## **Not So Current Events**

As you all know, June is now celebrated as "PRIDE" month, which is claimed by the LGBTQ (and whatever other letters you would care to add) Movement or Community, as a celebration of their diversity and openness towards sexual freedom of expressions. We have discussed tolerance numerous times in the past and how "creeping incrementalism" is nothing new. Turning a blind eye of tolerance and opening the door of acceptance to "a little sin" just so long it is not in my house has permitted this cancer to become out of control.

We are way beyond any tolerance now. <u>*Compliance*</u> is now the norm. I read a few headlines this week that just happened to coincide with this week's essay that support this position of "compliance."

In Michigan, there is a Bill before the House, HB 4474 that would make it a felony for the misuse of "pronouns" of "protected classes." The bill specifically addresses "sexual orientation" and "gender identity or according to the bill, "Gender identity or expression" means having or being perceived as having a gender-related selfidentity or expression whether or not associated with an individual's assigned sex at birth." So, if you are born a male and now identify as an aardvark you can sue someone and have them arrested? Lunacy. If convicted of the offense, the offender could face up to 5 years in prison and up to a \$10,000.00 fine. If approved by the State Senate, it will be sent for approval to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, who is expected to sign it, regardless if it violates the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

The weekend of June 25<sup>th</sup> in NYC, LGBTQ activists held their annual drag queen parade in Manhattan. During the parade, they chanted, "we're here, we're queer, we're coming for your children." Hundreds of members of the group marched through Tompkins Square Park. I am sorry folks, when I was a kid, this behavior was unheard of. If anyone would have displayed this type of behavior and said those things about a child, they would have gone missing. Why now, all of the focus on our children?

There were also similar parades throughout our nation but two notable ones were held in Seattle and one in Toronto, Canada. In both cities, PRIDE parades and drag queens marched with nude men riding bikes or marching in the presence of children. No arrests were made. I guess holding a rainbow flag negates any state statute as *there were* police present.

We know the "progressive liberals" or socialist agenda is to undermine the Judeo-Christian values of our nation. If we judge our nation by the condition of our churches, it is apparent they have been fairly effective at eroding our values for some time. Their acts of continued intimidation (law suits, use of the press, etc.) over the years has whipped the tolerant into a submissive complacent society, a spoon-fed populace that has bowed to servitude rather than stand up and call a diseased demented pervert exactly what they are. Numbers are not really important as we all know what One righteous Man did in changing the face of the Earth.

What really amazes me is the brazen attitude of the people involved. As we mentioned, they have gone way beyond any tolerance and it has now become a forceful compliance. However, whether they want to believe it or not, they may scoff and laugh and deny His existence, there is One Who will not comply nor yield nor accept their abominations, starting with their "PRIDE" flag.

**Genesis 9:13-14-** "I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be *the* sign of *the* covenant between Me and the earth. And it shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud."

In Your face God! Satan laughs...we know how it will end. The whole alphabet, gender, pronoun, drag queen fiasco are abominations to God.

Leviticus 18:22- "You shall not lie with mankind as with womankind. It is an abomination *to God*."

Leviticus 20:13- "If a man also lies with mankind, as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood *shall be* upon them."

**Deuteronomy 22:5-** "Anything that pertains to a man shall not be worn by a woman, neither shall a man put a woman's garment on. For all that do so *are* abominable to the LORD your God."

God gives us free will but He makes it quite clear we are to choose life or death. **Deuteronomy 30:19-20-** "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore, choose life, so that both you and your seed may live, That you may love the LORD your God, *and* may obey His voice, and may cleave to Him; for He is your life and the length of your days, so that you may dwell in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob—to give it to them."

It might be difficult to imagine conduct even more unrighteous than what we are witnessing today in our own society, but there was one point in history we seem to be competing with. It did not fare well for those people at all. In Genesis 18 and 19, we read the story of Abraham and Lot and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. We know that these two cities collapsed into depravity far worse than what we see today, albeit we are getting close with the boldness of what is taking place with the violence and depravity. Perversion was rampant and repentance was not in their vocabulary much like in the minds of those today. They probably made San Francisco look like a Convent.

In looking through the Bible, we can find different references to Sodom and Gomorrah and get some different perspectives on them and why they were wiped out. What happens when folks reach that state of a reprobate mind? God runs out of patience and will stop their evil from spreading.

Isaiah gave a prophecy against Judah and Jerusalem because their speech and deeds were against the Lord.

**Isaiah 3:9-12-** "The look of their faces witnesses against them; and they declare their sin like Sodom. They do not hide *it*! Woe to their soul! For they have rewarded evil to themselves. "Say to the righteous that *it shall be* well with him; for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe to the wicked! For the evil doing of his hand will be given to him. *As for* My people, children *are* their oppressors, and women rule over them. Oh, My people, those who lead you cause *you* to err and destroy the way of your paths."

During Isaiah's time, the people of Israel openly defied God and the prophet. Their hardened hearts blinded them to repentance just like those who lived in Sodom and Gomorrah. The pride set them forever against God. So how appropriate is the whole "PRIDE" movement? What was the original sin?

It says "they did not hide it!" People wear their sin as if were a badge of honor these days. They are so blatantly in your face with their sinful behavior they no longer care! Like the chants at last week's parades, "We're here, we're queer, and we're coming for your children!" For someone to make statements like that in a nation that is reported to have nearly 400 million guns is incredibly brave or extremely insane. But we are not the One they need to be concerned with.

They have no shame at all. To parade down a street naked in front of children and flaunt it is nothing less than mental illness. As a matter of fact, back in the 60's, homosexuality was listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. I believe it has since been removed and recategorized into a group all to itself to include psychological issues within that specific group.

**Jeremiah 6:15**- "Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed, nor could they blush; therefore they shall fall among

those who fall. At the time *that* I punish them, they shall be cast down," says the LORD."

There seems to be a reference to Sodom and Gomorrah as a point of wickedness in scripture and what is the outcome of unrepentance.

Jeremiah 23:14- "I have also seen in the prophets of Jerusalem a horrible thing; they commit adultery and walk in lies. They also strengthen the hands of evildoers, so that none returns from his evil; they are all of them like Sodom to Me, and her inhabitants like Gomorrah."

It is apparent that when the evil reaches a certain point, God says "that's enough."

**2 Peter 2:6-10-** "And having reduced *the* cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes, condemned *them* with a catastrophic *destruction*, <u>making *them* an example *for those* who would be ungodly in the future; And *if* He personally rescued righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the lawless ones *living* in licentious conduct; (For that righteous man, dwelling among them, through seeing and hearing *their* lawless activities, *was* tormented day by day *in his* righteous soul;) *The* Lord knows *how* to rescue *the* godly out of temptation, and to reserve *the* unrighteous to *the* day of</u>

judgment to be punished; But particularly those who walk after *the* flesh in corrupting lust, and hold in utter contempt the lordship *of God. They* are audacious and self-willed. They are not afraid to blaspheme *the* divine powers" Those that fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Maybe God is just saving it up all for the end...

We may see evil all around us today just as Lot did back in Sodom but we need not fear. None of us have harbored angels and protected them from ravenous perverts banging on our doors, although I wonder if these events are not too far down the road.

We, like Lot have been given our escape route through the word of God. We know our path to safety and salvation through the blood and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We have put our hand to the plow and we cannot look back as did Lot's wife lest we turn into a pillar of salt.

Genesis 19:25-26- "And He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt."

We have no regrets in being called out from this sinful world.

We have all been forewarned of the things to come and the consequences of looking back. Those who so blatantly defy and mock God will someday be judged. Those who prefer sin and worldliness choose to ignore God and His word. Their awakening will come.

Jeremiah 44:22- "Yea, so that the LORD could no longer hold back because of the evil of your doings because of the abominations which you have committed! So your land is a desolation, and a wonder, and a curse, without anyone in it, as *it is* today."

**Ezekiel 7:3-4-** "Now the end has come upon you, and I will send My anger upon you and will judge you according to your ways, and will lay upon you all your abominations. And My eye shall not spare you, neither will I have pity. But I will repay your ways upon you, and your abominations shall be in your midst; and you shall know that I *am* the LORD."

We press forward toward our prize.

**Philippians 3:14-** "I press toward *the* goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

What happened to Sodom and Gomorrah serves as a warning for everyone as well as a prophetic image of what will happen one day when our Savior Jesus Christ returns in His full glory.

Luke 17:28-30- "And it was the same way in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; But on the day that Lot went out from Sodom, it rained fire and Sulphur from heaven and destroyed them all. This is how it shall be in the day that the Son of man is revealed."

Even as despicable as these folks are towards God, and as vile as their conduct may be, God still loves them. It is their sin He hates and His mercy is upon them the same as it is upon you and me. We need to keep these things in mind as difficult as it may seem. His Hand is outstretched to anyone who wants a relationship with Him forever. God loves them too.

**2 Peter 3:9-11-** "The Lord is not delaying the promise *of His coming*, as some in their own minds reckon delay; rather, He is longsuffering toward us, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. However, the day of *the* Lord shall come as a thief in *the* night in which the heaven itself shall disappear

with a mighty roar, and *the* elements shall pass away, burning with intense heat, and *the* earth and the works in it shall be burned up. Since all these things are going to be destroyed, what kind of *persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,"

Amen.

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