

# Parables Bookshelf - Series 1.17.9

This Parables Bookshelf Newsletter concludes the book *Push Back*.

This present book series has been written to promote truth and understanding of homosexual behavior. Satan and his human servants are pushing this physically, spiritually, and morally unhealthy lifestyle upon men and women because they hate both God and man. If they truly had Yahweh's honor and the welfare of individuals in mind, they would not push upon humanity a form of behavior that leads to greatly increased rates of disease, sickness, mental illness, and premature death.

The great deceit of Satan is that he would charac-

terize those who speak the truth regarding the unhealthy and immoral nature of homosexuality as those who are "haters." He would silence these individuals whose very words could bring great benefit to those who listen to their message.

As you have read this book, it has likely surprised you to learn that so much of the message promoting the gay agenda is predicated on lies and deception. The Son of God declared that Satan "is a liar and the father of lies." Wherever we find that lies are flowing, we can be assured that Satan is nearby.

By contrast, one of the

names given to the Son of God in the Bible is "The Truth."

John 14:6

Yahshua said to him, "I am the way, and *the truth*, and the life..."

Whereas Satan's lies lead to death, the truth of Christ leads to life. This book has spoken God's truth to mankind. Those who receive the truth and begin to act in accordance with the truth can pass from death to life.

John 8:31-32

Yahshua said..., "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

## Food for Thought

"If Jesus preached the same message minister's preach today, He would have never been crucified."

#### Leonard Ravenhill

"To have a right to do a thing is not at all the same as to be right in doing it."

G.K. Chesterton

### **Scripture Memory**

#### Galatians 1:6-7

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

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#### **Push Back - Part Seventeen**



Joseph Herrin (09-10-2013)

#### Jude 22-23

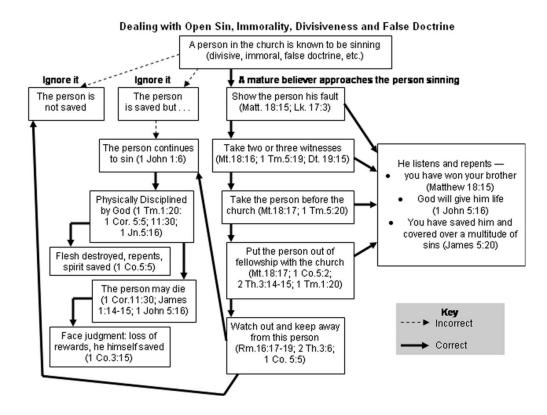
And refute so as to convict some who dispute with you, and on some have mercy who waver and doubt. Strive to save others, snatching them out of the fire; on others take pity but with fear, loathing even the garment spotted by the flesh and polluted by their sensuality.

#### [Amplified Bible]

Numerous readers have written to inquire about how Yahweh would have them relate to people involved in homosexual behavior. Encounters with homosexuals are becoming more common. Some Christians find themselves working with homosexuals at their place of employment. Some have family members that are homosexuals. Increasingly, believers are encountering other professing Christians who say homosexuality is acceptable. Is there a difference in the manner in which believers should relate to Christians and non-Christians who are engaging in, or supportive of, homosexual relationships? The Scriptures provide clear counsel on the matter.

#### I Corinthians 5:9-13

I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world. But actually, I wrote to



you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler-not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? But those who are outside, God judges. Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.

The passage of Scripture above reveals that there is a difference in how Christians are to interact with immoral people (which includes those engaged in homosexuality) in the church, and outside of the church. Christians ARE instructed to judge the evil in their midst. Christ laid out clear instructions on how church discipline is to be carried out.

#### Matthew 18:15-17

"If your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer."

#### **Diagram of Church Discipline**

(Note that the dashed line indicates an incorrect response. The solid line, a godly response.)

The expression, "let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer" parallels Paul's counsel to not associate with immoral brethren, and to not even eat with them. The church has fallen into profound error as they have failed to "rightly divide" the word of God. A significant number within the body of Christ focus on a limited number of Scriptures that warn Christians against judging others. Verses such

as the following are repeated ad infinitum.

#### Matthew 7:1-5

"Do not judge lest you be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye."

Contrary to many people's belief, this passage is NOT telling Christ's disciples to forego judging. It is a warning against hypocritical judgment. Yahshua is warning men and women that they cannot judge others by a strict and unforgiving standard, and judge themselves by a more lenient measure. This matter is clarified in other passages.

#### Matthew 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

#### James 2:13

For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

Christians are repeatedly enjoined to demonstrate humility in their interactions with others. If we recognize that "all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God," and that "we all stumble in many ways," then we should manifest patience and mercy when we observe others sinning. This does not imply that Christians should tolerate sinful behavior in others, nor make peace with it. Rather, the Chris-

tian should always be mindful that when they stand before the throne of judgment they will desire for God to demonstrate mercy to them. Therefore, they should leave room for repentance, and restoration of fellowship, for their brothers and sisters who stumble in sin.

Throughout the New Testament there are just as many admonitions instructing Christians to exercise judgment, as there are cautions about judging others. It is the responsibility of believers to consider the whole counsel of God that they might arrive at the mind of Christ on this matter. I have for many years had a writing posted that seeks to obtain balance, and bring forth understanding, from the many diverse Bible passages that speak about judging. I encourage those who wish to discern this matter to study this writing.

#### The Issue of Judging

http://www.heart4god.ws/H4G%20Website\_htm\_files/The%20Issue%20of%20Judging.pdf

Both Christ and the apostle Paul make it clear that if a professing believer is engaged in immoral behavior, those who are spiritual are to confront the sinner with the intent to restore them to the path of life.

#### Galatians 6:1

Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted.

The heart of this matter is well summarized in the commandment to "speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15). As Christians we cannot choose love over truth, nor choose truth over love. The Bible NEVER sets truth and love in contradiction to

one another. It is a deceit of Satan that the world, and a growing number in the church, are acting as if truth and love are mutually exclusive of one another. Truth and Love are both manifestations of Yahweh's character. A world that has truth, but no love, would be unbearably harsh. A world that has love, but no truth, would devolve into chaos, corruption, and unrepentant degeneracy.

The greater trend among Christianity today is to embrace love while eschewing truth. This is manifested in the "do not judge" mentality demonstrated by so many. Such believers are essentially advocating the abandonment of truth. Those who would say that a Christian has no right to judge men and women engaged in homosexual behavior, are denying the truth. Yahweh has declared such behavior to be unnatural, immoral, and that those who do such things are worthy of death (Romans 1:26-32).

Knowing that God has testified in His word that those who participate in homosexual behavior will not inherit the kingdom of God (I Corinthians 6:9-10), it is neither truthful, nor loving, to refuse to warn those who transgress in this area of the consequences of their actions. The Christian who by their words and actions leads the homosexual to believe that God will wink at their sin, and who infers that there will be no negative consequences of this immoral behavior, is behaving in a false manner. Yahweh will hold them accountable if in an attempt to "get along" they refuse to be light and salt in the midst of a dark and decaying world.

One of the ways that Christians lead others to conclude that Yahweh tolerates homosexual behavior, is by continuing in fellowship with Christians who are engaged in this immoral lifestyle. Some believers have family members who profess to be Christians who are known to be involved in immoral behavior. Neither Christ nor the apostle Paul makes any distinction between a family member who

claims to be a believer, or a non-family member. The requisite response is the same. Let them be as a tax-gatherer or a Gentile. Do not associate with them. Do not even eat with them.



Some in reading this will argue that this seems unreasonably harsh, especially if the transgressor is a son or daughter. What would truly be harsh is for the child to remain unrepentant all their life and suffer the judgment of God. By refusing to fellowship with the sinner, the intent is to make known to them the seriousness of their transgression. It is to lead them to repentance. Those who put familial bonds above obedience to God are transgressing against the instructions of Yahweh and His Christ.

#### Luke 14:26

"If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple."

Some have described the type of love demanded by God as "tough love." We should bear in mind that the love of God did not supercede His righteous judgment even when it came to His own Son. There was no shortcut to obtaining salvation for mankind, and atonement for humanity's sin. The Son of God had to pay the penalty of sin for mankind on the cross. Sin is a *deadly* serious matter.

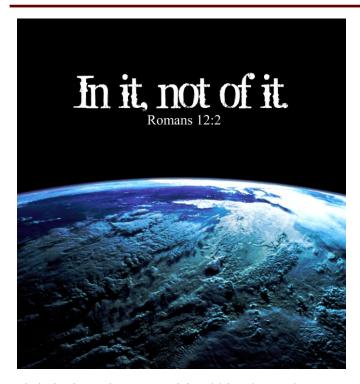
What are Christian parents communicating to their children when they observe their children living an immoral lifestyle, yet they continue to fellowship with them, and to break bread with them? The message that is conveyed is that sin is no big deal. The fear of God is diminished in the eyes of the child, and this makes their eventual repentance and restoration to God all the more unlikely.

What if the child is not a professing Christian, but the parents are? Is the situation different? To answer the question, one needs to understand the role of authority. Authority is granted by God to uphold His government. Thus, we find in the Old Testament that parents were required to demand moral behavior of their children, or subject them to discipline.

#### Deuteronomy 21:18-21

"If any man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father or his mother, and when they chastise him, he will not even listen to them, then his father and mother shall seize him, and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gateway of his home town. And they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey us, he is a glutton and a drunkard.' Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death; so you shall remove the evil from your midst, and all Israel shall hear of it and fear."

The Law of Moses existed in an environment where the judgments of God were able to be carried out on a national level. Israel's form of government was a theocracy (God rule). Later it became a monarchy, which is why Yahweh told Samuel that the people were not rejecting the prophet by demanding a king, they were rejecting God as their ruler.



Christianity exists as a spiritual kingdom. The pattern is "first the natural, then the spiritual." Yahshua stated that His kingdom was not of this world. Christianity, therefore, is not involved with the rule of any nation upon the earth today. It cannot carry out judgment on the citizens of a nation as Israel's leaders were required to do in the Old Testament. This is affirmed in Paul's words to the believers in Corinth. "For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? But those who are outside, God judges."

The church has authority over its members. It is charged with carrying out church discipline. Capital punishment in the church is excommunication. An immoral person may be restricted from further fellowship with the saints. The church does not carry out physical punishment as do the governments of the nations, but they are charged with carrying out spiritual discipline.

Parents are also given authority within the sphere

of responsibility entrusted to them. They are to maintain Yahweh's governmental order in the home. Therefore, if a child is living an immoral life, it is the parents' responsibility to reprove the child. If the child refuses to repent, the parents must discipline the child.

#### Hebrews 12:9-11

Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

The age of the child does alter the nature of the discipline. It would be impractical for parents to excommunicate a rebellious child who is not old enough to be self-supporting. Yet, if the child is of age, and he is rebellious, or he lives an unruly, immoral life, the parents should treat the son or daughter the same as the church would treat an unrepentant sinner in their midst. They should break off fellowship, and not even eat a meal with the rebellious child. The parents must uphold the government of God. The apostle Paul asks the question, "For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?" (Hebrews 12:7).

When parents continue to let a rebellious, unruly, or immoral child live under their roof, they are neglecting to discipline the child as is their duty. If they are giving the immoral son or daughter financial, or other means of support, allowing them to share the family's food, and participate in the fellowship of the family, they have abdicated their role of discipline. There are numerous examples in the Scriptures where parents refused to discipline their children, and the consequences for both par-

ents and children were tragic. The priest Eli and his wicked sons, and King David and his sons Amnon and Absalom, are but two examples of a failure to discipline sons and the devastation that resulted in the families.

Christian parents should not think that because they are in an age of grace that there is any less of a need to reprove and discipline their children. As the apostle Paul stated, "Shall we continue in sin that grace might increase?" Will the grace of God render the immoral lifestyle of a child acceptable in Yahweh's sight? Absolutely not! Yahweh's counsel to a church under grace is the same as to the family under grace. "Remove the wicked man from among yourselves."

Again, this discipline is intended to lead the transgressor to repentance. There is a hope that the church member, or son or daughter, who is in this way disciplined, might be ashamed, repent of their behavior, and return to fellowship with those who are spiritual, and return to fellowship with God. Paul stated that "All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness." Producing righteousness is the goal of God's discipline, and it should be the goal of the Christian's discipline as well. We must not neglect to carry out discipline because it is sorrowful.

In all areas of the Christian life it is necessary to be led of the Holy Spirit. This certainly applies to the realm of discipline. Believer's need to seek the mind of Christ to know how to apply correction. They need to speak and act according to the leading of the Spirit. The Spirit will direct the saints to speak truth and to manifest love for the offender, seeking their ultimate welfare while keeping honor and obedience to Yahweh uppermost.

When dealing with those outside the church, and outside of one's family, the situation is greatly al-

tered. The apostle Paul writes:

#### I Corinthians 5:9-10

I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world.

Christians live in the midst of a dark and immoral world. Apart from moving to the wilderness, or adopting a monastic life, it would be impossible to not have any association with immoral people. Yahweh has not called His people to come out of the world. He intends for them to remain as salt and light in the midst of a world that needs both. Christ was criticized by the Jewish religious leaders because He associated with prostitutes, drunkards, and tax collectors, all of whom were regarded as immoral. In reply He stated:

#### Matthew 9:12-13

"It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means, 'I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."



Yahshua and Prostitute

Luke 5:31 adds the word "repentance" to the phrase above. Yahshua came to call sinners to repentance. This should be our goal as disciples of Christ. Yahweh desires compassion upon the lost masses of this world. Yahshua came to seek and to save that which was lost. His goal is redemption, the reconciliation of God and man.

The members of Westboro Baptist Church are not manifesting compassion. Their approach lacks humility. They have no consciousness of their own need of God's great mercy, though they too are sinners.



### Westboro Baptist Church Protest

The signs carried by this professing Christian do not accurately reflect the mind of God. Yahweh does not laugh when homosexuals die. The prophet Ezekiel wrote:

#### Ezekiel 18:30-32

"Repent and turn away from all your transgressions, so that iniquity may not become a stumbling block to you. Cast away from you all your transgressions which you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! For why will you die...? For I have no pleasure in the death of *anyone* who dies," declares Yahweh God.

"Therefore, repent and live."

Yahweh desires that men might live. The wages of sin is death. Therefore Yahweh exhorts men and women to turn away from their sins that they might experience life. Christ said, "I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly." The apostle Paul describes Christians as divine ambassadors, kingdom representatives, of Yahweh.

#### II Corinthians 5:20

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Consider these words for a moment. "We beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." To declare such a message it is first necessary to disclose to people that they are estranged from God. Christians must tell those God sends their way that sin has separated them from God. These words of Paul also express compassion, and a sincere concern, for those who are separated from Yahweh. It is unseemly for a Christian to go about reviling, and casting insults, at those who are living sinful lives. It is not necessary to revile in order to speak the truth about sin, righteousness, and judgment.

It may seem contradictory that Christ would eat with sinners, yet He would tell His disciples to treat their own brethren as a tax collector or Gentile, refusing to fellowship with them, if they were living an immoral life, but there is a sound reason for this. Those who have been given much are held to a stricter judgment. To be given the light of truth, and to reject it is a serious matter.

As Christians we are to proclaim the kingdom of God to others. Yet, if those who hear our words resist the truth we are to move one. The apostle

Paul demonstrated this in his ministry.

#### Acts 13:44-46

And the next Sabbath nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy, and began contradicting the things spoken by Paul, and were blaspheming. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.

Yahweh has said that He will not strive with men forever. As Christians we must be sensitive to the opportunities around us, remaining sensitive to the guidance of the Spirit to know when to speak, and to whom. He will provide us opportunities. We must impress upon people the urgency of the matter. Yahweh will not continually draw a man or woman to Himself. If they repeatedly harden their heart they may miss their opportunity for repentance.

#### Luke 13:6-9

He also spoke this parable: "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?' But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.'"

One thing I would share before closing this chapter is that there are far more homosexuals turning away from their sin than the government or media would lead people to believe. The myth has been propagated that it is impossible, or at least exceptionally rare, for a homosexual to turn away from same sex attraction. It is important to mention the falsehood of such a belief because many Christians are daunted at the prospect of witnessing to homosexuals since they have been told repeatedly that homosexuals cannot change. Similarly, those who have embraced the homosexual lifestyle may lack confidence that they can change because they have been told repeatedly by the government and media that same sex attraction is established at birth and it is immutable

The recent bills passed in California and New Jersey forbidding sexual orientation change efforts by licensed counselors, efforts whose aim is to return homosexuals to a straight orientation, provide evidence of how widely the false belief that homosexuals cannot change have spread. According to a study conducted on a large population and published in 2007 by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, ex-gays actually outnumber gays in society.

In conclusion, I encourage you to not be dismayed at the task of witnessing to the truth that in Christ is found the power to transform men's lives. Christ came to set the captives free. Those whom the Son sets free are free indeed.

Satan is a liar. It is time for Christians to Push Back against the lies and deceit of the adversary. Truth is on the side of the disciples of Christ, and "Greater is He who is in us, than he who is in the world."

May you be blessed with peace and understanding in these days.

#### Push Back - Addendum

Joseph Herrin (09-13-2013)

There are many questions and related issues that come to mind as people consider the Biblical view of homosexuality. Some of these questions are raised with a sincere desire to understand the truth. There are also many insincere questions/objections raised in opposition to the Biblical teaching on homosexuality. They are insincere because the people raising the questions are not searching for truth, nor are they desiring to arrive at the mind of Christ. Rather, they are biased, having an agenda that they are defending. This was observed when, during the recent elections in Australia, the Prime Minister seeking re-election stated that the Bible could not serve as a guide for social issues since it also endorsed slavery.

In the video below, taken from a broadcast on Australian television, you will see twitter messages appearing on the screen. One mentions that the Bible also forbids the eating of shellfish. The intent of such statements is to cast the Bible into disrepute so that it will appear ridiculous for anyone to suggest that the Holy Scriptures have relevance to today's social issues.

http://youtu.be/TzV1r5SCc8U

This is a form of argument that many have embraced in an attempt to discredit the Biblical teaching on homosexuality. Some individuals point to issues in the Bible that are regarded as cruel, unjust, or socially unacceptable, and use these examples to call into question the Bible's teachings on homosexuality. Some point to the prohibition in the Law of Moses against eating shellfish, or wearing clothes made out of two types of material, or eating pork, or stoning to death a rebellious son, etc., to declare that Christians are not following these laws

today. They follow this up by asking why the prohibition against homosexual relationships should be any different. They would accuse Christians of arbitrarily choosing which Old Testament laws they want to adhere unto.

A common aspect of these questions/objections is that they demonstrate a failure to "rightly divide the word of God." Those who use such arguments are not seeking truth, nor do they care whether they are accurately representing the views of Yahweh, or the teachings of the Bible.

These objections become a problem when the Christians who are confronted with them do not know the Scriptures well enough to give a defense of the truth. Christians are easily tripped up by these objections. In the case of Kevin Rudd, the former Prime Minister of Australia (who lost the recent election), this man professes to be a Christian. His profession of faith is akin to Barack Obama's statement that he is a Christian and a man of faith. Yahshua said you would know men by their fruit. Promoting homosexuality, a lifestyle that leads to sickness, death, depression, and rebellion against God, is rotten fruit.

None of the objections raised by those advocating on behalf of homosexual normalization are unanswerable. Some issues take considerable reflection to understand aright, and may require revelation from the Father, but He has promised to give liberally to all who ask Him for wisdom (James 1:5).

How would you answer the objection that the Bible treats slavery as a normal social condition? Do you understand why God does not forbid slavery in His word? Several years ago I wrote an article titled *Why the Bible Does NOT Condemn Slavery*. I recommend it to those who are unable to answer the question.

For those who cannot answer other objections, such as why Christians condemn homosexuality, but may choose to eat shellfish which the Law forbids, I refer you to the book titled *Laying Down the Law*.

Because the Bible is very clear in its condemnation of homosexuality, those who are promoting, or engaged in, this sinful lifestyle must find a way to discredit the Scriptures. A wide array of arguments have been set forth. Can you give a defense of the Scriptures, or a defense of God? Some may suggest that God can defend Himself, and that a Christian need not do so. Certainly He can do so. Nevertheless, God has appointed believers to be Christ's ambassadors, representing the kingdom of God to a dark and sinful world. It behooves the saints to gain a mastery of the Scriptures, and to arrive at a mature understanding of the doctrines of the faith.

The apostle Paul stated that a man cannot be appointed as an overseer in the church unless he is able to refute those who oppose the truth.

#### Titus 1:7-11

For the overseer must... be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict. For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, who must be silenced...

The Bible provides numerous examples of Christians who argued skillfully from the Scriptures. Among them were men like Stephen, and Apollos.

#### Acts 6:8-10

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people. But some men from what was called the Synagogue of the Freedmen, including both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, rose

up and argued with Stephen. And yet they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.

#### Acts 18:24-28

Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Yahshua... and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he helped greatly those who had believed through grace; for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Yahshua was the Christ.

It is not just church leaders who are called to give a defense of the truths of God's kingdom. All Christians should apply themselves to growing in the knowledge of God's word, using it skillfully to give a defense of the kingdom of God.

#### I Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you...

If you encounter an argument from those who oppose God and His word, what do you do? Do you shrug off the matter and forget about it? Do you glibly reply that some things simply have to be taken on faith? Do you concede with the enemies of righteousness that the Bible is a deeply flawed book? Or do you follow the advice that the apostle Paul spoke to Timothy?

#### II Timothy 2:15

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Could your study of God's word be described as "diligent"? Or are you a slacker? People of God, in this hour of great apostasy and growing darkness in the world, there is no room for complacency. If you do not push back against the darkness, you will be overcome by it. The weapons of a Christian's warfare are not carnal. The apostle Paul describes "the word of God" and "prayer" as being the chief offensive weapons of a believer.

#### Ephesians 6:17-18

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit.

A man cannot be handed a sword and expect that he will automatically be a master of its use. The same is true when it comes to developing skill in one's use of the Scriptures. People are not born skillful in the scriptures. They become that way as they exercise discipline, patience, and a zealous pursuit of the truth. Gaining a mastery of God's word is no different than gaining mastery in some natural endeavor, such as sport. Some people may have a greater inherent ability, but without discipline, training, and focus upon a goal, all the ability in the world will prove vain.

The Christian has the distinct advantage of having God, the all-wise, all-powerful Creator of the universe, on their side. Those who come to God, earnestly entreating Him to instruct them in truth and to help them gain skill in their mastery of His word, will not be turned away. James scolded the church, saying, "You have not because you ask not." When was the last time you asked Yahweh to help you

gain a mastery of His word? If you ask, He will answer. The Scriptures state:

#### John 6:45

"It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught of God."

#### I John 2:27

And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.

#### I Corinthians 2:12-13

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

#### John 14:26

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

If you lack understanding; if you are unable to give a defense of God's truths, you need not remain ignorant and unskilled. You are constrained only by your own desires. Those who love the truth, and pursue it, will find it.

Page 12 PARABLES NEWSLETTER

#### **Legislating Anarchy**

Joseph Herrin (06-29-2015)



**Supreme Court Anarchy** 

Isaiah 5:20, 24

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!... Therefore, as a flame of fire consumes stubble, and dry grass collapses into the flame, so their root will become like rot and their blossom blow away as dust; For they have rejected the law of Yahweh of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

**Anarchy:** a state of disorder due to absence or non-recognition of authority. Absolute freedom of the individual, regarded as a political ideal.

On Friday June 26, 2015, the United States Supreme Court issued a ruling making homosexual marriage legal in all 50 states. Many Christians are expressing the conviction that a line has been crossed which will open the floodgates to unrestrained immorality, lawlessness, and debauchery. Many are also concerned that this ruling, being an act of defiance before God, will call forth the Creator's swift and terrible judgment. I concur with these sentiments.

The main focus of this post will be upon a consequence of this ruling that is unlikely to be addressed by very many others. The intent of this writing is to draw your attention to consider how this ruling fits into recent signs and events which point to an unleashing of the beast nature and the rise of anarchy in the streets of America. Despite the flowery words and paeans of praise that have been spoken extolling the ways this ruling will benefit society and make America "a more perfect union," what the U.S. Supreme Court actually accomplished in this act of judicial malfeasance was to legislate anarchy. They are inviting chaos into the cities and towns of America. The seeds were sown long ago for America's moral collapse, but this single act has greatly accelerated the process. The awful fruit of this deed will not delay as the nation descends to the depths manifested by other debauched societies such as Sodom and Gomorrah, Gibeah of Benjamin, and Herculaneum and Pompeii of the Romans.

On May 6, 1991, David Wilkerson, a prophetic voice proclaiming the words of Yahweh to America, posted a writing titled *The Ominous Rise of Homosexual Power*. In that prophetic utterance this man of God sounded the following warning.



I want to tell you about a certain society - one that cast God aside and consequently sunk into a pit of gross darkness. Despising the Light, this society became a magnet for every kind of evil spirit. Law and order collapsed; every man was a law unto himself. The entire society was abandoned to the devil, and no moral force remained to hinder its headlong rush into hell.

There was no honor, decency or self-respect left among them, no reverence for life whatsoever. Justice and kindness faded away, and the people were overcome with lust and licentiousness. They sneered at virtue, their consciences seared and callused. They scoffed at the fear of God and mocked righteousness.

They became totally inhospitable, <u>possessing the</u> <u>heart and indifference of a beast</u>. They had no pity for the poor. All spiritual desire was extinguished, and gross materialism and fleshly lusts became their gods. The people became totally shockproof, so that the vilest, bloodiest crimes were accepted as normal behavior.

I am actually describing two societies here: Sodom and America. We know of Sodom's terrible end - and Scripture shows us that America is fast becoming another Sodom!

Homosexual Sodomites came out of their closet and became activists, casting a demonic spell over a whole generation of men and boys. They grew politically powerful, controlling everything. Sodom became the world's gay capital, a society so vile, wicked and crazed with violence that its sins thundered throughout the heavens, filling God's holy environment with a hellish cry.

God dispatched two angels to Sodom, and it seemed even they were shocked by the utter degra-

dation and wickedness they saw. <u>The society</u> <u>mocked marriage</u> and left children abandoned, scared and confused. (How could any society ruled by a homosexual spirit not witness the destruction of decent family life?)

No visiting male was safe in Sodom. Roving gangs of homosexuals freely cruised the streets and alleys, looking for rape victims. And no one dared stop them - no politician, no police officer, no uprising of enraged parents...

The roving gay crowd of Sodom heard that two handsome men were visiting Lot's house. Within hours, they had surrounded the place, trying to knock down the doors to gang-rape the visiting angels... Nobody raised a voice against what was happening. It had become a society full of lust-driven men!

The angels struck these men blind - yet in their blindness, they still groped for the door to pursue their raging lusts (Genesis 19:11). If angels can weep, those two most certainly wept over the sad sight of these men, made in God's image, who had sunk to the level of groveling beasts. These deprayed men were ready to kill to satiate their demonic lust...

Scripture says these homosexuals were not an isolated minority, but the majority (Genesis 19:1, 14). Did God overlook their sins? Did He put off their day of reckoning? How long did God wait, once this raging homosexual spirit became so bold and brazen it would trample what was holy?

The Flash Point for the Judgment of God Comes the Very Hour a Homosexual Spirit Rises Up and Attacks What is Divine and Holy.

[End Excerpt]

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#### Sodom/America

Friday, the highest officials in America, attacked that which is both divine and holy. It was Yahweh who established marriage to be the holy union between a man and a woman

#### Genesis 2:18-25

Then Yahweh God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him..." So Yahweh God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh at that place. And Yahweh God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. And the man said, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh

Yahweh created human beings to be sexual creatures. He made them male and female. From the beginning, Yahweh created all living creatures male and female that they might fulfill the commandment to "be fruitful and multiply." It is a physical impossibility for two males, or two fe-

males, to enter into sexual union and bear offspring. Such an idea defies both nature and the God of creation. The marriage union between a man and a woman was not only divinely appointed, it was clothed in the pure array of holiness.

#### Hebrews 13:4

Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled...

Twenty-three years ago Yahweh spoke through his prophet declaring, "The Flash Point for the Judgment of God Comes the Very Hour a Homosexual Spirit Rises Up and Attacks What is Divine and Holy." David Wilkerson likely did not foresee how these words which he spoke would be fulfilled. I do not believe he foresaw that two decades later the Supreme Court of the United States, and the President sitting in the Rainbow Pride House, would one day be announcing to the nation that holy matrimony has been cast into the sewer, trampled by the beastly passion of wicked men and women, and that homosexual relationships would be accorded the same honor as the divinely sanctioned union of a man and a woman.

The Supreme Court justices ruled that what God calls evil is now good. The marriage of a man and a woman is the most basic element of human society. The union of a man and woman into "one flesh" is established by the commandment of Yahweh. Yahweh not only told mankind what was acceptable in the realm of sexual behavior, He also proscribed that which was forbidden. It was good that a man and woman should be married. It was forbidden for men to have sexual relations with other men, and for women to engage in sexual acts with other women.

#### Leviticus 18:22-25

"You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination... Do not defile yourselves by any of these things; for by all these the nations which I am casting out before you have become defiled. For the land has become defiled, therefore I have visited its punishment upon it, so the land has spewed out its inhabitants."

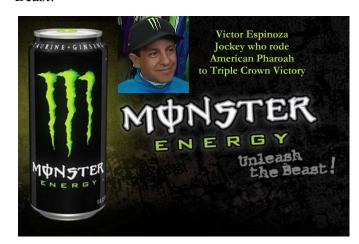
Brothers and sisters, although these words of God were spoken to Abraham's descendants, they applied equally to all mankind. The nations of the land of Canaan whom Yahweh judged were not descendants of Abraham. Nevertheless, they were judged for committing abominations. In the language of the Bible, we are told that the land "vomited them out." The moral perversions of the people defiled the entire land resulting in the land's sickness. Even as the human body will seek to purge itself of that which is making it sick, so too did the land purge itself of those who were defiling it

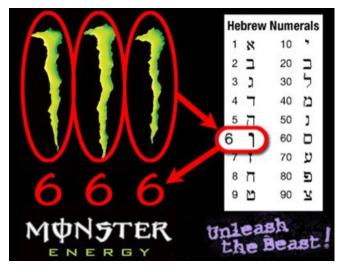
#### Leviticus 18:26-29

"But as for you, you are to keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not do any of these abominations, neither the native, nor the alien who sojourns among you (for the men of the land who have been before you have done all these abominations, and the land has become defiled); so that the land may not spew you out, should you defile it, as it has spewed out the nation which has been before you. For whoever does any of these abominations, those persons who do so shall be cut off from among their people."

David Wilkerson described what he saw coming to America. He described a nation in which "law and order collapsed." Speaking of Sodom/America, he described a land in which "The entire society was abandoned to the devil, and no moral force re-

mained to hinder its headlong rush into hell." Brothers and sisters, signs have recently been given of America of the beast nature being unleashed in America. A Monster Energy will empower the people to commit abominations. The horse named American Pharoah was unsurpassed in its swiftness. It symbolizes America's rapid decline into moral degeneracy. During the Belmont Stakes, the last race of the Triple Crown, the horse received an unusual, yet highly symbolic sponsorship, as Monster Energy signed a major endorsement contract with the owner. Monster Energy's logo is a 666 symbol, and their company slogan is "Unleash the Beast!"





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By striking down every state law forbidding or restricting homosexual marriage, the U.S. Supreme Court has "Unleashed the Beast!" They have removed that which restrained the most wicked and perverted passions of mankind. The floodgates have been thrown wide open. Now the beast nature will be loosed to roam freely through the towns and cities of America.

Mankind is informed by their conscience that male/male and female/female sexual relations are morally wrong and a deviation from the natural order of creation. Those who engage in homosexual behavior are consequently beset with thoughts of guilt and depression. One antidote against this emotional darkness and mental torment is to embrace an attitude of moral defiance, searing one's conscience so that the nagging thoughts of moral transgression are silenced. This is the path that an ever increasing number of individuals are choosing. By embracing sexual anarchy, the individual also adopts the much wider realm of moral anarchy, for ultimately their rebellion and rejection of moral righteousness is aimed at God. The apostle Paul in his letter to the saints in Rome reveals that an entire raft of sinful behavior attaches itself to the sexual anarchy of homosexuality.

#### Romans 1:24-32

Therefore God also gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to uncleanness, that their bodies should be dishonored among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason, God gave them up to vile passions. For their women changed the natural function into that which is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural function of the woman, burned in their lust toward one another, men doing what is inappropriate with men, and receiving in themselves the due penalty of their error. Even as they refused to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them up to a reprobate mind, to

do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil habits, secret slanderers, backbiters, hateful to God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but also approve of those who practice them.

The President and Supreme Court judges know the ordinances of God. They know that those who practice homosexuality stand condemned before the Creator. Yet they have given their approval to practices God has condemned.

Brothers and sisters, this passage of Scripture describes behaviors which have been increasing in American society for more than a generation. By removing this last restraint, these godless behaviors will now explode. When a nation's leaders praise wickedness, the people become wicked. Not only did President Obama make a nationally televised speech declaring the virtues of the Supreme Court ruling, the White House was also illuminated in the rainbow colors of the Gay Pride movement in celebration of this triumphant advance of the homosexual agenda. The President and Supreme Court judges spoke words of deceit. They manifested the cunning and subtlety of Satan as they proclaimed the virtues of abominations.



THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. Our nation was founded on a bedrock principle that we are all created equal. The project of each generation is to bridge the meaning of those founding words with the realities of changing times -- a never-ending quest to ensure those words ring true for every single American.

Progress on this journey often comes in small increments, sometimes two steps forward, one step back, propelled by the persistent effort of dedicated citizens. And then sometimes, there are days like this when that slow, steady effort is rewarded with justice that arrives like a thunderbolt.

This morning, the Supreme Court recognized that the Constitution guarantees marriage equality. In doing so, they've reaffirmed that all Americans are entitled to the equal protection of the law. That all people should be treated equally, regardless of who they are or who they love.

This decision will end the patchwork system we currently have. It will end the uncertainty hundreds of thousands of same-sex couples face from not knowing whether their marriage, legitimate in the eyes of one state, will remain if they decide to move [to] or even visit another. This ruling will strengthen all of our communities by offering to all loving same-sex couples the dignity of marriage

across this great land.

In my second inaugural address, I said that if we are truly created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well. It is gratifying to see that principle enshrined into law by this decision.

This ruling is a victory for Jim Obergefell and the other plaintiffs in the case. It's a victory for gay and lesbian couples who have fought so long for their basic civil rights. It's a victory for their children, whose families will now be recognized as equal to any other. It's a victory for the allies and friends and supporters who spent years, even decades, working and praying for change to come.

And this ruling is a victory for America. This decision affirms what millions of Americans already believe in their hearts: When all Americans are treated as equal we are all more free.

[End Excerpt]

This comment that "justice" arrived "like a thunderbolt," is better understood by once again considering the words of David Wilkerson. "Sodom became the world's gay capital, a society so vile, wicked and crazed with violence that its sins thundered throughout the heavens, filling God's holy environment with a hellish cry." What happens when a nation's sin thunders throughout the heavens? It calls forth Yahweh's attention. He will visit that nation, examine its fruit, and render judgment.

Genesis 18:20-21

Yahweh said, "Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah (America) is great, and because their sin is very grievous, I will go down now, and see whether their deeds are as bad as the reports which have come to me. If not, I will know."

What will God find when He comes down to visit America? The recent Supreme Court decision appears to have been timed to coincide with some of the largest homosexual events in the nation. The weekend following the ruling, many of America's largest cities held their annual Gay Pride Parades. People turned out in record numbers to watch men cavort with other men in all manner of vile and profane costumes. Public nudity and obscene behavior were rampant as homosexuals paraded themselves through city streets as millions of gawkers watched with amusement and approval. The parades contained an added air of celebration due to the recent Supreme Court ruling and the approving comments of America's President.



In city after city, the Gay Pride celebrations featured public marriage ceremonies for homosexuals, such as the one pictured above.



Homosexual men and women paraded around indecently, defiant in their public debauchery. The man in the image above holds cards in his hand which read "Make Love with a BOY." Pedophilia is rampant among homosexuals as young boys have their lives destroyed by predatory adult men, and as young girls are preyed upon by adult women.



Nothing is too sacrilegious for those who cast off God's authority. There are mockers who would even parade a Gay-friendly Jesus and hold up placards reading "Would Jesus Discriminate?" These images are taken from New York City, San Francisco, and Chicago. The vast majority of what was paraded down these city streets is too obscene to post. Attendant with these homosexual parades were Sodomite themed events, including sex shows and orgies. The nations are seeking to cast off all moral restraint. They either re-create God in an im-

age that smiles upon their depravity, or they revile Yahweh and His Son openly. In either case, they are rejecting the knowledge of God.

#### Psalms 2:1-5

Why do the nations rage, and the peoples plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth take a stand, and the rulers take counsel together, against Yahweh, and against his anointed, saying, "Let's break their bonds apart, and cast away their cords from us." He who sits in the heavens will laugh. The Lord will have them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his anger, and terrify them in his wrath.

These words from the Psalms describe precisely what 5 Supreme Court justices and the President of the United States did Friday of last week. They conspired together to cast away the cords of right-eousness that God had placed upon mankind. Yahweh will give a nation over to the wickedness it demands. They will destroy themselves with defilement, and they will call forth the judgment of the Creator whom they openly mock.

Brothers and sisters, the courts legislated anarchy this past week. Anarchy is now the law of the land.

The beast nature has been unleashed. Restraint has been removed. Now the people of America will destroy their cities, towns, and land with their moral depravity.



(Note that the anarchy symbol contains the O and A of American PharOAh and ObamA.)

Following is a poem from a brother in Christ written to mark the Supreme Court Ruling.

#### America the Beautiful. America the Putrified.

(Luke Lucas)

The line of confusion is now stretched over Her vengeance, as a brothel's declaration.

The plummet of chaos and no restraint now reign in singing, as music to Her ears.

Liberties Liberty, Medusa in rainbow colored hair, a flaming torch of amber waves of ash.

She knows it not and cares even less, heralding with contempt;



We are Justified!

We are Justified!

The Law of The Land!

The Law of The Land!

Gomorrah's Dignification, An Edom for All!"

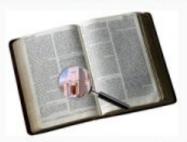
Equally, Her tears of celebration will be filled with the shock of dismay. For Her prosperous stream of dollars shall reign in the pain of sulfur's eroding loss. The wheat shall be dusted, as the sheaf is broken, and the false weight will buy less as the people cling to shallow slogans.

Freedom's confinement is growing as a looming shadow over Her people as the strongholds are dazed with demons. Lament, mistrust, and growing paranoia are the symptoms of Her unbridled will.

Grooming and brewing, are the administered stars and stripes from the badges of control and the batons of enforcement.

Oh! The sorrow of The Law of The Land, Oh! The sorrow of The Law of The Land, Put in the hand of the lost man. Dangerous is the Beast InDeed.

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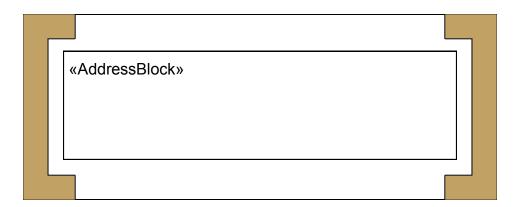
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# Parables Bookshelf — Series 1.17.9

### PARABLES PRECEPT—



If six is the number of human perfection, then 66 is a more emphatic expression of the same fact, and 666 is the concentrated expression of it; 666 is therefore the trinity of human perfection; the perfection of imperfection; the culmination of human pride in independence of God and opposition to His Christ.

There are three men which stand out in Scripture as the avowed enemies of God and of His people. Each is branded with this number six that we may not miss their significance:

- 1. GOLIATH, whose height was 6 cubits, and he had 6 pieces of armour; his spear's head weighed 600 shekels of iron (1 Sam 17:4-7).
- 2. NEBUCHADNEZZAR, whose "image" which he set up, was 60 cubits high and 6 cubits broad (Dan 3:1), and which was worshipped when the music was heard from 6 specified instruments, and
- 3. ANTICHRIST, whose number is 666.

[Source: E.W. Bullinger, *Number in Scripture*]

The number 666 may be understood as the number signifying sinful man. In creation all living things under the curse of sin are stamped at their most basic level with the number 666.

All life forms known to man on earth are Carbon based life forms. Carbon is the 6th element on the Periodic Table. Each element is identified by its number of protons, neutrons, and electrons. Only one element has 6 of each, and this is Carbon.

Man is a Carbon based creature. Consequently, the flesh of man is stamped with the number 666 at the atomic level.