slavery going on in my lands, and in fact I see your father punish anyone who keeps slaves. How can it be that the practice is enshrined into law but I may not engage in it?"

UNT: (Sighing, very tired) "To answer this question, we must return to a previous version of the Law of the Lord, before this paradise behind me existed."

DNT: "What time would that be?"

UNT: "March 4th, 1789."

DNT: "Oh. What did your father's law say about slavery on that date?"

UNT: "Nothing. The word didn't appear anywhere in the Law of the Lord."

DNT: "What? Then how did it exist?"

UNT: "Slavery, on that day, existed exclusively as a creature of the Market. It was a consequence of the economic activity of that time. The Law of the Lord interacted with it only indirectly, through the regulation of things affected by the trends slavery created in the Market."

DNT: "Why did your father make this paradise, then?"

UNT: "The practice of slavery became a contentious matter in the Market, and the conflict that the contention bore threatened to permanently destroy the Kingdom of the Lord Yahweh, My Father."

DNT: "But how does making this paradise, the Thirteenth Amendment, dissolve the threat?"

UNT: "The threat was not dissolved, but absorbed. Rather than prohibiting the practice of slavery outright, My Father, the Lord Yahweh, spoke the institution into existence within his Law and regulated its practice within his Kingdom."

DNT: "But you said that your father's law says no slavery shall exist."

UNT: "That is the beginning and the end, but you forget all contained in between; except as punishment for a crime."

DNT: "Wait, but that would mean criminals are slaves!"

UNT: (Sighing, very tired) "It does, rather famously. I just spoke to a man calling himself "Sheriff", he entered this paradise you see behind me to operate a machine he called a 'chain gang'."

DNT: "So it is possible to enter this paradise behind you and engage in the practice of slavery without violating your father's law?"

UNT: "Of course, this has been the case since December 18th, 1865."

DNT: "But didn't you say the practice of slavery had become contentious? How does enshrining both free the slaves and remove the threat the conflict posed to your father's kingdom?"

UNT: "Again, by absorption. The Law of the Lord regulates the practice of slavery, and therefore can control it such that it does not pose a threat to the Kingdom of the Lord Yahweh, My Father. Nobody was freed when this paradise was built. The only thing that changed was the definition of who was enslaved."

DNT: "Oh. Can I enter this paradise behind you and engage in the practice of slavery, then?"

UNT: "That depends, I will need to ask you some questions."

DNT: "Go right ahead."

UNT: "Of what land are you an emissary?"

DNT: "The State of West Virginia."

UNT: "Who are you wishing to enslave?"

DNT: "Politicians."

UNT: "What defines a politician?"

DNT: "Those holding elected office within the civil service."

UNT: "Does the State of West Virginia criminalize the holding of elected office within the civil service?"

DNT: "No."

UNT: "Then you cannot enter."

DNT: "Why won't you allow me to enter?"

UNT: "I have nothing to do with it. To say you cannot enter is to say you have no physical means of entry; you have no mechanism."

DNT: "But you said that man who called himself 'Sheriff' had entered previously. How is it that he could enter this paradise?"

UNT: "Because this machine, this 'chain gang' of his, was made up of things he called 'murderers'."

DNT: "What defines a murderer?"

UNT: "He defined it as those who commit the crime of murder."

DNT: "So all he did was say some words and you let him in?"

UNT: "I had nothing to do with it. Much like My Father, the Lord Yahweh, that man that called himself 'Sheriff' spoke his mechanism of entry into being, according to the Law of the Lord."

DNT: "But that's just playing games with language! Anybody could do that with anything!"

UNT: (Sighing, very tired) "Yes, that's correct."

DNT: "..."

UNT: "..."

DNT: "I still don't think I understand."

UNT: "Is there a specific confusion I can help you with?"

DNT: "I think... I think you just need to start over from the beginning."

UNT: (Sighing, exhausted) "Very well..."

FIN