

THE GAY AND LESBIAN AGENDA : TO THE POINT! : PART ONE

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Internet, Defining Homosexuality And Lesbianism, The Bible's Divine Origin, God's Word - Supreme Authority, God Doesn't Lie, The Word Exposes Sin, The Voice Of Conscience, Our Evil Sinful Nature, The Light Of The Word, Spiritual Blindness, Personal Accountability, Only One Official Driver's Manual, Counterfeit Currency, Spiritual Anarchy, Official Rule Book, Try The Spirits, Satan The Deceiver, The Judge Not Fallacy

Within Internet Christian newsgroups and other local and worldwide message networks, next to the topic of EVILution and Creationism, homosexuality and lesbianism is probably one of the most hotly-debated topics of our current time. While some of us may sit on the fence regarding other issues, this is one controversy where most of us have taken a definite stand. Whether we are in support of or against this aspect of human behavior, when it comes to expressing our viewpoint, we can become quite impassioned about it. Because of this, as happens with many other electronic dialogs, we stop listening to each other, we put up our defenses, and we attempt to yell louder than the other person in order to get our point across. In the long run, no one has learned anything, and both parties walk away with the same views they held before the conversation began.

Because of these factors, whenever I do have the time to participate in such discussion groups, I usually pass right over such messages, as I simply don't wish to get caught in the crossfire of the debating parties. Of course, this is not to suggest that I don't have an opinion on matters pertaining to human sexual behavior; I most certainly do; however, I don't wish to share it in that kind of a hostile environment. Thus, I have written the following series in order to share my current perspective on this most controversial of issues.

To begin with, for the sake of clarity, in this article the terms "homosexual" and "homosexuality" are used to denote any form of sexual activity between two males; whether it be kissing, petting, masturbating, anal sex or oral sex. The terms "lesbian" and "lesbianism" are used to denote the same activities except between two females. In both cases, these terms are used to imply that this is the primary sexual preference of those persons who engage in such activities, even though they may become involved in "heterosexual" activity on a limited basis; that is, sex with a person of the opposite gender. In this case, it would probably be more accurate to describe them as being "bi-sexual".

In discussing this issue, before we can even approach the actual topic of homosexuality and lesbianism, we need to overcome a few hurdles placed there by those who would

defend their sinful lifestyles against the Word of God. It seems that some of the first arguments used by those who engage in homosexual or lesbian relationships, are expressed in the following quote from a person I conversed with some time ago:

----- Begin Quote -----

"The problem with quoting from the Bible, or in any terms of what "God" wants is inadequate. The Bible was written by man and translated by man. The only word of God is one that everyone holds in his or her heart. No one has the right to judge anyone. That is God's choice. The only "true" way to find out if God dislikes gays is to ask him."

----- End Of Quote -----

Obviously, as a Christian, I find the above comment flawed in a number of ways. To begin with, while it is indeed true that the Bible was physically written by and translated by human beings, the person who made this statement is leaving out a very important detail concerning exactly how the Bible came into existence. For this reason alone, I must view his argument as being shortsighted; and to be honest, rather weak. Concerning the origin of the Bible, we find a very clear answer in the Apostle Paul's second Epistle to Timothy:

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."
2 Tim. 3:16, KJV

It is the Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures which set them apart from the many other texts written by man over the past millennia. The Apostle Peter likewise emphasized this point when he wrote the following in his second Epistle:

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."
2 Peter 1:21, KJV

Thus, from the Christian perspective, because of the Divine Process in which it came into being, the Bible is viewed as a very unique work. It is not just another literary work of human wisdom and understanding; it is the very work of God's Spirit; given to us for the enlightenment of, as well as the edification of, humanity. Holy men of the past received the ancient texts and prophecies through Divine Intervention and Revelation. For this reason, as a Christian, I esteem the Bible above all other works ever undertaken by human hand. In fact, the ancient Patriarch Job tells us that he esteemed God's Word even more than his necessary food. Shouldn't we do the same?:

"Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food."
Job 23:12, KJV

Like Job, as far as I am concerned, the Holy Scriptures are

the Ultimate Word, and the Ultimate Authority, regarding our relationship with our Creator; as well as our relationship with each other. We are told that God's Word will stand forever. In fact, the Psalmist King David tells us that God's Word is so important to Him, that He has magnified it above His very Name:

"The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."
Psalms 33:11, KJV

"I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."
Psalms 138:2, KJV

Because of the supremacy of God's Word in the life of the Christian, when we must determine what is true and what is false, we hold to the Scriptural view that whenever there is any falsity, or any lack of understanding involved, it is on the part of we humans, and not on the part of God or His Word; for as it is also written, He never lies:

"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"
Numbers 23:19, KJV

"God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged."
Romans 3:4, KJV

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"
Titus 1:2, KJV

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son."
1 John 2:22, KJV

"He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son."
1 John 5:10, KJV

"If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."
1 John 1:10, KJV

With all of the previous verses, I have now established my position concerning the Bible being God's inspired Word. When there is a question or doubt regarding any Biblical matter, the burden of proof is upon us, and not upon the Lord. While this may not sit well with some of my readers, particularly with those who reject the Scriptures as being the inspired Word of God, the above verses clearly define who is at fault. The Lord is the One who makes the rules, and not man. Our responsibility is but to obey Him.

As the Apostle Paul tells us in his Epistle to the Hebrews,

the Word of God is similar to a powerful sword, or perhaps a surgeon's scalpel, which exposes the sins of our hearts, and convicts our spirits to do what is right. In his Epistle to the Romans, he also compares the Word, or the Law, to the voice of our conscience which serves to keep us in line:

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Hebrews 4:12, KJV

"Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)"

Romans 2:15, KJV

While some people don't like to admit it because of their own pride and vanity, we are all basically evil; we are all wicked; we are all sinners; because we constantly break the commandments of God; the primary of which are to love the Lord our God, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. The following verses support these various points:

"Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Matthew 22:36-40, KJV

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

Jeremiah 17:9, KJV

"They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

Psalms 14:3, KJV

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

Romans 3:23, KJV

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5:8, KJV

"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

1 John 3:4, KJV

"If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

1 John 1:10, KJV

As I point out in my series "So You Really Think You Are So Humble?", the Lord was saying through the Prophet Jeremiah that our heart is so wicked and so deceitful, that we can't even begin to realize how wicked it really is. There can be no doubt that we are guilty as charged. As I point out in a number of other articles, the Word of God, of which Jesus

was the physical manifestation, is similar to a brilliant Light which shows us the way in which we should walk before God. Not only that, it is like a great searchlight which pierces right through us revealing the darkest corner of our being:

"NUN. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
Psalms 119:105, KJV

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."
John 8:12, KJV

"I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness."
John 12:46, KJV

"And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up."
Matthew 4:13-16, KJV

Sadly, not everyone wants to come to the Light. The reason many people reject the Bible, is because it exposes their true sinful nature, whether it be through some aberrant sexual lifestyle, or through some other thing in their life which is displeasing to the Lord. Jesus Christ said this very thing to His own Disciples while explaining to them why He, and they, were hated by the self-righteous Scribes and Pharisees. It is because people reject the Light of the Word; it is because they reject the Truth of the Gospel; it is because they reject Jesus Christ; that they walk in spiritual darkness. They consciously do it by their own free will, because they know that their deeds are evil; and they don't wish to be exposed. They are spiritually blind by their own choice. Consider these verses:

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."
John 3:19, KJV

"If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin."
John 15:22, KJV

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."
2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

As I point out in other articles, by arguing that there is no God, or that the Bible is full of errors, or that we Christians have misunderstood it, or that it is not even the

Word of God, these blind leaders of the blind are attempting to erase or eliminate all forms of personal accountability and responsibility to themselves, and to God. If we reject God and His Word in our lives, we find it much easier to say such things as, "Oh, I'm okay; you're okay. We are all okay. There is no such thing as sin. There is nothing wrong with us. We can all do as we please". But you see, that is where some do greatly err; for as we are told in the Scriptures:

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Romans 14:12, KJV

"Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead."

1 Peter 4:4-5, KJV

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

2 Corinthians 5:10, KJV

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works."

Revelation 20:11-13, KJV

As the above verses clearly demonstrate, the purpose of the Word of God is to lead us down the right path; it is to reprove and to correct us when we go astray; it is to serve as a reminder that some day we will all be held accountable for our actions; regardless of anything we might say or do now to try to deny this truth. This is precisely what many people do not like or want. They don't want to have any kind of authority over their lives. They want to do as they please. They want to be the master of their fate. They want to be their own god. Well, they may get away with it for now, but someday soon, as we have seen, they will have to give an account to God for their actions. As a matter of fact, we all will, whether we be Christians or not.

You may recall that one of the things which this person said to me in his comment was "The only word of God is one that everyone holds in his or her heart". This type of statement is just another subtle trick of Satan to twist or distort the Word of God. He will say something which has a ring of truth to it, while at the same time denying the whole truth. We will be taking a closer look at this tactic later on in this series; and you will be shocked to see exactly how far the gay and lesbian community has taken this deception. To clarify then, what this person has said is indeed true; and I can even give you a good verse to support such a view:

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Psalms 119:11, KJV

However, because of the other things which he said along with this statement, the deep deception in this person's reasoning might not be readily apparent to some of you. First this man stated that the Bible is not the inspired Word of God. He clearly said that it was written and translated by man; thus, it is not an infallible work. He then claims that the word of God is what we each hold in our hearts. The question then is, if he rejects the Bible, what word of God is he talking about? If we each hold the word of God in our hearts, and it is not the same one found in the Christian Bible, then how many different words of God are there? Do we each have our own private version of it? Now are you beginning to see the danger of such thinking? Do you see the widespread confusion which could easily result from such wayward thoughts?

As I pointed out in my preliminary statements, the Holy Scriptures are the only inspired Word of God that there is. There is no other. The Bible is our manual or our guidebook through this life. In other articles I compare it to a driver's manual. Stop and think for a moment how confusing it would be if, upon going down to the Department of Motor Vehicles to pick up an official copy of the Driver's Manual, you were told that there was no official version; and that everyone could simply make up their own rules and drive as they felt best according to what they believed was right in their hearts. Imagine what chaos and confusion would result from such stupidity. Imagine how many lives would be lost needlessly due to selfish decisions being made on the road as everyone went about doing as they felt was best.

Borrowing another example from some of my other articles, when a person works at a bank as a teller, one thing they are taught to do is to recognize all of the features found on the paper currency of their country. This way, if someone walks into the bank and tries to pass them a counterfeit bill, they will be able to immediately recognize it as such; and the bank will then be able to take the necessary steps to stop the illegal flow of counterfeit cash. Having an official currency gives financial stability to a country and its government. As with the Department Of Motor Vehicles, imagine now what would happen if the government of your country suddenly decided that it was no longer necessary to have an official currency; and that all citizens were now free to privately design and print their own paper money, and mint their own coins in their homes. Such a move by any government would certainly be ridiculous, wouldn't it? The economy of that country would literally collapse overnight. The country would fall into total anarchy and confusion.

By the same token, people who make claims similar to those made by this man would be guilty of spiritual anarchy against God. How are we supposed to know and recognize what is the true Word of God and the true Spirit of God, unless we also have some official standard to follow? It is easy to say that the word of God is in our hearts, but how do we know that it is the true Word of God? To know what is truly of the Lord, and what is false, we must first know Him who

is True. Now let me ask you; isn't it true that sometimes when you read a certain book, such as an autobiography, that the reason you are reading it is because you want to learn more about the author? In the case of the Bible, by reading what it contains, we come to know and understand its Author; God, our Heavenly Father. We also learn what His will is for our lives. We learn what He expects of us. We learn His rules.

This very same principle applies to our own families. If parents were to punish their children for doing something wrong, even before making them aware of the rules, this wouldn't be very fair, would it? It wouldn't be righteous judgment, or righteous punishment. In the same manner, the Bible serves as the Official Rule Book for those who are not led by the Spirit of God; for those who do not listen to God's still small Voice speaking to their hearts; and like the bank teller, it also serves to verify and to confirm whether or not what we are feeling in our hearts is truly of the Lord. The best way to know and to understand the Spirit of God, is through the recorded Word which we have had for thousands of years. If we receive anything which is contrary to that Model, then we should view it with much suspicion. As the Apostle John wrote, we must try, or test, the spirits to see if they are truly of God:

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

1 John 4:1, KJV

Remember, God is not the author of confusion. He will not contradict Himself. He won't say something in His Written Word, and then turn around and tell you to believe or to do something which is contrary to it. As I said previously, He esteems, or magnifies, His Word above His very name. His word is more sure, and more certain, and more reliable, than any words ever spoken by human beings. It is the sure word of prophecy:

"For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."

1 Corinthians 14:33, KJV

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:"

2 Peter 1:19, KJV

By rejecting the standard of God's Written Word, people such as the man in question are making themselves vulnerable to all kinds of deception and delusion; and this is exactly what we are seeing in these Last Days. Believe me, Satan is a great deceiver; he is a subtle serpent; he is roaring lion; he is a liar; and he is a destroyer; but, he can also appear as an angel of light who pretends to be a bearer of "truth"; so beware!:

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the

garden?"

Genesis 3:1, KJV

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"
1 Peter 5:8, KJV

". . . He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."
John 8:44b, KJV

"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."
2 Corinthians 11:14, KJV

"And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon."
Revelation 9:11, KJV

Please note that in the last verse above that is found in the Book of Revelation, both the Hebrew word "Abaddon" and the Greek word "Apollyon" mean "destroyer".

To continue his argument in defense of the gay and lesbian lifestyle, the person in question then went on to say "No one has the right to judge anyone. That is God's choice". As with his previous comments, he has stated a partial truth. If there are any verses which have been quoted more often by those who dislike having their sins exposed by the naked Truth found in the Bible, it has to be the following verses found in Matthew chapter seven:

"Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."
Matthew 7:1-2, KJV

It never ceases to amaze me how the enemies of the Truth are so quick to quote these verses, or at least haphazardly paraphrase them, while totally ignoring the other things which Jesus had to say which add a great deal of balance to the above Scriptures. Not only that, but I find it rather ironic, and in fact hypocritical, that they quote from the very Source which they insist is not the inspired Word of God. Non-Christians constantly accuse Christians of using the Holy Scriptures as some sort of crutch to support their views; yet they do the very same thing themselves when it is to their convenience. I would encourage such persons to read my article "A Biblical Cafeteria, Or The Whole Course?". As I explain in that article, we cannot just pick and choose when we read the Bible. We must believe all of it, or else none of it; and we must ask the Lord to give us His wisdom; and to lead us in our understanding as we go about comparing Scripture with Scripture:

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."
James 1:5, KJV

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Romans 8:14, KJV

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15, KJV

Rather than spend a great deal of time in this current series to discuss the topic of judgment, I am going to refer you the reader to another article I have written which is entitled "Exposing The Judge Not Fallacy". That paper takes an in-depth look at exactly what is meant by "judge not". It also explains the different kinds of judgment, and shows how the Lord's servants are in fact ministers of judgment, as well as ministers of Salvation. I hope that you will take the time to read it, as I'm sure that you will find it quite enlightening; particularly if you are a Christian. You might also be interested in reading some of the other articles I have written on the topic of judgment as well.

Having now fully established the authority of God's written Word, in the second part of this four-part series, we will begin our study to find out exactly what the Bible has to say about the practices of homosexuality and lesbianism. I trust that you will join me.

Written by the WordWeaver

webmaster@endtimeprophecy.net
<http://www.endtimeprophecy.net>

THE GAY AND LESBIAN AGENDA : TO THE POINT! : PART TWO

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Sodom And Gomorrah, Defining "To Know", Modern Liberalism, Nice People Living In Sin, Don't Judge God, Lot's Hesitancy, Destruction Of The Cities, Fate Of Lot's Wife, Gravity Of Homosexuality, The Mosaic Law, Aggressiveness Of The Gay And Lesbian Agenda, Sodom - Symbol Of God's Extreme Displeasure, Fate Of Jerusalem, God's Laws Or Man's Laws?, The Voice Of Conscience, Sex-Crazed Corinthians, Roman Gays And Lesbians, AIDS Virus, Pleasure In Sin, Genetic Defect?, Their Children

In the final part of his original remark, the person whom I am quoting said "The only 'true' way to find out if God dislikes gays is to ask him". I must admit that I find this person's comment rather unbelievable. As one who is quite knowledgeable of the Word of the Lord, all I can ask is, why is there any need to even ask God if He likes gays? He has

already made it abundantly clear to us through His written Word, exactly how He feels about such relationships. Please excuse my temporary slip into sarcasm, but how should one go about asking Him? Using a bit of imagination, perhaps it would be something like the following:

Homosexual: "Well you see Lord, I know that in the Bible it states that You destroyed two whole cities because of their homosexuality, but quite frankly, being as you are God, surely you must realize that the whole Book is just full of errors. As a matter of fact Lord, I don't even believe that it is your inspired Word at all. It was just a fabrication of male chauvinists who were trying to force their ideas on people at that particular time in history. So tell me, just between you and me Lord, what is your real position on my having anal intercourse with another man?"

"The Lord": "Hiss, hiss . . . Well, my son, you see . . ."

Homosexual: "What's that? As long as it is done out of real love it is okay? Gee . . . thanks Lord! That is precisely what I have thought all along! It certainly makes me glad to know that we see eye to eye on this issue. All of those silly Christians have been lying to me, and telling me otherwise by using that stupid Book of theirs. I was starting to get a little worried, and was beginning to think that maybe they were right. At least now I know who they must be listening to! Well, thanks for setting me straight on this Lord. If you'll excuse me now, I have to run because I have a date with my boyfriend. Hmmm . . . I wonder what that strange sulfurous smell is."

Well, excuse my dramatics. I hope I haven't offended any of my Christian readers who are of a more sensitive nature. I am sure you realize that I am using the above imaginary scene for shock value, in order to show you the depth of the deception into which some of these poor people have fallen. If any of them really are taking the time to ask the Lord about this, I seriously doubt that it is the same Lord that we Christians know who is answering them. As I explained in part one of this series, this is exactly where the problem lies. By denying that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, or by saying that it is flawed, homosexuals and lesbians have insulated themselves from being convicted by the Truth which is revealed within its pages. As the Apostle Paul wrote in his Epistle to the Roman brethren:

". . . for by the law is the knowledge of sin."
Romans 3:20b, KJV

"What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet."
Romans 7:7, KJV

Thus again we see why these people reject the Bible; or why they attempt to twist its meaning; or why they simply choose to ignore particular verses. So exactly what does the Bible have to say about these sexual perversions? As you will soon see, the answer is quite clear. There is no need to try to interpret it. It is as plain as day. If we take a look at the very first example in the Bible, we see that the Lord

destroyed two entire cities, Sodom and Gomorrah, because of their sin of homosexuality. As some of you know, it is from the city of Sodom, in the plain of Zoar, that homosexuality received its alternative name of sodomy.

In Genesis chapter eighteen, we have the Lord appearing to Abraham in the plain of Mamre, along with two of His angelic agents. It is during this encounter that the Lord informs Abraham that his wife Sarah will have a child in her old age. It is also here that Abraham discovers the Lord's intention to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. Because his nephew Lot resides there, Abraham begins to plead with the Lord, asking Him to spare the cities if He finds any righteous men living there. While Abraham pleads with the Lord, His two angels go down to survey the cities. What some of you may not realize, is that these cities were so filled with sexual perversion, that even the young boys were engaging in these evil practices. This is verified by the following verse:

"But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:"
Genesis 19:4, KJV

Please notice that this wasn't just a matter of a few men and a few boys engaging in sodomy; the whole town, in fact at least two towns, were engaged in these evil practices. It is right after this that we read of how the evil Sodomites attempt to have sex with the two Angels. In his attempt to prevent them from further sinning against the Lord, Lot instead offers them his two virgin daughters. This doesn't work, and the two Angels are forced to curse the men and boys of Sodom with blindness:

"And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly. Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof. And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door. But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door. And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door."
Genesis 19:5-11, KJV

For those of you who are not aware of the fact, those words "to know" are Elizabethan English for the act of having sex with someone. These evil men wanted to have anal sex with the Angels of God! What I find amazing is the fact that even after this display of Divine Power, Lot still has difficulty leaving Sodom. We are told that he lingers, and that the Angels finally have to grab him and his wife and daughters by the hand, and literally drag them out of Sodom. It wasn't easy for them to give up their easy manner of living. Maybe

they even thought that these men of Sodom were nice folks in spite of their nasty sex habits. We hear the very same kind of comments being made today by those who know certain homosexuals or lesbians. Sadly, a person can be living deep in sin, and still appear nice outwardly:

"And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed."
Genesis 19:16-17, KJV

No one can deny the spirit of liberalism which has swept the world in the past few decades. This has been accomplished in large part due to the many poorer nations of the world which are desirous of emulating the unbridled lifestyle of Western culture; particularly that of the United States Of America. Just about every kind of illicit activity is now permissible somewhere in the world. If you can't do it here, simply go over there to that city or to that country. There are now havens all over the world for men and women who practice homosexuality and lesbianism, even in so-called Christian America. As you will see later on in this series, some of them even hold positions of respect within the world of politics.

As I mentioned a moment ago, one thing we hear quite often is how gays and lesbians are all such nice people. They don't want to bother anyone. They just want to live their lives in peace. I agree; we all want this; and we all have a right to this; however, that still does not negate the fact that God is firmly opposed to such practices. It's possible that some of the people living in Sodom and Gomorrah were also nice people. Maybe poor Lot even felt sorry for them; but do you see where such a mentality leads if we follow it to its conclusion? Failure to acknowledge that homosexuality and lesbianism are vile sins, is to accuse God of making a mistake. It is to judge God, and to say that He was wrong in destroying those two cities. Is that what you think? Do you personally have the audacity to question and criticize the Almighty God? If so, consider the words of the Prophet Isaiah, the Patriarch Job, and the Apostle Paul:

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."
Isaiah 55:8-9, KJV

"How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman? Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not; yea, the stars are not pure in his sight. How much less man, that is a worm? and the son of man, which is a worm?"
Job 25:4-6, KJV

"Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast

thou made me thus?"
Romans 9:20, KJV

If you honestly believe that you know better than God, or that you have a right to judge Him, then may the Lord have mercy on your soul! You have a lot to learn about fearing and reverencing the Lord! As I explain in my article "Satan: His Origin, Purpose And Future", that is exactly the same kind of an attitude that the Devil has, and look at what has happened to him! God does not make mistakes! He knows what He is doing! When He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, He knew precisely what He was doing. In speaking about Sodom and Gomorrah, and Lot's hesitation to leave, and his final deliverance from temptation, the Apostle Peter wrote:

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:"
2 Peter 2:9, KJV

In this case, as we have seen, Lot didn't make the conscious choice to leave those sinful cities of his own accord. He had to literally be dragged away from their wickedness, lest he and his family were destroyed along with them. We can only wonder why Lot offered such resistance; or why he even chose to live amongst the Sodomites in the first place. Even after this deliverance, Lot continued to complain about having to leave the comfort behind and go to the mountain; so the Angels agreed to allow him to take his family instead to a small city called Zoar. Once they safely arrived there, the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. Not only that, we are told that He destroyed the entire plain. He obliterated everything that grew there. Some people suggest that this was due to a volcanic eruption, but that is not what the Scriptures teach us. Jesus described the following scene in the same way in the Gospels:

"The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground."
Genesis 19:23-25, KJV

From the beginning of the Bible to the very end, we find the Lord raining down His judgments from above; from Sodom and Gomorrah, to Egypt, to the final Vials of Wrath in the Book of Revelation. We read of brimstone and fire, fire mingled with blood, Wormwood, gigantic boulders and more. Exactly what these things are, I can only theorize. Perhaps they are related to astronomical events. In fact, as I explain in other articles, Satan is the Lord's executioner; he is the god of this world; and the prince of the power of the air; so perhaps he is actually the one who sends these things with God's permission; just as in the story of Job. The main point to consider here is that the Lord was very serious about this; so much so, that when Lot's wife turned back, possibly in a moment of doubt or vacillation, we are told that she immediately became a pillar of salt:

"But his wife looked back from behind him and she became a

pillar of salt."
Genesis 19:26, KJV

I honestly don't know what that means. That word "salt" is derived from the Hebrew word "melach", pronounced meh'-lakh, which really only has one definition; and that is salt. I do know that there is a certain rock pillar in Israel which is claimed to be the actual remains of Lot's wife; but given political, economic and tourism-related interests, I have serious reservations about accepting this as truth. If we accept that Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt exactly as the Scriptures state, then it seems likely that by now it would have been eroded by time, wind, rain and other natural forces. Of course, the Lord could purposely have allowed it to remain in order to serve as a sober reminder of His intense dislike for homosexuality. When Abraham got up early that morning to see what had happened, he viewed the awesome destruction of the Lord:

"And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace."
Genesis 19:28, KJV

Considering this terrible judgment from the Lord upon two entire cities, how can anyone possibly doubt the gravity of their sin when they engage in the practice of homosexuality? What more does the Lord have to do to convince such people that this is not according to His natural plan? I am sure that following the total destruction of two entire cities plus the surrounding plain, the story, and the fear of the Lord, must have travelled far and wide for many years to come. Sadly, in our day and age, while we still have the Biblical record, the fear and Godly reverence inspired by the event have lost much of their impact due to the pride and hard-heartedness of sinful men. If you want to consider a really odd twist to this event, consider how man played "God" five decades ago when he likewise destroyed two entire cities with nuclear fire. I am reminded of the words of our Lord when He said:

". . . Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?"
John 10:34, KJV

In addition to this, we are also told in the Book of Revelation that the Beast and the Ten Horns will destroy the mysterious Babylon the Great Whore with fire; quite possibly atomic fire, sometime in the future. I discuss this event in much more detail in some of my Endtime articles such as "Revelation's Babylon The Great Whore". I hope you will read it:

"And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire."
Revelation 17:16, KJV

Well, over five hundred years after the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the Lord decided that it was time to give us The Rules in written form so that we could no longer claim ignorance as an excuse for our sins; including the various sins of sexual perversion. In Leviticus chapter eighteen, we

find the Laws concerning incest, adultery, sex with animals and homosexuality. According to the Mosaic Law, all of these things were worthy of death by stoning:

"Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination."

Leviticus 18:22, KJV

"If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

Leviticus 20:13, KJV

"There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel."

Deuteronomy 23:17, KJV

One of the things which angered the Lord the most about the people of Sodom, was how blatant they were about their sin. They made absolutely no attempt whatsoever to hide their sexual perversion; even from the Angels of the Lord! As I said before, this exact same situation exists today. We have apartment complexes, towns and cities which have fallen under the influence of these kinds of people! They are on city councils and on school boards! They blatantly express their sinful lusts in public! They entice young people to share in their sinful lifestyle by publishing books and distributing them in our public school system! Through this method, they are endeavoring to brainwash our children into accepting homosexuality and lesbianism as normal alternative lifestyles! As you will see by the time you have finished reading this series, they are now even being so bold as to try to legalize same-sex marriages; and certain politicians and clergy are siding with them! It is sick, sick, sick! In describing the blatancy of the sins of Jerusalem and Judah, the Lord through the mouth of the Prophet Isaiah compared it to the sin of Sodom:

"The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves."

Isaiah 3:9, KJV

Less than two hundred years later, when the Prophet Jeremiah was lamenting the destruction of Jerusalem, he also compared it to the destruction which befell the city of Sodom. Notice that the Prophet also comments on the swiftness with which Sodom was destroyed, just as we will witness the quick destruction of the wicked in the near future:

"For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her."

Lamentations 4:6, KJV

In the final book of the Bible, the Book of Revelation, the aging Apostle John even tells us that one of the spiritual names for the city of Jerusalem is Sodom:

"And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great

city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."

Revelation 11:8, KJV

As can be seen then, throughout the Bible, the example of Sodom and Gomorrah is used in three contexts: It is used to denote the seriousness of sexual perversion; it is used to denote sinful blatancy in general; and it is used to denote the spiritual condition of Jerusalem. In all three contexts, they are an expression of the Lord's extreme anger and displeasure. As an aside, I should also mention that there may be additional significance in referring to Jerusalem as spiritual Sodom. Could it be that the same fate awaits Jerusalem that befell Sodom and Gomorrah? Allow me to again refer you to my article "Revelation's Babylon The Great Whore" for more details. In our current day, Sodom and Gomorrah are clearly meant to serve as a warning to those who continue to blatantly defy God's natural laws. Peter and Jude both made this very clear when they wrote the following:

"And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;"

2 Peter 2:6, KJV

"Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

Jude 1:7, KJV

With all of this Biblical evidence, is it any wonder then that many homosexuals and lesbians have rejected the Bible as being the inspired Word of God? What I find interesting, is that while these people reject the Laws written by Moses as directed by God Himself thousands of years ago, they accept with little resistance or question, any new laws which are enacted by modern man in the legislative branch of government. In fact, as I discuss in more shocking detail later on in this series, they have succeeded at further advancing the gay and lesbian agenda in Washington, D.C.!

Allow me to pose some very interesting questions to you. Considering that many constitutions around the world are based on the Oracles first given at Sinai, why is it that those laws pertaining to homosexuality and lesbianism have been rejected? Why weren't they included in governmental constitutions? Again, the truth of the matter is that by getting rid of the Rule Book, or at least by disposing of those parts that they don't like, these people can feign ignorance to the Laws of God. Unfortunately for them, this holds very little weight in the Courts of Heaven. As I mentioned earlier, God's Laws are not just written in a book; they are written on the tables of our hearts by His Spirit. We often refer to this as the voice of conscience:

"Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:"

Proverbs 3:3, KJV

"Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of

thine heart."
Proverbs 7:3, KJV

"The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars;"
Jeremiah 17:1, KJV

"Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."
2 Corinthians 3:3, KJV

It doesn't matter where we live, or who we are; deep within our beings, we all know what is right, and what is wrong. Even if we didn't have the Bible, we would still be held accountable for our actions. Whether we live in some modern city, or in some remote village deep in the jungles of Indonesia, we still know that it is wrong to kill; it is wrong to steal; it is wrong to have sex with our neighbor's wife; and it is wrong to have sex with a person of the same sex. God has put it in us to know. No one can deny this or feign ignorance; even if they try to rub God out of their lives or say that the Bible is not His inspired Word.

One would have to completely harden his heart to God's Spirit in order to not know these things; and actually, it isn't that he doesn't know them; it is just that because of his own willfulness, he has chosen to consciously and purposely block out the Voice of God speaking to his wicked heart! Sadly, this is exactly what is happening in our modern day. Many people have become so hardened against God, that they are past feeling anything. They have become so darkened in their understanding due to sin and rebellion in their lives, that they have no idea of the spiritual depths to which they have fallen. It may surprise you to know, that almost two thousand years ago, the Apostle Paul described this very thing when he wrote the following to the brethren at Ephesus:

"This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness."
Ephesians 4:17-19, KJV

Isn't the Word of God amazing? God knows the score folks; and He has known it for a very long time. He made us; He knows what is in us; He knows of what we are capable, both good and evil. A little further on in the same chapter, in encouraging the brethren to forsake their old lives and the lustful ways of the flesh, Paul wrote:

"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;"
Ephesians 4:22, KJV

We will be taking a closer look at the war between the old

man of the flesh and the new man of the Spirit in part three of this series. Paul also had to deal with a very serious problem concerning fornication between certain members of the church at Corinth. In describing the brethren there, he said that they were so into the flesh, that they were worse than the Gentiles themselves! In at least one case, a son was apparently having sex with his mother:

"It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife."
1 Corinthians 5:1, KJV

However, out of all of the sexual problems Paul had to deal with, it seems that those he encountered in Rome were the most serious. Whether these problems were actually occurring within the church itself, similar to the news reports we read today concerning modern Roman Catholicism; or whether Paul was describing sexual perversion in general amongst the Roman populace, is hard to say. If we consider the fact that both the Roman and Grecian empires were totally overcome by hedonism, that is, wildly experiencing all of the pleasures of the flesh, it isn't difficult to understand why Paul felt motivated to write the following to the Roman brethren. As you will see, it appears that the Romans were practicing both unrestrained homosexuality and lesbianism, and possibly even bestiality as well; that is, sex with animals:

"Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."
Romans 1:24-32, KJV

Notice Paul's phrase "and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet". As I explain in part four of this series, it appears that he is saying that they are getting exactly what they deserve for indulging in such sexual perversions. This is particularly true today with the spread of the AIDS virus. While many wild theories and speculations abound as to the origin of this killer virus, many Christians are convinced that it is nothing short of a judgment of God upon the wicked. Remember, in the Mosaic Law we are told that these things are punishable by

death. Through the AIDS virus, could it be that the Lord is indeed meting out the death sentence to these people? Even though man has sought for a cure for this dreaded disease, he has failed; just as he has failed to cure many of the other maladies which plague humankind. Could it be that in his ignorance, he is trying to stop the judgments of God upon a wicked and perverse world?

Notice also the very last verse. Paul says that they are well aware that they will be subject to the judgments of God. They know that according to the Mosaic Law, they are worthy of death; yet that gives them even more pleasure in practicing such sexual perversions! It is as if they are mocking God to His Face! As we saw earlier, what really upsets the Lord the most about this is the blatancy of their sin! They don't even care what God thinks! These sick people blaspheme God and His Word when they flaunt their lifestyle and demand equal rights; when they set up so-called churches specifically for those of the gay and lesbian persuasions; and when they promote legislation for same-sex marriages. How can God turn His back on such blatant sins? Unless He does something about it, He will owe Sodom and Gomorrah an apology. But, we know that He is going to do something about it, and very soon at that! He is just waiting for the world to fill up its cup of iniquity so that He can begin to pour out His righteous judgments!

One subtle idea which is becoming quite popular these days, is the belief that homosexuality and lesbianism are genetic aberrations. In other words, those who support this view are indirectly claiming "Oh, these lifestyles have nothing to do with sin. There is really nothing spiritually wrong with these people. Homosexuality and lesbianism are a disease, a genetic disorder. We should pity those people afflicted with these things; we should feel sorry for them; after all, it isn't their fault; they were born that way. How can anyone judge them for something for which they are not really responsible? In fact, how can God even judge them? What's wrong with Him anyway? What's wrong with you Christians anyway? You and your God are the problem, and not the gays and the lesbians!".

As I mentioned earlier in this series, do you see how innocently that type of reasoning starts out? It is just like the idea of saying that homosexuals and lesbians are nice people; but if you follow it through to its conclusion, you end up totally denying that they are sinning against God! Not only that, but you erroneously conclude that God would be wrong to judge them for something over which they have no control. Well, they do have control over it, because we all have the free will to choose! If they would believe in God and ask Him for His help, they would be permanently delivered from these sins of the flesh; and we will look more at this issue in part three of this article.

To conclude part two of this series, allow me to say that I feel sorry for those who through ignorance, have fallen into such a perverted lifestyle at an early age. Perhaps they were young children who were intentionally induced into it by an older person. If such be the case, then they should be pitied. If it is in our power to do so, and if they want it, we should try to help them by witnessing to them; after all,

we are here to be a witness of the Lord's love and mercy and forgiveness; but, they must want that mercy and forgiveness, and realize that they need it. If nothing else, if you know someone like that, you can at least pray for them. The most important thing to remember, is that we are to love the sinner, but to hate the sin; and we will be examining this more closely as we continue our discussion.

On the other hand, it is those people who are old enough to know better than to engage in these things for whom I have very little compassion. They know that homosexuality and lesbianism are wrong and a sin against God, and against themselves, and against others; and yet they openly flaunt it, pursue it, and seek to entice others into it in order to satisfy their own selfish lusts. These are the ones I can't stomach. These are the ones I find disgusting. I think what they do is an abomination to God; especially those who take it to the extreme and engage in such repulsive practices as transvestitism and actual sex changes!

When these people choose not to marry a person of the opposite sex, but rather to live with and/or marry someone of the same sex in order to fulfill their sexual desires, this is absolutely wrong as all of the Scriptures I have presented clearly bear out. When they engage in these types of sick relationships, and also choose to adopt children in order to experience the blessing reserved for those who do follow God's natural laws, I find it repulsive. If they want children so bad, then they should forsake their sinful ways, and live a normal life so that the Lord can bless them. What kind of perverted views are those children going to have as they grow up? Are they too going to want to have sex with or marry someone of the same gender? God forbid!

If you happen to be a homosexual or a lesbian, God can and wants to give you the Grace and the Power to resist those fleshly temptations, but first you have to be willing to yield both your body and your life to Him. In fact, you must allow Him to give you an entirely new life and to make you a new creature in Christ Jesus. You must undergo a complete spiritual rebirth; and I will be talking about this more in part three of this series. I do hope you will join me. You just might gain a much-needed victory in your life if you do.

The Lord loves you dearly, but He hates what you are doing to yourself and to others. He is willing to forgive you if you are willing to humbly admit that your current lifestyle is wrong; and that you have been in rebellion against His Will for your life. He wants to help you to overcome your problem, but you must acknowledge that you cannot do it on your own. God has given you the freedom of personal choice to choose between good and evil. You do not have to continue in bondage to this sin of the flesh. You can be freed from it. You must realize that we all have negative, evil or perverted thoughts just about every day of our lives; but that doesn't mean we have to yield to them. In fact, we don't have to yield to them, for as the Apostle Paul wrote:

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation

also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."
1 Corinthians 10:13, KJV

That way of escape is through accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, and then allowing Him to take complete control of your life; for as our Lord said:

". . . I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."
John 14:6, KJV

He is the One who can work through you and in you by His Spirit to make you the person you were meant to be. He can clean up your life, your mind, and your body, and give you a healthy sexual appetite as was ordained by God. Will you allow Him to do this for you? He is ready, willing and able. Whatever your choice, jut remember, once you hear the Truth, you are responsible for it, and are held accountable for your actions. If homosexuality or lesbianism happens to be your problem, by reading this article, you have now been given the full Truth and counsel of God's Word. You have been given the solution to your problem. Jesus told us that all sins will be forgiven against men except for blasphemy against the Holy Ghost. To resist the Spirit of Truth, is blasphemy against the Holy Ghost. Will you continue to resist God's Spirit in your life; or will you humbly yield yourself and your body to Him? The choice is yours. But please remember this if you continue to resist:

"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."
Hebrews 10:26-27, 31, KJV

Whether you are a homosexual or a lesbian, or someone who is trying to help people who are of these persuasions, please join me in part three of this series; as I'll be presenting a lot of additional material which will not only expose the extent to which the gay and lesbian community has achieved their goals, but which will also explain what it truly means to be a new creature in Christ Jesus. I pray that this series is being a blessing in your life.

Written by the WordWeaver

webmaster@endtimeprophecy.net
<http://www.endtimeprophecy.net>

THE GAY AND LESBIAN AGENDA : TO THE POINT! : PART THREE

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Pro Gay And Lesbian Bill In Congress, Subtle Assimilation, Love The Sinner But Not Their Sin, Fear The Lord, Compromise Of United Methodists, Gay And Lesbian Weddings, Stumbling God's Sheep, Twisting The Scriptures, Jesus And The Sinners, Go And Sin No More, Mary Magdalene, Of No Reputation, Love And Mercy vs Law, Transformation, The Will Of God - Believe In Christ, Old Man vs New Man, New Creatures And Positive Fruit, Backslidden Children, Glorify God In Our Bodies

In the second part of this four-part series, I presented a clear Scriptural basis to explain why all sincere Christians are so opposed to homosexual and lesbian relationships. Sadly, since I penned those words fifteen months ago, I have come to learn that the situation has only grown worse as the gay and lesbian community continues to aggressively lobby the American Congress, as well as certain churches, in order to achieve their agenda; which is to have their abnormal lifestyles legalized, in order to make them appear more acceptable to the general American public. In other words, these people want homosexual and lesbian relationships to be accepted as a normal part of American society and culture, in spite of what God's Word has to say about it. They want all of the same legal rights currently enjoyed by persons who practice normal healthy heterosexual relationships.

For those of you who still may not be aware of it, earlier this year, identical legislation for Domestic Partnership benefits for federal employees was introduced in both the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as in the U.S. Senate. Representative Barney Frank, who is a Democrat from the state of Massachusetts, and also an openly gay person, introduced HR 2761 in the House of Representatives; and Senator Paul Wellstone, a Democrat from the state of Minnesota, introduced SR 1636 in the Senate. Exactly what kind of language is contained in this explosive bill which has made it so controversial? Consider the following clauses and you will quickly understand what is causing all of the uproar:

----- Begin Quote -----

(a) In General - A domestic partner of an employee shall be entitled to benefits available to and obligations imposed upon a spouse of an employee.

(b) Certification Of Eligibility - In order to obtain benefits under this Act, an employee shall file an affidavit of eligibility for benefits with the Office of Personnel Management certifying that the employee and the domestic partner of the employee --

(1) are each other's sole domestic partner and intend to remain so indefinitely;

(2) have a common residence, and intend to continue the arrangement;

(3) are at least 18 years of age and mentally competent to consent to contract;

(4) share responsibility for a significant measure of each other's common welfare and financial obligations;

(5) are not married to or domestic partners with anyone else;

(6) understand that willful falsification of information within the affidavit may lead to disciplinary action, including termination of employment, and the recovery of the cost of benefits received related to such falsification; and

(7) are same sex domestic partners, and not related in a way that, if the two were of opposite sex, would prohibit legal marriage in the State in which they reside.

----- End Of Quote -----

The shocking truth concerning this legislative act is clearly revealed in the final seventh clause. This bill is specifically geared towards same sex partners! It is to give homosexuals and lesbians the same legal rights as their heterosexual counterparts. It is to legalize their rights so that they can enjoy the same privileges as all other federal employees who are of the heterosexual persuasion. From what I understand, there is currently a strong push by the gay and lesbian lobby on Capital Hill to obtain hearings on this subtle bill prior to the November elections. At this time, I am not aware of how much progress they have made in their endeavors to achieve this goal; so I advise everyone to pay close attention to the news for further details.

At this point, some of my more liberal-minded readers might be thinking to themselves, "So what! What is the big deal here? They are people. They should have the same rights as every other legal citizen of the United States Of America. What are you getting so upset about?". Allow me to again clarify for you what is the real issue here. It isn't just the fact that homosexuals and lesbians are attempting to gain equal rights as heterosexuals that bothers me and other Christians; it is the fact that they are doing all they can to have their wayward, harmful lifestyle assimilated into the American fabric, so that it is no longer viewed as an aberration, and as a sin against the laws of God. In other words, such laws make it easy to sin against God. That is the real issue. It is a satanic subtlety and deception which is being foisted upon the American public; many of whom have already compromised their faith in other areas of their lives.

While there are some Christians who insist that we need to love and accept the homosexuals and the lesbians in order to win them to the Kingdom of God, developments such as the one I have just described clearly demonstrate the negative fruit which can result from taking such an approach. Yes, we do indeed need to try to love these people into the Kingdom of God, but nowhere are we told in any part of the Bible to accept their anti-God lifestyle of sin. I challenge anyone to prove it to me from the Holy Scriptures; but before you try to do that, I suggest that you finish reading the rest of this series so that you can see what you are up against. As I have said before, we are to love the sinner, but we are to hate their sin. As you will see in a moment, this is the

exact same approach which was used by Jesus Christ Himself.

The truth of the matter is that it is because some weak Christians have accepted, and in fact even encouraged such lifestyles, that the gay and lesbian community has become so powerful in the United States Of America; and I can only wonder if the same thing isn't happening in other countries around the world as well. Such people who reject the Truth of God after hearing it, no longer need the love approach; they need the fear of God approach! Somebody needs to give them a good shake and put the fear of God back into them; for it is quite evident to me that they do not currently have it! As I shared in part three of the series "So You Really Think You Are So Humble?", the fear of the Lord is to depart from evil. Consider the following verses:

"And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."
Job 28:28, KJV

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever."
Psalms 111:10, KJV

"Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil."
Proverbs 3:7, KJV

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."
Proverbs 9:10, KJV

"By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil."
Proverbs 16:6, KJV

Sadly, the spiritual backsliding of the United States Of America does not stop with incidents such as the legislation which has been introduced to Congress. For anyone who may still doubt that the United States Of America is not only no longer a Christian nation as she claims, but that she is in fact turning more and more against God, and against His Holy Word every day, consider the following very disturbing news report which I recently received from the Cable News Network, (CNN), online service:

----- Begin Quote -----

UNITED METHODISTS PUSH TO END BAN ON GAY MARRIAGES

"A letter signed by 363 clergy and laity urges bishops of the United Methodist Church to lift the church's ban on gay and lesbian marriages. The letter, with signatures from people in 37 states and Washington D.C., was released Sunday by Rev. Jimmy Creech of Raleigh, North Carolina, who is on voluntary leave of absence from the church after performing a blessing ceremony for two women in September 1997."

----- End Of Quote -----

This is nothing short of a tragedy! Personally, I find it

absolutely disgusting that the very people who are supposed to be protecting our Christian heritage, who are supposed to be shining examples to their flocks, are now denying the Truth of the Scriptures, defying God, and in a very real sense spitting in His Face! The Apostle Peter wrote:

"Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock."

1 Peter 5:3, KJV

What kind of a Christian example are these people being? Exactly whose side are they on; God's or Satan's? For years now I have heard some negative things about some of these Methodists. I have heard that their doctrine is full of secular humanism, and that some of them are even involved with occult organizations and practices. I am not saying that all Methodists are guilty of these things, but the previous report clearly reveals that some of them have strayed very far from the straight and narrow way of the Christian Gospel; at least the United Methodists have. God help these people! As the Apostle Peter wrote, judgment must first begin at the house of God; and I have a feeling that the "Christians" who support these things are going to be awfully sorry on the Day of Judgment when the Lord reveals to them how they have stumbled His lambs by leading them away from the Truth of the Gospel!:

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

1 Peter 4:17, KJV

"But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

Matthew 18:6, KJV

As I have explained on a number of previous occasions, in the verse from the Gospel of Matthew, that word "offend" is derived from the Greek word "skandalizo", which in this context means to cause one to fall or stumble away from the Truth of God's Word. It means to stop one from believing in Jesus Christ, or to cause them to err in doctrine and belief. Isn't this precisely what these United Methodists are doing when they openly support and encourage gay and lesbian marriages and relationships? Now we all know that certain Biblically-ignorant people are quick to say, "Well, yes, but even Jesus was a friend of harlots and sinners! God loves homosexuals and lesbians just the way they are!". This is a twisting of the Truth! People who say this are wresting the Scriptures to their own destruction as I have also pointed out many times before:

"As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."

2 Peter 3:16, KJV

The Bible does not teach that Jesus was a friend of harlots and sinners in the way that some people understand it today.

These liberals try to give us the impression that Jesus enjoyed associating Himself with the lower elements of society, and that He made no attempts whatsoever to get them to change their ways. This is the furthest thing from the Truth! Let us not forget that Satan also knows the Word of God; and he is an absolute pro when it comes to twisting its meaning in order to achieve his objectives; the primary of which is to cause us to disobey the Lord, and to fall away from His Truth. To set the record straight, it was the Scribes and the Pharisees who self-righteously accused Jesus of being a friend of publicans and sinners. This is the "they" to whom Jesus is referring in the following verse:

"The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children."

Matthew 11:19, KJV

Exactly what did Jesus mean when He said that "wisdom is justified of her children"? My understanding is that in His wisdom, God sent His Son, Jesus, to the smelly, uneducated fishermen, to the cheating tax collectors, to the prostitutes, etc., because He knew that when they were exposed to the Light of the Truth of the Gospel, that they would recognize their sinful condition, repent of their sins, and receive the love and the Salvation which Jesus had to offer them. How very different from the reaction of the self-righteous Scribes and Pharisees who thought themselves so good and holy, that they didn't need a Saviour. The point is, when Jesus befriended the publicans and the sinners, He didn't just give them the modern line of "I'm okay; you're okay; I accept you as you are"; what the Lord clearly said to the adulterous woman was "go, and sin no more". That is the part that some of these liberals like to ignore:

"She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more."
John 8:11, KJV

We find the very same thing happening with the famous prostitute, Mary Magdalene. The Scriptures tell us that she was in very bad condition when she met the Lord. Not only did the Lord forgive her for her sins, but He even went so far as to cast seven devils out of her. We can only wonder if she might have manifested multiple personalities before her deliverance by the loving Christ. After He cleansed her of her sins and her evil spiritual condition, the Lord no doubt expected her to remain that way, and not to fall again into her former lucrative habits with men. To think that she may have remained a prostitute after she came to know the Saviour is absolutely ludicrous:

"Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils."
Mark 16:9, KJV

"And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and

infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance."

Luke 8:1-3, KJV

Do you understand now what kind of a relationship the Lord had with these people? As both the Prophet Isaiah and the Apostle Paul wrote, Jesus did indeed stoop to the level of the publicans, harlots and sinners; but it was only long enough to offer them a chance at Salvation. He was willing to leave His Heavenly Abode, and to become of no reputation, to be despised and rejected of men, to be accused of being a glutton and a drunkard and one possessed by a devil, who kept company with publicans and sinners, all for the purpose of raising them, and us, to His eternal level:

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not."

Isaiah 53:3, KJV

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

Philippians 2:5-8, KJV

The Lord didn't remain at their level; and He didn't expect them to remain at that level either. He expected them to repent of their sins and their wicked ways; and to accept Him as their Saviour; which many of them did with grateful hearts. This is why Jesus said that wisdom is justified of her children; and this is also why the Lord said to the self-righteous Scribes and Pharisees:

"But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Matthew 9:13, KJV

It was the fact that the Lord showed these sinful people love and mercy, instead of just throwing the cold hard Mosaic Law in their face like the Scribes and the Pharisees did, that they were convicted in their hearts and repented of their sins. They already knew that they were sinners. The Scribes and the Pharisees made sure of that; and John the Baptist was also very instrumental in bringing an attitude of repentance to Israel. So because of this attitude of repentance and the expectation of a soon-coming Messiah, as the Gospel writer Mark wrote, the common people heard Jesus gladly when He finally arrived:

". . . And the common people heard him gladly."

Mark 12:37b, KJV

As a result of hearing the Lord gladly, some of these people received His message of Salvation; they repented of their sins; and their lives underwent a spiritual transformation.

This spiritual change was manifested by the "fruit" in their lives. In other words, they didn't remain harlots, conniving tax collectors and such; they became new creatures in Christ Jesus. Consider the following Scriptures:

"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."
Matthew 7:20, KJV

"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."
James 2:26, KJV

It is for this very same reason that when the Lord was discussing those who did the Will of His Father, He made the following comment regarding the publicans and the harlots:

"Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you."
Matthew 21:31, KJV

Why did Jesus say that the publicans and harlots would enter into the Kingdom of Heaven first before the self-righteous, rebellious Scribes and Pharisees? Because they did the Will of the Father. Exactly what is the Will of God? As I point out in other articles such as in the series "So You Really Think You Are So Humble?", part of the answer is found in the following verses:

"Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent . . . And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."
John 6:29, 40, KJV

"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."
John 15:14, KJV

"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"
Luke 6:46, KJV

"For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."
Matthew 12:50, KJV

So you see, the publicans and the harlots did the Will of God because they accepted the Gospel message; they repented of their sins; and they accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour; whereas the Scribes and the Pharisees did none of these things. This is the primary message of the four Gospels, as well as a major part of the rest of the books of the New Testament. It is a message of repentance and belief. You can't say that you believe without repenting of your sins, whatever they may be. Both are necessary parts of the Salvation Equation. Just as I explained earlier, the Apostle Paul also tells us quite plainly in his Epistle to the Corinthians, as well as in other of his Epistles, that when we repent and believe, we become new creatures in Christ Jesus. We put on the new man of the Spirit, and we crucify

the old man of the flesh. I also discuss this topic in such articles as "Are You Crucified With Christ?". Some of the verses which I include in that article are the following:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

2 Corinthians 5:17, KJV

"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."

Romans 6:6, KJV

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

Galatians 2:20, KJV

"I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily."

1 Corinthians 15:31, KJV

Clearly then, once we accept Jesus Christ into our lives, as these Scriptures plainly tell us, there is supposed to be a noticeable change in our lives; in the way that we act and think; in our moral standard; in our outlook on life; in everything! We are supposed to become new creatures. We don't just keep thinking, living, behaving and doing like the old person that we were before we came to know Christ. We are all supposed to have undergone a genuine spiritual transformation; a spiritual rebirth, as Jesus explained it to Nicodemus in the third chapter of the Gospel of John:

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit."

John 3:3-8, KJV

If we have not undergone this transformation, so that at least a few people who know us well can easily recognize these changes in our lives, then something must be seriously wrong somewhere. Let's be honest here for a moment. What kind of repentance and change would it be if we remained exactly the same as we were prior to knowing Jesus Christ? What if Mary Magdalene hadn't repented of her former life and had remained a whore after she had met the Saviour? Do you honestly think that anyone would have believed her if she had told them that she was now a new creature in Christ Jesus? Obviously not, because there would be no positive fruit in her life to prove it. Or what if she had

temporarily believed, but then fell away in a moment of weakness?

It is interesting to note that the Lord provided us with a very clear answer to this question. In fact, in His example, Jesus uses a person who is re-possessed with seven devils, just as Mary Magdalene had seven devils prior to her conversion to the faith:

"When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation."

Matthew 12:43-45, KJV

In the fifth chapter of the Gospel of John, we find the story of a man who had been sick for thirty years. This man had the habit of going to the Pool of Bethesda, in the hope that one day he would be cured by stepping down into the water as many others had done before him. On this particular day, a sabbath day, this man had a life-changing experience when he encountered the Saviour. Notice exactly what Jesus tells the man after he has been miraculously healed of his infirmity:

"Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole? The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me. Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath . . . Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee."

John 5:2-9, 14, KJV

While many hard-hearted people in the world today refuse to accept the Biblical truth that physical illness is sometimes associated with, or caused by, sin in one's life, Jesus made this perfectly clear by some of the miracles that He did. Such was the case with this man at the Pool of Bethesda. Notice, however, that unlike the harlot, Jesus doesn't just say "go, and sin no more", but He also adds "lest a worse thing come unto thee". In other words, the Lord was telling this man, "Look, I have had mercy upon you, and have shown you my Father's Love by delivering you from your affliction; but now you must be careful that you don't fall back into

your former life of sin, lest you end up worse than you were before". In his second Epistle, Peter echoed the Lord's words concerning those who come to the Light, and then fall again into the darkness of sin when he wrote the following:

"For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."
2 Peter 2:20-22, KJV

The Apostle Paul offered an equally disturbing scenario when he described the fate of those who fall back so far in their faith in the Lord, that they even deny His Sacrifice. He wrote:

"For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame."
Hebrews 6:4-6, KJV

As I explain in some of my other articles, the above verses have caused no small debate amongst Christians as they attempt to understand what Paul really meant by these words. Regardless of Paul's true intent, one thing I do know for certain, is that based upon certain verses found in the last two chapters of the Book of Revelation, it doesn't seem likely that Mary Magdalene would be enjoying the blessing of being in the Heavenly City had she not repented and forsaken her sins of the flesh. Consider these verses:

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."
Revelation 21:8, KJV

"For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie."
Revelation 22:15, KJV

Now, one could argue that these verses might very well be referring to spiritual whoredoms, and he might be correct. In fact, I discuss this same possibility in my two-part article entitled "Revelation's Babylon The Great Whore"; however, that still doesn't change the fact that Jesus said "go, and sin no more" to the harlot; and seven devils were cast out of Mary Magdalene. Once Mary and the other harlots accepted Christ as the Messiah, their bodies became part of His Body. In other words, they became members of His Bride, His spiritual church. Once this occurs, we are supposed to

glorify the Lord in our physical bodies; we aren't supposed to keep doing things which are dangerous or harmful to our bodies. This is precisely what the Apostle Paul taught the brethren at the Roman and the Corinthian churches:

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."
1 Corinthians 6:19-20, KJV

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."
Romans 12:1-2, KJV

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."
1 Corinthians 10:31, KJV

These same Scriptural principles apply to our world today as well. Homosexuals, lesbians, prostitutes, drug users, and others who abuse their bodies in some way by going against God's natural laws, as clearly explained in His Holy Word, need to repent of their sins, accept the Lord, and change their lifestyles, if they expect to enter the Kingdom of God. Furthermore, once they have been delivered from those lifestyles in which they sinned against their own flesh, they need to strive to not return to the same, lest they too end up worse than before; and this they can do with God's help. In the final part of this series, we will be taking another look at Paul's warning to the Romans, as well as discussing gay and lesbian churches, and our responsibility as Christians to be faithful messengers of the Truth in a wicked and perverse world. I trust you will join me.

Written by the WordWeaver

webmaster@endtimeprophecy.net
<http://www.endtimeprophecy.net>

THE GAY AND LESBIAN AGENDA : TO THE POINT! : PART FOUR

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We Are Bought With A Price, AIDS - Fruit Of Aberrant Sex, Reprobate Minds And Strong Delusion, Leanness To The Soul, Gay And Lesbian Churches, Homosexuals And Solomon's Temple, Speak The Truth In Love And Firmness, The Dividing Sword Of Truth, Hated By All Men, Delivering Our Souls, No Fellowship With Darkness, Fiery Judgment Of Wicked, Spotless/Blameless

I concluded part three of this series by explaining how we are supposed to use our bodies to glorify the Lord once we come to accept Jesus Christ in our lives. This is not only because we become new creatures in Christ Jesus, but it is also because we literally become His possessions. As the Lord and the Apostle Paul both said, we are bought with a price, or ransom money, and that price is the Blood of Jesus Christ Himself. The following verses make this very clear:

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."
1 Corinthians 6:20, KJV

"Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men."
1 Corinthians 7:23, KJV

"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."
Mark 10:45, KJV

"Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."
1 Timothy 2:6, KJV

Totally contrary to this Christian concept, as we saw in part two of this series, the ungodly Romans were living in complete hedonism; doing anything and everything to please the lusts of their flesh. Allow me to share those verses with you again from Paul's Epistle to the Romans:

"Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"
Romans 1:24-28, KJV

As the Apostle Paul tells us, it is because of these vile, or disgraceful, sexual affections, derived from the Greek word "atimia", that they are now "receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet". I believe that what Paul is saying here, is that because of the filthy sexual acts in which they engage, these misguided people are suffering from all kinds of bodily afflictions. In the world today, this is primarily the deadly AIDS virus, for which there is still no cure.

Notice that Paul also states that those who abuse their bodies in this way, have "changed the truth of God into a lie". Another possible translation of this phrase is that they "exchanged the truth of God for a lie". The reason I

say this is because the word translated here as "changed", is derived from the Greek word "metallasso", pronounced met-al-las'-so, which means both exchange and change. The word "into" is derived from the Greek word "en" which means in, by, with, etc. So exactly why do they do this? It is because, as Paul writes, God has given them "over to a reprobate mind". The word "reprobate" is derived from the Greek word "adokimos", pronounced ad-ok'-ee-mos, which is often used when referring to the quality of metal coinage. It means not standing the test, not approved or rejected. In other words, the main idea is coins which are rejected because of their impurity. A very good example of this can be found in the Old Testament where the Lord is speaking to the Prophet Jeremiah regarding the fallen spiritual state of His people Israel. The Lord says:

"I have set thee for a tower and a fortress among my people, that thou mayest know and try their way. They are all grievous revolters, walking with slanders: they are brass and iron; they are all corrupters. The bellows are burned, the lead is consumed of the fire; the founder melteth in vain: for the wicked are not plucked away. Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them."
Jeremiah 6:27-30, KJV

So then, because the Scriptures expose the sinful nature of these un natural lifestyles, in their minds, such people reject the Truth of God's Word; therefore, He gives them over to impure minds. He allows them to live in utter delusion because of their denial of the Truth. This is what they want, so this is what He will let them have. In fact, as I point out in quite a few other articles, when people reject the Truth, God will even choose their delusion for them:

"I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not."
Isaiah 66:4, KJV

This entire issue of pushing our way with God, rejection, delusion, and suffering the consequences because of our mistakes, is directly related to a story found in the Old Testament. As the Apostle Paul pointed out in his Epistle to the Corinthians, we can learn some important lessons from the children of Israel who murmured in the wilderness:

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."
1 Corinthians 10:11, KJV

From the moment the children of Israel left Egypt, they began to complain about everything. "Why did we ever leave Egypt? We had it so easy there! I'm hungry! I'm thirsty! It's so hot! I hate all of this sand blowing in my face! I hate these snakes! Why did we come out here just to die? Moses, why doesn't your God do something to help us? What's wrong with Him, Moses?"; and on and on they went with their complaints. Well, God will sometimes give you what you want, even if He knows it isn't really good for you; but He will

send leanness to your soul in order to teach you a valuable lesson. In other words, He will make you sorry that you ever asked for it. Such was the case with the children of Israel. The Lord sent them so much quail and manna, that they grew absolutely sick and tired of eating it; but apparently, that is all they had to eat for those forty years while they wandered in the deserts of the Sinai Peninsula:

"And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger."
Exodus 16:2-3, KJV

"And Moses said, This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD."
Exodus 16:8, KJV

"I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God. And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host."
Exodus 16:12-13, KJV

"And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?"
Exodus 17:3, KJV

"And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul."
Psalms 106:15, KJV

So then; while the Lord has allowed these people who have rejected the Truth of His Word to live their delusional lives of sin, as with the ancient Israelites, He has indeed sent leanness to their souls as well, by allowing many thousands of them to die from complications which have resulted from the AIDS virus. In only about eleven years, the AIDS virus has become a worldwide epidemic; and the United States Of America has not remained immune to it.

Exactly how far has the delusion and the deception of these reprobate minds gone? As many of you already know, these subtle deceivers have now convinced themselves, and others, that it is okay with God if one believes in Jesus Christ, and still remains a homosexual or a lesbian! As noted in part two of this series, these crafty people have advanced their agenda to such a degree over the past two decades, that among other things, they now have taken over entire apartment complexes; they control the politics of many towns and cities across America; they are sponsoring and having special laws passed to protect and ensure their rights; and

they have convinced some of the so-called Christian clergy and laity to foolishly support their cause.

Aside from Representative Barney Frank, consider that where I live, one homosexual has sat on the bench as a Superior Court judge for a number of years. This man has been very open about his sexual preferences. If you find that amazing, consider that he has presided over Family Court! What kind of an example can such a person be to any family when they don't even engage in a normal, healthy heterosexual relationship which results in children? The Bible tells us that children are a blessing and a heritage of the Lord:

"Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."
Psalms 127:3, KJV

If all of this wasn't bad enough, for quite a few years now, these people have even been establishing their own so-called Christian churches, which of course are specifically geared towards homosexuals and lesbians! This is the level of spiritual deterioration in the United States Of America! These homosexual and lesbian churches who insist that God loves them just as they are, living in carnal sin, are an affront to the Lord! They are totally deceived by the lies of Satan, and by their own proud and rebellious hearts. While they claim to be bona fide Christians, they have not demonstrated any life changes which have turned them away from their sins, which are specifically spelled out for them in God's Word! Sadly, we were all warned almost two thousand years ago, that such destructive beliefs and anti-God false doctrines, would find their way into the Endtime Church. Again, looking to the writings of the Apostles Peter and Paul, we find the following words of warning:

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;"
1 Timothy 4:1, KJV

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:"
Ephesians 4:14-15, KJV

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein."
Hebrews 13:9, KJV

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of."
2 Peter 2:1-2, KJV

As a final shock for you, did you know that this is not the

first time that this demonic doctrine of "One can be a homosexual or a lesbian and still follow God" has invaded the world? Almost three thousand years ago, we find an example of the very same thing happening in ancient Israel! Did you know that one of the reasons that the Lord took the kingdom away from King Solomon's son, Rehoboam, is because the land was not only full of strange women who worshipped false gods, but it was also full of homosexuals as well? The very same things that caused the downfall of ancient Israel, are the very things that the Zionist Jews are now using to bring about the downfall of Christian America! They know why God judged them back then; they have the records; and that is why they are now encouraging and promoting the very same things in order to bring down the wrath of God upon America!

The first Book of the Kings clearly tells us that after King Solomon backslid from the Lord in his old age, and his son Rehoboam ascended to the throne, the land of Israel was full of homosexuals; just like backslidden America today! When Solomon backslid from the Lord, everyone backslid with him; both men and women!:

"And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel."
1 Kings 14:24, KJV

There it is as plain as day for all to see. The Jews know exactly why the Lord had their distant ancestors kick the heathen out of the land. He didn't want the Israelite males to take heathen wives, because He knew that it would pervert their seed, as well as their faith. As I point out more fully in such articles as "The Fruits Of Disobedience", the stubborn Jews eventually rebelled against the Lord and embraced many of the heathen, pagan, false gods; the worship of which was highly sexual in nature in many cases. Not only that, they sacrificed their very own children to the false blood-thirsty gods of the heathen:

"They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them: But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils, And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood. Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions."
Psalms 106:34-39, KJV

Despite this clear warning in God's Word, America today has become a multicultural society literally full of all kinds of pagan and demonic practices; including such sexual deviations as homosexuality and lesbianism. The seed of Christian America has been thoroughly polluted, just as the seed of ancient Israel was polluted; and today it is done under the guise of multiculturalism, respecting the rights and beliefs of others, globalism, etc. It is Satan's attempt to destroy the seed and the faith of the Saints through the old tactic of divide and conquer!

As we discover in the very next chapter of the first Book of

the Kings, it wasn't until the reign of King Asa, who was the great, great grandson of King David, that the sodomites, or homosexuals, were finally driven out of the land of Judah. What Asa started, was completed by his son, righteous King Jehoshaphat:

"And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father. And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made."

1 Kings 15:11-12, KJV

"And the remnant of the sodomites, which remained in the days of his father Asa, he took out of the land."

1 Kings 22:46, KJV

As the Scriptures clearly bear out, it was getting rid of the homosexuals which brought down the blessings of the Lord. Sadly, a few generations passed; and during that time, the homosexuals apparently snuck right back into Judah. In fact, as you will see by the following verse, they were blatantly living right in the middle of Jerusalem! Righteous King Josiah became so disgusted with them, that he kicked them out once again:

"And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove."

2 Kings 23:7, KJV

Can you believe that? Do you see where the houses of those homosexuals were located? As hard as it is to believe, they were so defiant of the God of Israel, that they were actually living right next to Solomon's Temple; right next to the very House of God itself; the most sacred place in all of the land of Israel! But do you know what? The sins of America today are even worse; because these people don't just live next to the house of God; they blatantly defy the Lord by opening up their very own gay and lesbian churches, where they preach that you can believe in God and Jesus, and still hold to your sinful lifestyle, in total contradiction to God's Holy Word! What an absolute abomination to the Lord!

Sadly, unlike these wise kings who tried to return their people to the fear of the Lord, instead of driving them out, stupid American politicians and misguided, deceived clergy pass laws and make decisions which only make the gays and the lesbians want to stay! These foolish, anti-God political and so-called spiritual leaders encourage, sanction and help to further stimulate these unhealthy lifestyles. They are making everything as comfortable and as easy as possible for the gay and the lesbian community! Exactly why do they do this? Aside from the fact that some of them are of these same sexual persuasions, it is because the gay and lesbian community is becoming a very powerful voter bloc; and in this day and age of big money and politics, that is more important than obeying God's Word and maintaining a high Christian standard!

All of those past kings of Judah who truly feared the Lord, knew that God does not like homosexuals; so what is wrong

with President Bill Clinton and the pro-homo politicians which form a part of his corrupt government? What is wrong with these United Methodist clergy, and any other clergy who might support these things? Whose agenda are they following? It certainly isn't the one of the God in whom I believe! They certainly are not receiving their instructions from the same Holy Book which I read every day!

In conclusion, while these people are dead in sin, just as we all are before we repent and come to Christ, if we truly have God's love burning in our hearts, we will try to help them if we can, and if they want us to. There must be a willingness on both sides. Of course, even though some of them may not be able to understand it, the very best way that we can show the Lord's love to the gay and lesbian community, is not by agreeing with the lifestyle they have chosen; it is not by passing laws which will encourage them to continue in their deviant sexual practices; it is not by blessing their relationships in our churches; but rather it is by telling them the Truth; no matter how hard it may be for them to hear it, or for us to speak it. As James wrote in his Epistle:

"Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."
James 5:19-20, KJV

Of course, if we feel called to try to reach the gay and lesbian community, we must make sure that we do it in the right spirit; that is, with the right attitude. If we try to do it with a self-righteous condescending attitude, this will not work. We will only drive them further from us. On the other hand, if we keep in mind that we are all sinners saved only by the grace of God, we will do much better. We all have our personal sins and weaknesses. For some people, such as the gay and lesbian community, it is sins of the flesh; for others it is less visible sins such as pride and self-righteous; but we are all sinners; and that should keep us humble if we are being honest with ourselves:

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."
1 John 1:8-10, KJV

While we must be loving in our approach, and let them know that God also loves them, and that He doesn't wish that any should perish, at the same time, we must be firm with them, and make sure that they realize that the Lord does not approve of their lifestyle. We must make sure that they understand that if they choose to reject the Lord's counsel according to His Word, that He will hold them accountable for their actions; and that they will have a serious price to pay if they continue in their state of rebellion. Consider the following verses:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not

willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

2 Peter 3:9, KJV

"What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?"

1 Corinthians 4:21, KJV

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Romans 14:12, KJV

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

2 Corinthians 5:10, KJV

"Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead."

1 Peter 4:5, KJV

So again, despite the fact that we may be viewed as being self-righteous, or perhaps close-minded, or maybe even as old-fashioned religionists who are out of step with the times by some of those whom we are trying to help, we must be honest with the gay and lesbian community, and tell them that what they are doing is wrong. We must speak to them with the conviction of God's Spirit, knowing that we have God's Word as our foundation of Truth. We must tell them that they are deceived, and that they are doing things which are clearly against God's natural plan for the men and women of this Earth. As some Christians have stated, God created Adam and Eve, and not Adam and Steve.

At the same time, we must be honest with ourselves, and realize that some of the gays and lesbians, many of them in fact, do not have the slightest intentions of coming to repentance. They are so deceived, that they think that God will accept them just as they are; in total contradiction to His laws of human conduct. They see absolutely nothing wrong with their current lifestyle. As the Apostle Paul wrote concerning the Jews of old who rejected the message of Salvation, such people are spiritually blind and hardened of heart:

"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:"

Ephesians 4:18, KJV

If we are faithful to speak the Truth and the whole counsel of the Lord, we must expect that we will make enemies, as some Christians have already discovered. As I pointed out in part one of this series, the Word of God is like a powerful dividing sword. It cuts people to the heart and shows them the error of their ways; and it also divides the sheep from the goats; even when those sheep and goats are within the same household! The Lord said so Himself. Just as Jesus and His Disciples had enemies, we also will have enemies if we speak the Truth. We will become unpopular. In fact, as the Lord prophesied, the day is coming when we will be hated by all men; and that day is fast approaching as the dark cloud

of sin and rebellion against God continues to cover the Earth:

"Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword."
Matthew 10:34, KJV

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
Hebrews 4:12, KJV

"For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household."
Matthew 10:35-36, KJV

"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?"
Galatians 4:16, KJV.

"And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."
Mark 13:13, KJV

"Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me."
John 15:20-21, KJV

If you are interested in a more in-depth look at Christian persecution in the Endtime, I encourage you to read the article "Civil Disobedience and Christian Persecution". The point is, whether they will hear, or whether they will forebear, by telling them the Truth, we will have delivered our souls to them. This is precisely what the Lord told the Prophet Ezekiel who He raised up to witness to his Jewish brethren during the Babylonian captivity. The Lord said to Ezekiel:

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul."
Ezekiel 3:17-19, KJV

So exactly what are we supposed to do when the gay and lesbian community, or anyone else for that matter, chooses to reject our message? As I point in out in the series "Love, Mercy, Forgiveness and Chastisement", in such cases when our brethren reject the Truth of God's Word, all we can

do is disassociate ourselves from them, and commit them into the Lord's Hands; possibly for the destruction of the flesh that the spirit might be saved. We are clearly told not to have fellowship with the works of darkness, or with those who perform them. We are to distance ourselves from those who preach a false gospel. Consider the words of our Lord, as well as those of the Apostles John and Paul:

"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican."
Matthew 18:15-17, KJV

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"
2 Corinthians 6:14, KJV

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."
Galatians 1:8-9, KJV

"If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds."
2 John 1:10-11, KJV

"To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."
1 Corinthians 5:5, KJV

If this is how the Lord and His followers taught us to react to our own brethren who error from the Gospel and refuse correction, how much worse will it be for those children of the world who refuse to accept the Lord, and who continue in the error of their sinful ways, such as the gay and lesbian community? As I shared earlier in this series, the Apostle Peter wrote:

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"
1 Peter 4:17-18, KJV

Of course, Peter's question is rhetorical in nature, for he knows full well what awaits those who do not repent of their wicked ways. As both he and the Apostle Paul state in other Epistles:

"But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same

word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men . . . But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?"
2 Peter 3:7, 10-12, KJV

"But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."
1 Thessalonians 5:1-3, KJV

"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries . . . It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God . . . For our God is a consuming fire."
Hebrews 10:26-27, 31, 12:29, KJV

Obviously, Peter and Paul are speaking of the very same event, and the very same fiery judgment of ungodly men. You will notice that they both employ the use of the phrase "as a thief in the night" which our Lord used Himself in some of His sermons. In light of these things, how does Peter tell us that we should react to such truths? In his closing remarks found in his second Epistle, he states:

"Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."
2 Peter 3:14, KJV

This presents a very serious question for all of us, doesn't it? However, due to the specific theme of this particular article, allow me to ask you: If you are a homosexual or a lesbian, particularly one who claims to believe in God's Holy Word which clearly exposes your sin, can you honestly say that you will be found without spot and blameless in the Day of the Lord? Have you truly allowed the Lord's Blood, Spirit and Word to wash you clean of your sins of the flesh? Have you truly allowed Him to purify you so that your sins are as white as snow? Or will you be found to be, as Peter wrote, a spot in the Lord's Feast, the Marriage Supper of the Lamb? Will you be cast out like the man who hadn't put on a clean wedding garment, but who instead clung to his old ways, and refused to truly become a new creature in Christ Jesus? Consider these very sobering verses:

"And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

(For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) . . . But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray . . . These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."
2 Peter 2:6-8, 12-15a, 17-19, KJV

These are very sober words indeed from the Apostle Peter. In conclusion, the choice is really up to you. Only you can decide to truly submit to God's Spirit in your life. He can help you. He is willing to help you; for as Paul also wrote:

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."
1 Corinthians 10:13, KJV

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."
Philippians 4:13, KJV

I truly pray that you will make the right choice. I pray that this series has been a blessing and a help to many, despite its very sober nature, or perhaps because of it.

Written by the WordWeaver

webmaster@endtimeprophecy.net
<http://www.endtimeprophecy.net>