

Wolves in Sheep's Clothing
Message #3— Social Justice Perversion
Romans 1:16-32 (2/26/2023)

Leading Evangelical pastors are claiming that “God whispers at sexual sin.” God does not whisper about any sin but speaks clearly and forthrightly in His Word. There is a growing attitude of accommodation in reference to the LGBTQ+ movement among Evangelicals. Under the cloak of civil rights the homosexual agenda has permeated our culture. This has now morphed into the transgender movement. Laws making pedophilia legal are coming in the future. Children are being sexualized in our public schools. Drag Queen story hour is happening in many public libraries. Erwin Lutzer in *We Will Not Be Silenced* writes, “Perhaps nowhere do we see the work of Satan in America as clearly as we do in the sexualization of children—destroying their identity, confusing their gender, and creating unresolved guilt and self-hatred.” Liberal churches have embraced and endorsed the gay agenda. Homosexual pastors and wedding ceremonies are seen as normative. We must love people enough to tell them the truth about their destructive lifestyles.

We must love people enough to share with them the transforming power of the Gospel.

The “gospel of Christ” (16) is the good news that Jesus died on the cross and took upon Himself the penalty for all of man’s sins. Jesus was buried but bodily rose from the dead. He now calls upon men to repent of their sins and to trust in Jesus alone for our forgiveness and be born again into a new life.

➤ **The righteousness God is revealed in the Gospel of Christ (17).**

We have no righteousness in and of ourselves. The righteousness God requires is the righteousness of God. We need a Godkind of righteousness which can only be given to us when we put our faith in Jesus, [2 Corinthians 5:21](#). The Gospel message is not about what we must do for God. It is about what Jesus has already done for us. While God condemns all sin He offers forgiveness and grace to all sinners who repent and believe the Gospel, [Romans 4:5](#). There is hope for every sinner no matter the sin, [2 Corinthians 5:17](#).

➤ **The wrath of God is revealed from heaven (18-19).**

Theologians differ on how exactly God’s wrath is being revealed. The word “revealed” means to take off the cover. God’s wrath is revealed in scripture, through the universality of death, in the cross of Jesus and by the witness of conscience. Man is both a religious sinner “**ungodliness**” and moral sinner “**unrighteousness.**” The knowledge of God implanted into every human heart (20) is being suppressed as is the witness of creation.

- **When man rejects the knowledge of God, he finds something else to fill that void.**

Some turn to philosophies and ideologies of their own creation and hold them with religious fervor (21-22). Others turn to idolatry and put their faith in false religions (23).

Unrepentant immoral sexual behavior incurs the wrath of Almighty God (24-25).

A person chooses to reject truth and embrace lies. When a person continually rejects God’s truth, they are in danger of God giving them over to what they have chosen for themselves. This means that God allows the consequences of sin to take its destructive course. All sexual sin is debasing and degrading. All sin is rebellion against God and offensive to God. On the human level sexual sin does affect a person like no other sin, [1 Corinthians 6:18](#). Sexual intimacy is the deepest uniting of two people. Therefore sexual sin corrupts on the deepest human level. Sexual sin is not just condoned but celebrated in our culture. Rampant unrestrained sexual sin is an indication of the judgment of God upon individuals and cultures. The evidence of God’s judgment of abandonment is seen as a culture descends into paganism.

➤ **Homosexuality is a perversion of nature as created by God (26-27).**

No amount of reclassification and reeducation can remove that reality. Added to this homosexuality has within sin itself something of its own penalty (27). In [Genesis 19](#) God destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah who were given over to homosexuality. Sodom and Gomorrah are examples for those who pursue perversion, [Jude 7](#).

▪ **The current phenomenon of gender confusion is the product of reprobate minds (28).**

This is the third time Paul uses the same word *paradidomi* which means to yield up, to deliver in this case to a depraved mind. The reprobate mind is the result of continued rejection of God. The result is what we see in our culture (29-32). The homosexual and transgender individual believes that this is one’s identity which must be confirmed. Children and young people who are confused about their gender identity are being manipulated. In many areas of the country parental rights are being usurped by the LGBTQ+ agenda. We are facing a dire threat from without and within the evangelical church. Scott David Allen, *By What Standard*, “The leaders of the LGBTQ moral revolution made it clear that their goal is not coexistence but total victory.” As Christians we have an opportunity to shine the light of the Gospel into the darkness of our culture. We must hold the line for righteousness while seeking to minister to hurting individuals pointing them to Jesus, [Matthew 11:28-30](#). Paul revealed that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can forgive and cleanse any sin. [1 Corinthians 6:11](#), “**And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus...**”

There is no one who cares more about sinners than Jesus Christ Who died for them!