PLANNED BY GOD AS A SIGN OF THE END

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Gay Pride: Planned by God as a Sign of the End By Harold Camping

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GAY PRIDE & SAME SEX MARRIAGE SUCCESSES; A SIGN FROM GOD THAT JUDGMENT DAY IS VERY NEAR

he world-wide success of the Gay Pride/Same Sex Marriage movement is a dramatic sign provided by God to warn the world that the world is on the threshold of Judgment Day.

In the Bible God has given a number of signs to warn the world that Judgment Day and the end of the world are very close. For example:

- 1. The nation of Israel was destroyed by the Romans in the year 70 A.D. As a consequence, for more than 1,800 years it did not exist as a nation. Nor did it have its own homeland. But then in 1948, almost miraculously, it became a nation with its own homeland. God planned this event for many reasons. One was to demonstrate that the world is getting near its end (Matthew 24:32,33).
- 2. The rise of the Charismatic Movement, that began several decades ago and has spread like wildfire throughout the world into so many churches (Matthew 24:24; Revelation13:13,14), is another sign that God has given that indicates we are very close to the end.
- 3. The great spiritual decay that can be seen in most churches (1 Peter 4:17, Jeremiah 25:28,29) is another sign that God has given.
- 4. Another sign is given by God's words in 1 Thessalonians 5. There God warns that there will be a time when there will be true believers who will know from the Bible the time of the Day of Judgment. But a great many others who have the Bible will insist He will come as a thief in the night that is, we cannot know the time.

In our day if any person who is a member of a church is asked, "Do you know when Christ is coming?" the answer

that will usually be given is, "The Bible says we cannot know. Jesus is coming as a thief in the night." If the questioner then asks, "Are you ready to meet Him whenever He comes?" the usual answer that is given is, "Yes, I am saved. I am ready to meet Him whenever He comes." Effectively they have said, "Christ is coming as a thief in the night but I am safely at peace with God because I am saved.

This response is exactly the sign God has given in the Bible that assures us that Judgment Day is almost here. In 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6 God warns:

For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. For ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

For those who are not watching Christ gives the frightening warning that He will come as a thief. Sudden destruction will come upon them (the Day of Judgment). In Revelation 3:13 God informs us:" ...If therefore, thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee." To watch means to search through the Bible to learn from God when He is coming. This is the way we have learned that He is coming on May 21, 2011.

This sign gives the terrible warning that those in the churches who believe that we cannot know the exact day of Christ's return and that He will come as a thief in the night (but that they themselves are saved) will for certain enter into Judgment Day to endure the wrath of God. How awful!

THE GAY PRIDE SIGN

But no sign is as dramatic and clear as the phenomenal world-wide success of the Gay Pride movement. In the Bible God describes His involvement with this dramatic movement. Remember, each and every word in the original languages of the Bible came from the lips of God.

In the Bible God instructs us that about 4,000 years ago there were four cities that were abruptly destroyed by God because of their wickedness . The key city was named Sodom (Genesis 19).

In Sodom lived a man named Lot who was a believer in the God of the Bible. God came to warn Lot to immediately leave Sodom because of its imminent destruction due to its great wickedness. God came to Lot's house appearing as two very distinguished holy men.

The men of Sodom, both young and old, had seen these distinguished visitors enter Lot's house. They demanded that they be allowed "to know them." "To know them" is Biblical language that means that they wanted to have sex with them. They were so demanding that they were ready to tear down the door of Lot's house. Finally God blinded them so that they could no longer find the door.

The next morning after Lot and his two daughters were safely out of Sodom, God completely destroyed it and the three neighboring cities by fire and brimstone (Genesis 19:24,25).

SODOM'S DESTRUCTION ILLUSTRATES JUDGMENT DAY

n Jude verses 6 and 7 of the Bible God instructs us that the destruction of Sodom is revealed to us as an example of the Day of Judgment. Fire is to burn up the whole world when God destroys it (2 Peter 3:10). God declares in Jude 6 and 7:

And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, He hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are

set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

In many citations the Bible informs us that there will come a time when the whole world will experience the wrath of God. God speaks of this as Judgment Day. Judgment Day is typified by the destruction of Sodom.

As has been noted above, the sin which was occurring in Sodom just before its destruction was homosexuality. In Jude 7 God speaks of this sin as "going after strange flesh." That dramatically relates to today's world.

To understand this we should look at some more information God gives us in the Bible. We will learn that the Gay Pride movement would successfully develop as a sign to the world that Judgment Day was about to occur.

In Romans 1 of the Bible God prophecies about a future time when homosexuality would become very important in the world. Almost 2,000 years ago God declared in Romans 1:24-27:

Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

Never in the history of the world before the present time have we seen the fulfillment of this prophecy. Throughout the history of the world, homosexuality was a sin that was present to a small degree, particularly as part of the worship of idols. However, in the history of the United States, for example, it was always seen as an exceedingly shameful act. We used the phrase, "It was kept in the closet."

But in the last 20 years or so it has increasingly become a major success story. Not only in the U.S. but all over the world it is being accepted as an alternative lifestyle. Rather than being hidden, it is proudly and loudly displayed. The title of the movement, "Gay Pride," has been very accurately chosen.

The Bible has clearly warned that such activity is sinful, just as murder, adultery, stealing, and lying are sinful. God warns very plainly in Leviticus 18:22:

Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

In the United States, for example, this is the way it has always been regarded.

A GREAT CHANGE IN THE MORALITY OF THE WORLD

But something drastic has happened to the morality of the world. God tells us what has happened in the Bible verses which are written in Romans 1: 24 and 26:

Wherefore God also <u>gave them up</u> to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves...For this cause God <u>gave them up</u> unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature.

We took the liberty of underlining the words "gave them up," which could also be written, "gave up them." This phrase "gave them up" is tremendously important. In the original Greek language of the Bible the words "gave up" are written as one word. It is the Greek verb *paradidomi*. It is normally used as a judicial word meaning to "deliver up."

For example in Mark 15:1 we read "The chief priests...with the elders...bound Jesus...and <u>delivered</u> Him to Pilate." (Mark 15:1). Pilate...<u>delivered</u> Jesus...to be crucified (Mark 15:15). The verb *paradidomi* is also translated "betrayed."

For example, "...the Son of man is betrayed (<u>delivered</u>) into the hand of sinners" (Mark 14:41).

Thus in Romans 1:24 and 1:26 God is declaring that God planned to <u>deliver up</u> the world to gross homosexual and lesbian activity.

How strange! Why would God do this? Insofar as we can know God has normally restrained this particular sin. Lying, stealing, adultery, hatred, and murder are sins that are common throughout the world's history. But the sin of homosexuality that was going on so greatly and so publicly in Sodom at the time it was destroyed has normally been kept hidden because of its shame. We have already called attention to this conclusion as we view the history of the United States.

Remarkably, the Gay Pride movement of our time is presented very proudly to the entire world. This matches what was happening in Sodom at the time of its destruction. We read in Genesis 19:4,5:

But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

Remember, the words "to know them" is Biblical language that means they wanted to have sex with them.

God calls our attention to this boldly public behavior in Isaiah 3:9: "...they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not..."

DOES THIS MAKE GOD RESPONSIBLE FOR SIN?

But how can a Holy God deliver up a world to gross sin? Doesn't this make God responsible and accountable for sin? This, of course, cannot be.

We must realize that mankind is by nature in complete rebellion against God. Thus by nature he is ready to disobey each and every law that God gives to the human race. But sin is very destructive. God gave mankind laws to live by so that we might have a good and happy life on this earth. In the measure a person obeys God's law, in that measure he ordinarily will find that he can have a happier and more fruitful life.

Because the nature of mankind is to break every law of God, God in His wonderful mercy has done several things to assist mankind to be more obedient to these laws of God. For example:

- 1. When God created man He placed in every person's personality an awareness that there is a God that each person must answer to. This is why by nature every person is a religious being.
- 2. The law of God to some degree has been written on the heart of every person. In Romans 2:14,15 God declares:

For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another.

3. God actively restrains sin in the lives of natural man so that God's purposes in the world will be achieved (Genesis 20:6). However, God can also remove these restraints. God can do this if that person's sins will help Holy God achieve His purposes in the world.

For example, God hardened Pharaoh's heart (that is, removed the restraints on the normal sinful character of Pharaoh) at the time that Israel was to be set free from Egyptian bondage and be allowed to return to their own land (Exodus 8:19, 32, etc.) God did this "...to show in thee (Pharaoh) My power and that My name may be declared throughout all the earth" (Exodus 9:16).

Another example is given in connection with God preparing all the people in all the churches of our day for entrance into the Day of Judgment. God declares in 2 Thessalonians 2:11,12:

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

These verses are teaching that God can remove a person's consciousness or sensitivity to sin so that that which is actually very sinful will be looked upon as no sin. This is why many sinful acts of our day, including that of homosexuality are increasingly no longer looked upon as sin.

Thus we can learn that it is God's mercy that normally He restrains the natural tendencies of mankind to be extremely sinful. God, in His loving patience and kindness, restrains sin so that mankind can possibly live a reasonably happy life.

Because of what God teaches us in Romans 1:24-27 of the Bible, we can know that the present day phenomenon of the Gay Pride movement is a result of the fact that God has removed His restraints on sin. As a result an otherwise shameful and unique sin such as homosexuality has become widely practiced and accepted by mankind.

Thus we learn that God has planned today's situation of Gay Pride and same-sex marriages to show the world that it is on the threshold of Judgment Day. He has shown us that an obviously parallel situation exists between Sodom, when it was on the threshold of destruction, and the world of our day, which is on the threshold of destruction.

Both have the public unique sin of homosexuality (going after strange flesh) loudly and proudly displayed. That is why in Jude 7 God emphasizes:

Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth <u>for an example</u>, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Therefore we can know that by means of the continuing worldwide successes of the Gay Pride, same-sex marriage movement, God has given convincing evidence that the world is on the threshold of Judgment Day.

This conclusion is not offered because it is the opinion of some Bible scholar. It is said because this is what God teaches in the Bible. This dramatic sign which increasingly is in evidence all over the world fits perfectly with the solid Biblical teaching that May 21, 2011 will be the first day of the Day of Judgment.

The only hope any human being has to escape that terrible Day of Judgment is that he humbly pleads with God for His mercy. Even though no one deserves God's mercy, God is still saving many people. Therefore, as a person humbly begs and implores God for His undeserved mercy, God might save that person before that awesome first day of Judgment Day, May 21, 2011.

For more information on this subject, or to learn more about the details of the end of the world you are invited to write Family Radio to request the following, or to view them on our website:

Tracts:

- No Man Knows the Day or the Hour?
- Judgment Day: May 21, 2011

Booklets:

- We Are Almost There
- To God Be the Glory
- I Hope God Will Save Me

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