



## Unchanging Truths in Times of Change, Part 1

### Selected Scriptures

On Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Supreme Court of the United States overstepped its authority and declared a new definition of marriage. The law of the land today, across all fifty states, is that marriage is no longer exclusively for one male and one female. This redefined version of marriage allows homosexuals to marry one another; one man and one man, one woman and one woman. The Supreme Court made that decision without regard for the U.S. Constitution, the Constitution it was sworn to, it has sworn to uphold. The court did so, even though it knowingly trampled on a prior right guaranteed in the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution, that is, the right of American citizens to the free exercise of religion. If you look at the court's decision, the majority decision that came from the Justice there, he, he said you will have the right to advocate for your view, you'll have the right to teach your views... exercise? That language wasn't there.

It's a new day, a very different day. The Supreme Court did not just disregard the U.S. constitution. The court went further: it usurped God's authority, because marriage is his institution. He created it, he defined it, and no human court possesses the authority to redefine his definitions. The court has crossed a line with God, and God will summon that court to account, with him presiding.

Sexual immorality just became America's newest inalienable right. The former inalienable right about the free exercise of religion, and really, all of them, now, are open targets. Those are no longer inalienable; they can be taken away. They are not inviolable; they are not sacrosanct if they conflict with the pursuit of erotic liberty. Cross that right and your rights go away.

We know, as we look throughout history, nations come and nations go. Rights change. Rights come and rights go. Freedoms change; they come and they go. Peoples change. Nations change. And this just illustrates for us that there are no guarantees when it comes to nations and peoples, to kings and kingdoms, to rights and privileges; it can all disappear in a moment.

Our national pursuit is sin, the Libertarian pursuit of an unbridled, erotic expression. And it has been that for some time

now. This is not new; this has been going on for decades, probably a half century in this country. And, as surely as the Muslim fundamentalist group, Isis, is destroying historical monuments throughout the Middle East, our government seems hell-bent on following its citizens and the desires of its citizens in destroying every vestige of Christian heritage in the United States. If there was ever any doubt as to whether or not this is a Christian nation, doubt no more. It's not. We've become an antichristian nation.

The Christian apologist and theologian, James R. White, expressed the new sentiment poignantly in the words of a new national prayer. Here's his words, here, as he quotes this prayer from the country to God, "God, we do not want you, your ways, or your law. We are our own creators; we are autonomous. We hate your good gifts, the gifts of marriage, the gift of gender. We no longer want the joy of motherhood, fatherhood. We will make women husbands, men, wives. We will twist and pervert everything that gives us life and light. Go away. Leave us alone."

God's answer to that prayer? "As you wish." God has given this nation over to its perversion, and to the due penalty of its perversion. And, here's the thing, here is the key point:

this decline was predictable. In fact, God already charted the course this nation followed clearly in his Word. Listen, because this is exactly what has happened in our country.

Romans 1:18, "For the wrath of God is revealed," or is being revealed, "from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

"Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about 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 dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done."

That describes the headlines in our country, does it not? Everywhere we look we see debased thinking. All of this has followed a predictable pattern, and it started with Americans suppressing the truth in unrighteousness. People have denied what's plain to know about God's eternal power and his divine nature, replacing that truth with this dehumanizing doctrine of Evolution.

Evolutionary theory, which put God's special creation of humanity on the same level as the animal kingdom, has erased moral accountability. And that is what helps sinners to silence their accusing consciences so they could pursue their sexual immorality. God said, you want sexual immorality? I'll deliver you over to it. And America has become saturated with it, sated with sex. The dam has burst. Every norm, taboo, and moray has

been broken in the overwhelming lust for sexual sin, all kinds of pornography and filth literally flooding the nation. We're drowning in it.

God gave them over to the consequences of their sexual immorality. The law of sin's diminishing returns means that sinners are not satisfied with that same sin. They need to go further and further and cross lines and boundaries just so they can get the same thrill. So God gave them over to s, homosexual sin and the due penalty of that error. I don't believe that the due penalty of the error of sexual sin is AIDS, per se, but I think AIDS is part of that. The due penalty of the error of homosexuality *is* homosexuality. The indulgence in that sin, in all sexual sin, is its own punishment. It completely takes the life of the one who indulges in it.

And all of this results in an utterly debased mind, utterly useless. God said, you want to act like animals? Then you're going to think like animals, too. And Americans are redefining the laws to accommodate their new moral preferences. That, folks, is a debased mind. When you have a state in our union, like our dear state of Colorado, legalizing a drug that is proven to destroy lives and families, they legalize it and say, Go get it, kids! That's debased thinking. People redefine laws,

they change the laws, because they're trying to silence their consciences, which are reminded by an accusing law code. So, change the law code.

Next thing on the agenda? Silence Christian witness. Folks, their coming after you. They're coming after me. That's the only way to describe what the Supreme Court just did. And it's absolutely chilling to see the court's audaciousness, its hubris. The court actually thinks it has the right to redefine God's institution of marriage! That is debased thinking, folks. You've completely lost your mind. And it's coming from the highest court in our land.

The court, the advocates of same sex marriage, they've only begun to anticipate the implications of their decision. They've charted the course toward the further dismantling and destruction of the family. No more mommy, no more daddy. Those terms are going to lose their meaning in the wider culture. Boy and girl, male and female, man and woman, what are those words going to mean? What are the little children's books that are taught to our preschoolers in preschool, what are they going to say? How are they going to explain the family?

When people think that they have the right to deny their own biology, to undergo hormone therapy and radical surgery to

conform their anatomy and their appearance to their confused mental condition, people like Bruce Jenner, those men are only the beginning. Is this the end of male and female sports teams? By the way, if people feel free to define God's institution of marriage however they want to, well then why define marriage as a union between two people, regardless of gender? Why not a union between three people? Why not a union between a football team? A whole bunch of people, a dozen of them? Polyamory is going to be the new normal.

We could ask other questions, as well. Why impose age restrictions? Why impose species restrictions? Why exclude family members? The list goes on and on. And I can tell you, all of this is really going to mess up the tax code. Maybe you have never felt sorry for the IRS, but it might be time to pity the tax man. I wouldn't want to be writing tax code in these confusing days, but then again, that is the point, isn't it?

The goal has never been to win the right of homosexuals to marry each other. The goal has been to destroy the concept of marriage altogether, because advocates for this point of view see marriage as a repressive institution that needs to go away completely. And they knew the way to destroy it was, first, to get it for themselves, to redefine it according to their own



terms. Once you do that, it's just a piece of putty in your hands. The tax code is just one way to do that. If you generalize the tax benefits of marriage so broadly to apply to anybody, well then it becomes meaningless as a category, doesn't it? Not only that, but through taxation a liberal government can begin to penalize people for Christian convictions that conflict with this moral revolution.

This overreaching decision, and that's an understatement, right there, this overreaching decision of the Supreme Court has massive implications on states' rights, massive implications on the democratic process. That was just blown, right there, in that decision on Friday. This has to do with the consolidation of power to the federal government. And again, all of these are just consequences of debased thinking. And this, folks, is the judgement of God, and it's only the beginning.

America, as our spiritual forefather, Jonathan Edwards, put it, is a nation of sinners in the hands of an angry God. While our nation is running around waving rainbow flags, draping flags around themselves as they revel in this victory, you may have seen the White House illuminated with rainbow colors. With the lights illuminating the White House it's no longer a white

house, now it's a rainbow house, showing solidarity with gay marriage.

Amid the national revelry in this sin, Isis is executing homosexuals in the Middle East. The same day that the U.S. Supreme Court announced it was giving the right of gay marriage to the country, the Islamic state threw four homosexuals off the roof of a building. And that has become pretty routine. I don't rejoice in that, and I hope you don't either. That is brutal and it's cruel. We love those people. We love all sinners. They're our mission field. Isis is brutal. Isis took credit on Friday for killing twenty-seven people in a bombing attack in Kuwait. It also claimed responsibility for a shooting attack at a Tunisian beach resort, also on Friday, which killed thirty-eight people and injured more than two hundred others.

Attacks like this from this Islamic fundamentalist group are so routine that they've become mundane. We're not even affected anymore. We've gotten used to a new level of violence in our world. Senator, New York Senator, who's now deceased, Patrick Moynihan, called this "defining deviancy down." We can't handle all the sin so we kind of redefine the laws to conform to what the social climate is. So, what was once deviancy is now no longer deviancy; now it's normal.

Isis intends to extend the geographic territory of its newly established caliphate. A caliphate is an Islamic kingdom, and they intend to dominate the entire world. They intend to bring every person, without exception, in the world under the submission of Islam. Isis has named Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi as its caliph. Caliph is a political ruler of a caliphate in Islamic government. Isis has acknowledged al-Baghdadi's rule over the territory that they hold in Iraq and Syria, which is just the beginning of a renewed caliphate.

The goal of Isis is to call all faithful Muslims to the caliphate, to leave their country of origin and birth, to come and join them there. Recruits are pouring in from the West, by the way, even from here in America. And Isis intends to purge Islam of apostasy. Even Islamic governments like Turkey are not fundamentalist enough. They want to purge Islam of apostasy and purify Islam, they want to draw the West into a war, and they want to usher in the apocalypse, which, for them, will summon in the return of the Mahdi. To the Muslim the coming of the Mahdi is the coming of their Christ-figure, the Muslim messiah. In reality, when you study the Mahdi, he's really an antichrist figure who's to rule the world. He really fits what the Bible teaches about the antichrist; and that's their Christ.

So, while the West is weakening through its moral decline, dancing around in rainbow colors, which, by the way, promise God's grace that he will not judge the world with a flood anymore; oh, but he will, 2 Peter 3, judge the world with fire. They're dancing around in the grace of God. They're dancing around in God's colors and weakening. And while that's happening, the East is on the rise. China is on an economic ascendancy. We're seeing a resurgent Russia invading other countries at will, taking what it wants.

I just read an article last night quoting Vladimir Putin, who is condemning the West, get this, for departing from Christianity. Communist Russia, Vladimir Putin, head of the KGB, and he's mocking our country over the Supreme Court decision about gay marriage, and saying, you have departed. You have departed. In his country, there is none of this gay propaganda going on. They silence it, they stop it, they cut it out of their society because they see it as a cancer.

China, Russia, the borders of the Middle East, set about a hundred years ago after World War One, arbitrarily by Europeans; the victors always be able to divide things up as they want to. Well those borders are now being redrawn by Isis and other groups in the shape of a Muslim Crescent. Nationally and

internationally, regionally and globally, the world continues to change. The ground is moving beneath our feet. All the old structures, the reliable institutions, the founding documents and principles upon which this great nation was built, everything is being dismantled. Nothing is left untouched, and there's nothing we can do about it.

Listen, can I give you a word of hope? Here it is, Malachi 3:6, "I the Lord do not change." The Lord God looks down from Heaven on all this nonsense going on below him, and you know what he does? He laughs. Psalm 2:4-6, "He who sits in the heavens laughs;" and, "the Lord holds them in derision." And, "then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, 'As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.'" Folks, God is not worried. He is not worried. He's comfortable, he is at peace, he is confident, he's even rejoicing right now in the unfolding of his perfect plan, which is unstoppable, to send Christ back to Earth. Folks, this is all part of the plan.

Listen to Isaiah 41:1-4, "Listen to me in silence, O coastlands; let the peoples renew their strength; let them approach," and, "then let them speak; let us draw near for judgement. Who stirred up one from the east whom victory meets

at every step? He gives up," the, "nations before him, so that he tramples kings underfoot; he makes them like dust with his sword, like driven stubble with his bow. He pursues them and passes on safely, by paths his feet have not trod. Who has performed and done this, calling the generations from the beginning? I, the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he."

God is executing his plan. Israel had to deal with the same kind of invasions and exile and fear and trembling, and God says, "Who do you think called the conqueror into your land? I did. I did." God helped Israel understand the social unrest that they faced, the conquest of nations mightier than they. And you know what, folks? We can learn from that. We need to learn from that. God is the one who's bringing America down, and he is the one who is raising up the nations of the East. God is the one who is dismantling the power and authority and the strength of the West. God is the one who is strengthening the East. He's raising up these nations for judgement on the world, make no mistake. What America interprets as freedom, reveling in it, is actually the mark of harrowing judgement. It's the judicial wrath of God on a nation that flaunts its sin.

But to his beloved people, God says this, Isaiah 41:8-10, "But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the

offspring of Abraham, my friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, 'You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off'; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

You recognize that verse? It, you know it comes from Isaiah 41, and we sing it in that hymn, *How firm a Foundation*. What a great source of confidence there. Such comfort! Such confidence for the people of God. This, written to Israel; but folks, if we belong to Israel, if we are united in Abraham by faith, you know what? God is our God, too. We're grafted in, we're protected in the vine.