



## The President's Perspective



### PLAYING YOUR POSITION

Just recently, I have been reading a great book by Judge Roy Moore (the 10 Commandments judge) entitled "So Help Me God." The book is a fascinating defense of his actions as an Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice. The book is also a fascinating history of judicial decisions, both in the state of Alabama, as well as in the U.S. Supreme Court.

One of the concepts that has been underscored in my mind, as a result of reading this book is the role of each of the branches of our governmental system. According to the U.S. Constitution, the Legislative Branch **MAKES** law, the Executive Branch **ENFORCES** law, and the Judicial Branch **INTERPRETS** law. Each of these branches of government has a role to fill, or to say it another way, a **POSITION** to play. One branch is not to enter into the others' arena. It is called the "separation of powers." Things will work as they should when each plays their respective position and doesn't encroach into the other's area. Imagine the confusion on a football team if a defensive linebacker left his position and insisted on playing Quarterback. All involved suffer when individual participants refuse to play the position assigned to them. The same is true in life. Each of us, as husbands, wives, leaders, employees has a position that we are called on to play.

In the spiritual realm, we have a position to play as a **BELIEVER**. Romans 5:1-2, says, "Therefore being justified by grace, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand..." Because of the grace of God, through Christ, we have been given the wonderful "position" of "saints" of God. However, many times our "performance" (lifestyle) doesn't match our "position." We make choices or allow things that are the spiritual equivalent of insisting on playing Quarterback when God wants us on the defensive line. Wanting our way and refusing to go God's way is not only sin, but also a tragic failure to play the wonderful position God has given us as a result of our salvation.

We are also called on to play a position in the **BODY** of Christ. In Acts 6, the first deacons were chosen. What necessitated the selection of the first deacons was a dispute that arose over the care of the widows. I marvel at the wisdom and resolve of the early church leaders who said in Acts 6: 3-4, "look ye out among you (nominate) seven men...whom we may appoint (ordain) over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the word." Note the respective "roles" or "positions" that each had. The church body was to "look out" (nominate) from among the body seven men who were qualified to be deacons. The leaders were to "appoint" (ordain) them to the service of caring for the widows. The motivation behind all this was so that the pastors could play the position assigned to them—"but we will give ourselves

continually to prayer and the ministry of the word” (Acts 6: 4). Problems cease to exist in the body of Christ when each member realizes and plays the position assigned to him. Great problems arise when a member either doesn’t know his position, or refuses to play his position. Life is too short, and the opportunities to great, for us to be self-willed and stubborn. Whether it’s your role as a BELIEVER, or your place in the BODY, may I shout it out like a football coach, “PLAY YOUR POSITION!!!”

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