

The Brown Street Beacon

*"...Shine out among them like beacon lights,
holding out to them the Word of Life" (Phil 2:15-16)*



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FORE!!!

In golf, when a shot is so far off the mark that spectators are in danger, the golfer is supposed to yell out, "FORE!!!" That is what some of the remarks remind me of concerning the subject of same sex marriage that is spoken of so often in the media today. A couple of WNBA players got engaged a couple of weeks ago. For those who don't follow pro basketball, WNBA stands for Women's National Basketball Association. So, obviously, the newly engaged couple is made up of two women. As you might expect in this country of ours today, they both were dubbed as courageous heroes in the so-called fight for human rights and equality.

When reading a short article about this engagement, I came across several statements that, once again, demonstrate how far off those supporting homosexuality and same-sex marriage are from reality. The one who authored this particular article wrote,

"There is not one person in America that would be affected negatively by these two young talented women being officially recognized as a married couple."

That statement is way off the mark. First, the entire country will ultimately be affected negatively by its acceptance of homosexuality. The truth is, marriage, as God instituted it, that is, a union between a man and a woman, has always been the foundation of every civilized society. Redefining what constitutes marriage is treading on God's territory, and that is always a harmful thing for man to do. Only those who know not God celebrate sin. This is what causes more and more people in our society to be way off the mark in their thinking on this issue. They simply do not view homosexuality as sinful. This obviously stems from an ignorance of God's Word, but it is the difference between those of us who stand against homosexuality and those who have a "gay rights" agenda. This is the bottom line of the issue. Those pushing homosexual relationships do not understand what sin is, what sin does, and the final consequences of sin. Therefore, they can't understand our fight against it. They don't realize that our fight against the sinful act of homosexuality is not a fight against people, it is a fight for the very people they think we hate, that is, the homosexuals themselves. They can't begin to understand this because they don't understand sin. Listen to that author one more time.

"The more human faces, the more images of human love we see attached to an issue in which talking heads pontificate about faceless, nameless people being denied the right that 90 percent of Americans take for granted, the more we begin to question exactly what it is that the anti-LGBT movement in this country is fighting against."

Can you not see the crux of the problem here? Those standing for the rights of LGBT, including the President of this country, don't even know what we are fighting against. This is why their feelings about us and their words against us are so far off. When they say that we are unloving hatemongers whose only purpose is to stop faceless, nameless people from having rights, they are so far off target that someone should cry FORE!!! Of course, no one will because, unlike the game of golf, the ones taking the shots don't realize how far from the truth they are. The truth is, what we are fighting against is sin (Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9, etc.), and who we are fighting for are the souls of those who don't understand the sinful nature of this issue. Ours is a fight motivated by love, not hate. We say it all the time. We hate homosexuality, not the homosexual. But those on the other side of the issue can't comprehend this, no matter how often we say it, because they don't truly know what is at stake. Their main focus is on people having the right to live any way they want. Thus, in all their speeches and writings, their main emphasis centers around "rights." Our agenda is higher. Our agenda is to save souls and promote God's will. Our agenda is to teach people, including the young of our society, that believing in Jesus Christ and doing the will of God is best for everyone in any culture, and is the only way that a person will go to heaven when this world ends (John 14:6). Until those fighting for "gay rights" understand our motives, they will never understand us, and their unjust conclusions about us and their misguided rhetoric towards us, will always run afoul of the truth. In the meantime, while we continue striving to save souls and standing up for God and His will, our own rights are slowly being taken away from us.

Don

Food for Thought

What Wednesday Night Services Do for You

1. Demonstrate your concern for your own spiritual welfare.
2. Illuminate those round about you as to what you consider to be really important in life.
3. Insulate you against the constant bombardment of the wicked world in which we live.
4. Educate you and your children regarding the highest principles and most noble practices which the mind of man can entertain.

--Dee Bowman

Thinking of God

Do we really think of God, As often as we should; Do we heed His precious word, Thinking always of Good;

If we love His gracious promises, Of the home for us prepared, Of His love for us so gracious, knowing that for us He cared;

If we are faithful He'll call us home some day, Where we will find eternal rest, From our labours along the way, to dwell eternally with the blest.

—Dewey Hendricks

Hundred Years Happily

1. Do not be on the lookout for ill health.

2. Keep usefully at work.

3. Learn to be satisfied.

4. Keep on liking people.

5. Meet adversity valiantly.

6. Meet the little problems of life with decision.

7. Above all, maintain a good sense of humor, best done by saying something pleasant every time you get a chance.

8. Live and make the present hour pleasant and cheerful.

Keep your mind out of the past,
and keep it out of the future.

--JOHN SCHINDLER

Diagnosis

On his eightieth birthday, John Quincy Adams responded to a query concerning his well-being by saying: "John Quincy Adams is well. But the house in which he lives at present is becoming dilapidated. It is tottering upon its foundation. Time and the

seasons have nearly destroyed it. Its roof is pretty well worn out.

Its walls are much shattered and it trembles with every wind. I think John Quincy Adams will have to move out of it soon. But he himself is quite well."

Built Together

There are parts of a ship which taken by themselves would sink. The engine would sink. The

propeller would sink. But when the parts of a ship are built together, they float. So with the events of my life. Some have been tragic. Some have been happy. But when they are built together, they form a craft that floats and is going someplace. And I am comforted.

--RALPH SOCKMAN