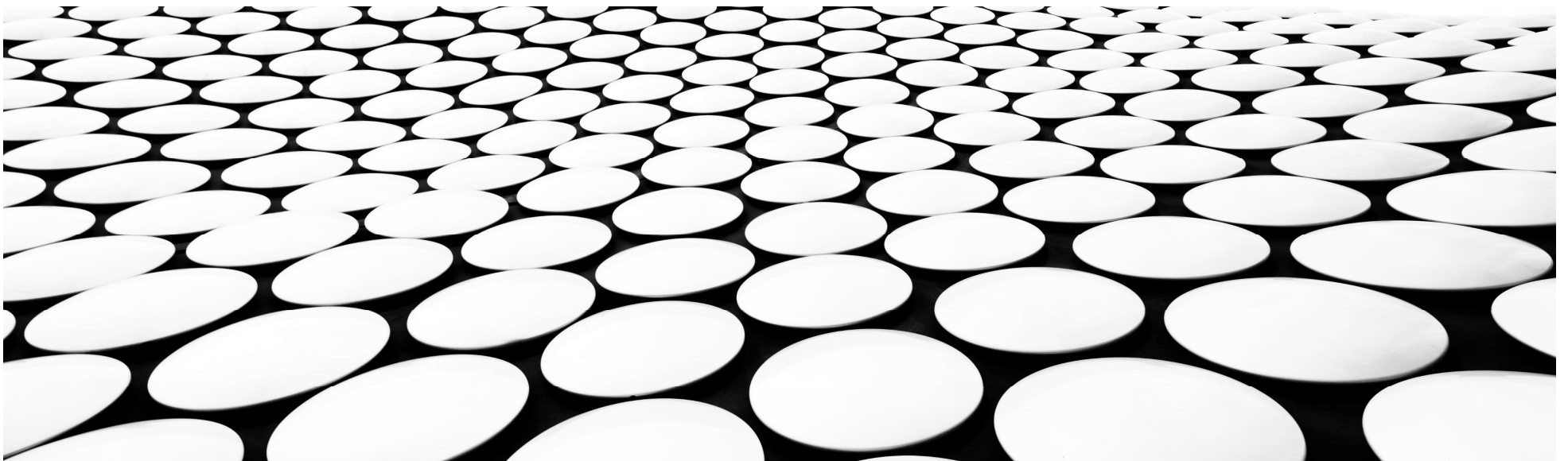

A LOOK AT LEGALISM

IS IT WRONG TO DEMAND OBEDIENCE?



LEGALISM IS NOT WRONG IF IT IS USED TO DESCRIBE KEEPING GOD'S COMMANDMENTS

- We are under a law today (I Corinthians 9:21, II Corinthians 12:4, II Timothy 2:5, Galatians 6:2, I John 3:4
 - [Challenge: If we are not under a law today, how do we determine what is right and wrong?]
- God expects His people to keep His commandments (John 14:15, I John 2:2-5, I John 5:3,4, Revelation 22:14, Matthew 7:21, Hebrews 5:8,9)
 - [Challenge: Which of God's commandments for us today should be ignored?]
- God will execute judgment for failure to obey His commands (John 12:48, Revelation 14:13, Revelation 20:12, II Corinthians 5:10,11)
- Examples of "Legalism" in the Bible
 - Nadab and Abihu--Leviticus 10:1-4
 - Noah--Genesis 6:22
 - The Pharisees--Matthew 23:23

LEGALISM IS WRONG IF IT IS USED TO DESCRIBE ATTITUDES LIKE THOSE OF THE PHARISEES

- Keeping certain commands to the extent that others are excluded--Matthew 23:23
- Exalting man's commands above God's--Matthew 15:9
- Hypocritical show of religion--Matthew 23:3
- Desire to be seen of men--Matthew 23:5-7, Matthew 6:1-6
- Neglecting the heart--Matthew 23:25-28
- Neglect of God's Instruction--Matthew 23:34
- Thinking we can earn or merit our salvation--Luke 18:9-14, Titus 3:3-7