

BLURRING THE LINES
PT 2-THE LINES OF RIGHT AND WRONG
ISAIAH 5:18-25

Introduction

In my 67 years on this earth, I have personally witnessed the continual **MORAL BREAKDOWN** of our society in this great nation of ours as well as in the world as a whole!

Truly the **PERILOUS TIMES** that the **APOSTLE PAUL** prophesied of in **2 Timothy 3:1-5** are **increasingly upon us** like never before!

Understand that what we are seeing is **not** something that has just happened overnight. We who know our **BIBLE** know that this battle between **RIGHT** and **WRONG** began all the way back in the **GARDEN OF EDEN** when **SIN** first entered this world by **ADAM**. (*Romans 5:12*)

We also know and can see that the battle for **RIGHT** and **WRONG** has raged and played out in varying degrees all throughout **HISTORY**.

This great nation of ours even began out of a desire of a majority of our founding fathers to both rid themselves from tyranny and to have the **FREEDOM** to be able to both **WORSHIP** and **SERVE GOD** as the **BIBLE** dictates!

For years, our nation is **caught up in a downhill spiral of SIN** (*Romans 1:18ff*). That is **evident** and it began before we arrived on the scene and has continued to **“snowball”** away from **GOD** and deeper into **SIN**! The adults in this room have been witness to the many generational changes away from **GOD** and **HIS WORD** and increasingly toward **GODLESS, ATHEISTIC HUMANISM** where more and more people are **a god unto themselves**.

We are living in a generation that is increasingly **TOLERANT** of anything and everything except the **WORD OF GOD, TRUE BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY**, and **BELIEVERS** who truly confess **CHRIST** and try to live for **HIM**! (*Confessing CHRIST in both their lips and by their life!*)

What I’m saying is, life in our nation has drastically changed from what it was when we arrived on the scene!

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What once seemed like a **SLOW DRIFT** away from **GOD** has changed into a raging torrent toward destruction as **the lines of what is RIGHT and what is WRONG are increasingly BLURRED!** (*e.g. 5th grade*)

We live in a society that **largely condones bad lifestyle choices**, but at the same time is **critical of anyone who disagrees with those choices** and chooses rather to cling to the **BIBLICAL TRUTHS** and the former moral norms of society that we grew up with and that made this nation great!

Today, if one claims to be a **homosexual or a bisexual or even some other kind of pervert and says that GOD made them that way**; then society largely says more power to that person! **LIVE AND LET LIVE!** You be **YOU** and don’t let anyone try to change you or tell you that you are wrong!

But the **ABSOLUTE TRUTH** and **REALITY** from **SCRIPTURE** is that **SIN makes one that way, not GOD!** And another **SCRIPTURAL REALITY** is that **GOD** will still **JUDGE SIN!**

Many are not only **OK** with, but applaud the **raging liberals** today who are vocally **anti-GOD** and **CRITICAL** of **GOD’S WORD!** Also, the lamestream media will help make sure they have platforms to get their message out!

But when a close follower of **CHRIST** tries to **PROCLAIM and DEFEND BIBLICAL TRUTH**, they are mocked and their message is edited or **SILENCED!** (*e.g. Houston Texan Quarterback TJ Stroud*)

And it seems to be OK today to condemn the **people who truly love our country** (*true patriots are viewed as being facists*). And it seems to be OK to condemn those on the front lines of defending us (*both law enforcement and military*)! And the new **“heros”** are those who have the courage to take a knee while our national anthem is played or sung, those who burn our American flag, those who destroy and deface historical statues, and those who would rewrite the history of this great nation!

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What I'm saying is that we are living in a generation full of people who are **selfish, undisciplined, easy offended, immoral, and happily call good evil and evil good.** The **LORD**, through **ISAIAH** pronounces a **WOE** upon them!

I. WE SEE LINES OF RIGHT AND WRONG BEING BLURRED BECAUSE THE LINES OF GOD'S AUTHORITY GOT BLURRED! (Last week's message!)

Who's gets to say **WHAT IS RIGHT** Or **WHAT IS WRONG**; **WHAT IS SIN** and **WHAT IS RIGHTEOUSNESS?**

It matters very much **WHO** has that **AUTHORITY** and **WHOSE STANDARD** one uses?

Is it the INDIVIDUAL? (A god unto themselves.)

Is it the GOVERNMENT? (Are to enforce not change.)

Is it SOMEONE ELSE? (There must be a proper standard!)

Or is it GOD and HIS WORD?

What is SIN?

SIN is BREAKING GOD'S LAW!

The words most used in **SCRIPTURE** that are translated as "**SIN**" in both the **O.T. HEBREW** and **N.T. GREEK** means "**TO ERR**" or "**TO MISS THE MARK**":

OF MORAL PURITY.

OF GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS

Other words translated as "**SIN**" in the **O.T.** mean:

TO BE GUILTY.

TO PERVERT, TO MAKE CROOKED

TO STRAY

TO BREAK AWAY, TO REBEL AGAINST

AUTHORITY (Psalm 2)

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II. WE SEE THE SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLE OF RIGHT AND WRONG.

What does **GOD'S WORD** say?

A. SIN IS THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW!

1 John 3:4 – "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

James 2:10–"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."

B. SIN IS TO COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD!

Romans 3:23

The glory of GOD is personified in the PERSON of the LORD JESUS CHRIST! (HE IS THE STANDARD!)

John 1:14– "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

C. SIN IS TO TURN TO ONE'S OWN WAY!

Isaiah 53:6–"All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned every one to his own way; And the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

D. SIN IS TO FORSAKE THE LORD FOR SOMETHING ELSE!

Judges 10:10–"And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim."

1 Samuel 12:10–"And they cried unto the LORD, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee."

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E. SIN IS TO DO THAT WHICH IS WICKED IN THE SIGHT OF GOD!

Deuteronomy 9:18–“*And I fell down before the LORD, as at the first, forty days and forty nights: I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all your sins which ye sinned, in doing wickedly in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*”

F. SIN PUTS ONE ON THE WRONG SIDE OF GOD!

Proverbs 17:15–“*He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.*”

Proverbs 24:24-25–“*24 He that saith unto the wicked, Thou art righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him: 25 But to them that rebuke him shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them.*”

The late Evangelist Dr. Billy Graham was speaking one time at Conwell Theological Seminary and said, “*We’ve lost sight of the fact that some things are always right and some things are always wrong. We’ve lost our reference point. We don’t have any moral philosophy to undergird our way of life in this country, and our way of life is in serious jeopardy and serious danger?*”

III. WE SEE THE INCREASING TREND TO TRY TO REVERSE GOD’S PRINCIPLES BY CALLING RIGHT WRONG AND WRONG RIGHT!

A. Premarital Sex/Extramarital Sex

Both blossomed during and after the sexual revolution of the late 1960's and early 1970's.

But **GOD** still calls sex outside of a monogamous marriage relationship between a man and a woman **FORNICATION!**

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Exodus 20:14–“*Thou shalt not commit adultery.*”
1 Corinthians 6:18–“*Flee fornication...*”

B. Homosexuality

The **BIBLE** still calls it **SODOMY!**

*In 1992 members of a 24 member United Methodist Church (UMC) panel could not agree on whether homosexuality is a sin, so the committee’s 14,000-word report on the subject was referred to the denomination’s national policy-making body. The report contained a majority statement, signed by 17 committee members, recommending the removal of an assertion in the church’s book of rules that homosexual practice and Christianity are incompatible. A minority report, signed by four members, argues for retaining the current language. **The panel agreed that biblical references to sexual practices should not be viewed as binding “just because they are in the Bible.”***

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That goes again to who sets the **STANDARD!**

Leviticus 18:22–“*Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.*”
See also Romans 1:24-32

C. Abortion and Euthanasia

This is the “**Sanctify of Human Life Sunday.**”

Exodus 20:13–“*Thou shalt not kill.*”

John Calvin said “*The fetus carried in the mother’s womb is already a man; and it is quite unnatural that a life be destroyed of one who has not yet seen its enjoyment. For it seems more unworthy that a man be killed in his home rather than in his field because for each man his home is his safest refuge. How much more abominable ought it to be considered to kill a fetus in the womb who has not yet been brought into the light.*”

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Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, “*Destruction of the embryo in the mother’s womb is a violation of the right to live which God has bestowed upon this nascent life. To raise the question whether we are here concerned already with a human being or not is merely to confuse the issue. The simple fact is that God certainly intended to create a human being and that this nascent human being has been deliberately deprived of his life. And that is nothing but murder.*”

D. Many Other Things!

When the **SCRIPTURE** is deemed wrong by **MANKIND** and so **MANKIND** does things their own way instead of **GOD’S WAY!**

IV. WHAT IS BEHIND THE ALTERING OF GOD’S PRINCIPLES?

A. IGNORANCE.

Micah 4:12–“But they know not the thoughts of the LORD, Neither understand they his counsel: For he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor.”

B. DECEITFUL HEARTS.

Jeremiah 17:9–10– “9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? 10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.”

C. SATAN.

John 8:43–44–“43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. 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...”

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2 Corinthians 4:3–4– “3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 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.

D. PRIDE.

Psalms 10:4–“The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.”

1 John 2:16–“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

E. FEAR OF MAN or A DESIRE TO PLEASE MEN.

Proverbs 29:25–“The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.”

F. SELF-JUSTIFICATION

Proverbs 30:12– “There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.”

Proverbs 21:2–“Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.”

Proverbs 12:15–“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.”

Conclusion

Romans 3:4– “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.”