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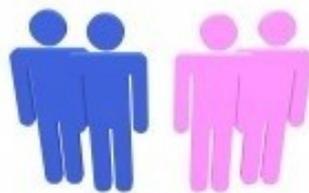
## *Dangers of the New Sexual Revolution*

When a nation turns from the wisdom of God (when it turns from the light of the Bible), it's inviting many problems and great darkness. Many of the readers of this publication live in 'third world' countries which have not yet adopted the soul destroying ideology of the west to encourage, promote, and support by legislation same sex intimate relationships and transgender practices. It is hoped that this article will provide sufficient warning to such readers to be vigilant and proactive against the serious attempts currently being made by the 'west' to cause governments worldwide to take the same naïve and dangerous path. May parents in the west likewise see this as a wake-up call to stand up against the serious threat to their children that this new sexual revolution poses.

### **Normalization and celebration**

The facts are these. We in western society have been given the message that homosexuality should be celebrated. School children are taught from an early age that

it is an acceptable alternative lifestyle. They are educated about it, and also exposed to transgender (sex change) issues. Legislation on many subjects has been modified to treat intimate same-sex couples for all intents and purposes as married couples. They have even been granted marriage, IVF, and adoption rights, in several parts of the world! The homosexual movement will not stop until they have full marriage, IVF, and adoption rights everywhere. We should be greatly concerned about this.



The immediate reaction to what I have just written from many of my countrymen and women in Australia or New Zealand would be:

*'So what. Why am I such a homophobic? They are not hurting anyone.'*

If this is your reaction, I wonder whether the following information will raise concerns for you about the mess our leaders are creating through

irresponsible policy decisions, and the dangers we are exposing our children to.

### **The Dangers**

I raise the question, 'were most of us considering whether we were "gay", "bi", "straight" or "transgender material" when we were at primary school, or even secondary school, for that matter?' I am 42, and most in my generation certainly weren't.

Because I was shy toward the opposite sex as a boy (which is not uncommon), I could well imagine if I had gone through today's school system perhaps naively questioning myself as to whether I was gay. I believe that rebellious, adventurous, experimental, and naïve children are needlessly being exposed to the risk of entering into lifestyles they were never meant to lead. I can't give you facts and figures, but I believe it is very likely that our children are experimenting sexually in ways they would never have

*A magazine dedicated to uplifting and transforming peoples lives through the uncompromised word of God.*

dreamed of, absent today's general approach of actively normalizing (and hence encouraging) homosexuality. I suspect that more parents than ever before are being confronted with teens who have been duped into experimenting with their sexuality.

Now please put yourself in the shoes of a parent (if you're not one already). If you were fully aware of the very negative side of these different sexual lifestyles, would you want schools, television, governments, and society in general to continue promoting them as healthy and respectable lifestyles to be celebrated? Would you really want your naïve, rebellious, or adventurous teens to be put at risk of adopting such lifestyles if you were aware of information such as the following from the very own web-site of the National Lesbian Gay Bi-sexual & Transgender Health Alliance:

*“Out of the 20,000 participants in the national Australian Study of Health and Relationships, those who were same-sex attracted reported higher levels of psychosocial distress. Results from the Longitudinal Study of the Health of Australian Women showed that 38% of same-sex attracted female respondents aged 22-27 had experienced depression compared to 19% of heterosexual female respondents, and that non-heterosexual women were more likely to have tried to harm or kill themselves in the previous 6 months (12.6% vs 2.7%). [ A rate five times greater]*

<http://www.lgbthealth.org.au/mental-health>

The facts about the health risks are very easy to find, although sadly

(and perhaps deliberately) they are not well-publicized. **Every parent should do a Google keyword search along the lines of “Homosexual health problems, issues or risks”, and similar searches. The results may horrify!** Such searches will quickly reveal (from both government and gay-friendly sources) that if children are duped into such lifestyles they are much more likely than heterosexuals to experience the following problems and issues:

- sexual disease (of many kinds – not just HIV)
- violence, including significant violence from homosexual partners
- depression and mental illness
- a disturbingly larger number of sexual partners and relationship break-ups, with all the associated problems
- drug and alcohol abuse
- significantly reduced life expectancy
- breast, ovarian, colon and endometrial cancers (for lesbians)
- school-related issues
- smoking-related health issues
- obesity



The motivation of governments, and society at large, in promoting alternative sexualities is, in part, to protect people living such lifestyles from violence and persecution. However, there are wiser ways (which should be adopted) to protect those who live

these lifestyles from being physically harmed or persecuted, other than promotion and normalization. This only creates bigger problems as I believe statistics will show that a greater number of people are now taking on homosexuality with its associated difficulties. The quote above from the NLGBT Health Alliance went on to suggest that the reason for the negative health issues of homosexuals etc was violence, persecution, and stigmatization. However Dr N. E. Whitehead's article at <http://www.narth.com/docs/whitehead.html> suggests that these greater problems that homosexuals experience are due primarily to the lifestyle itself, and not primarily because of the stigmatization associated with the lifestyle. For example, he points out the impact of greater relationship breakdown on their mental health.

### Spiritual concerns

Only social, societal, and health concerns have been addressed so far. However the eternal consequences, should not be ignored. The Bible does clearly identify homosexual practices as sin. The Apostle Paul, for example, writes:

*Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.* (Romans 1:27)

*Continued on page four*

## THE DOCTRINE OF BALAAM

In Revelation 2:14 Jesus Christ says “I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balam”. Warnings about this doctrine also appear in 2 Peter 2:15 and Jude 11, but its beginning is found in the Old Testament before Israel became a nation, while they were journeying to the promised land.

So what is the doctrine of Balam? Why does God detest it so much and why has it been part of human history for so long – from the beginning of God’s covenant with his people in ancient times right through to the present age and into the future?

The story of Balam is to be found in Numbers Chapters 22 – 24 & 31. The events it describes occur as the children of Israel, having journeyed through many lands on their exodus from Egypt to the promised land, entered the plains of Moab, and made camp.

For the duration of their journey God led them and was with them; a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night (Numbers 9:18-18). They were in covenant with God. No nation or peoples could withstand them. Concerning all the peoples they came up against, God had spoken to Moses saying, “Do not fear them, for I have delivered them into your hand.”

By the time Israel approached

Moab they had defeated the Canaanites, Amorites and Og, King of Bashan. Their reputation and the stories of their success went before them and so when the children of Israel came to be camped on the edge of Moab’s territory that “Moab was sick with dread because of the children of Israel” (Numbers 22:3).

The King of Moab, Balak, did not like the children of Israel - they were in his territory and he wanted them out. Knowing that Moab could not defeat them by natural means Balak called for Balam the seer, a foreteller of events, to curse the children of Israel because he regarded them as too powerful. He said “perhaps I may be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land, for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed” (Numbers 22:6).



The situation looked like it was going to be another contest between God and Satan, similar to that recently encountered in Egypt. Amazingly, “God came to Balaam, and said, what men are these with you” (v.9) to which Balam replied, they were men sent by the King of Moab, Balak, to give me rewards if I will curse these people.

“But God said to Balam, you shall not go with them; you shall not curse the people, **for they are blessed.**” (v12) In other words, they were in covenant with God, blessed through Abraham’s previous obedience to God. Nothing could break that covenant, and any desire by Balak or Balam to curse the people would not prevail.

In fact, God visited Balam numerous times. Even the spirit of God came upon him (Numbers 24:2) whereby he provided three prophecies blessing the children of Israel, and in a fourth and final prophecy he advised King Balak “what this people will do to ... [his] people in the latter days” (Numbers 24:14).

So what is the doctrine of Balam? Balam is clearly not a man of God. Nevertheless he blessed God’s people and did God’s bidding.

2 Peter 2:15 says that Balam loved the wages of unrighteousness. Not the fruits of unrighteousness, but the physical remuneration and reward of his unrighteous deeds. He was a seer, or false teacher, someone for hire to the highest bidder. He hired himself out for either blessings or cursing and in Numbers we are told that he received his diviner’s fee.

In doing what he did, Balam taught Balak how God’s people could be cursed. While they were in covenant and not sinning, “He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it. He has not observed iniquity in Jacob, nor has he seen wickedness in Israel. The Lord his God is with him.”

(Numbers 23:21). They could not be cursed, or be subject to a curse.

In chapter 25 we see that, with Israel remaining in Moab, Balak was tempting the girls of Israel with the boys of his country, and tempting the boys of Israel with the girls from his country whereby they started to worship pagan idols (v.2).

With this sin, God's blessing was taken away, exposing them to a curse (non-blessing) that ended in 24,000 Israelites being killed (v.9). Revelation 2:14 confirms this. It says that Balam, "taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality."

Christians today are in covenant with God. God will honour that covenant with his people at large. But through our own actions or lack of obedience to him, we may cause that bond to be broken. There is no such thing as a doctrine of 'once saved always saved.' Sin always produces consequences. You may be forgiven (for example as King David was) but the effects and consequences of that sin will remain. Forgiveness removes the penalty, but does not remove the consequences.

Today, the doctrine of Balam causes God's people to lose that protection – opening themselves up to a curse (non-blessing). Jesus, when forgiving a man of his infirmities said "sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you" (John 5:14).

Instead of Balak, seeking the destruction of God's people who

are in covenant, it is Satan, the Prince of this world who is "walking about like a roaring Lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

The doctrine of Balam in the churches today concerns not only the people, who in their sins are distancing themselves from God, breaking down the hedge of protection that God has built around them as part of his covenant, it also concerns false teachers and hirelings. These like Balam, enjoy payment for either pronouncing blessings or curses, speaking and teaching either the truth or lies that cause people to sin – it doesn't matter to them. They get paid either way by salary, superannuation, and other benefits.

This we see in some churches today; those partaking of things sacrificed or honouring idols, and other practices where sexual immorality is condoned as part of 'progressive reform' to halt declining church attendances and to appeal to a broader section of society: homosexual behaviour, sexual relationships outside of marriage, defacto and same-sex marriages.

Don't be misled. God detests any falsehood that leads his people astray. Those that promote the doctrine of Balam will not go unpunished.

*Richard Todd*



*Continued from page two*

See also 1 Corinthians 1 : 9 - 10 where the Bible warns that those practicing homosexuality will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By promoting and normalizing same-sex relationships we are also exposing our children to the risk of going down a path which hinders their hope of eternal life with God. Of course this is the most serious thing of all.

### **Conclusion**

If you are a person who has been going with the flow and trying to be politically correct on this issue, isn't it time to inform yourself of the facts? Do the Google search I suggested as a starter. Maybe you can make a difference, if not for your own children, for the **many children who may sadly soon grow up with 'parents' of only one gender**, and who may grow up believing the Bible is shamefully 'homophobic', and to be shunned.

Let's pray for politicians and parents. May they be better informed of the risks of the homosexual lifestyle and be less willing to support 'gay' marriage, adoption, and IVF rights.

In all this it must not be forgotten that God loves all people. Therefore we must be careful to express God's love toward those of different sexual preferences in appropriate ways. Remember, love is patient and kind.

*David Kidd*

# Back from the Dead

*Salvation is fresh air in the lungs of a former alcoholic and drug user.*

- by Steve Henderson

“Going to Texas. Nice knowing you.”

The handwritten note on the TV set stunned me. It was from my wife Daneen. She had taken our little daughter and left me behind in Oklahoma.

I couldn't blame her. I had been coming home at four in the morning from my job as a night club bartender, then sleeping all day. I had recently received two drunken driving charges. I'd also been heavy into drugs, growing marijuana in our house.

It made sense that Daneen didn't want our daughter around my lifestyle, but I got mad anyway. I didn't want to be separated from them. So I got drunk in a local bar.

Just my luck; I received another DUI and landed in jail.

I would repeat this pattern about a month later. This time I was charged with possession of drugs and hauled off to jail.

Now I found myself sitting in that cold, lonely Oklahoma jail cell again. I felt dead inside, as I had felt most of my life. I'd tried a lot of things to escape but couldn't seem to find peace and contentment. With time on my hands in that cell, I started looking at my life.

## A CHILD OF THE SIXTIES

I had grown up in the sixties - the Beatles, Vietnam, the assassinations of the Kennedys and Martin Luther King, the killings at Kent State, LSD, “God is dead.” I grew my hair long, tried to “find myself,” and wanted to fit in with the crowd. So I tried drugs.

At age fifteen I joined the hippie culture and experimented with marijuana. Within a year I was taking speed and LSD and selling drugs to support my habit.

I also started drinking alcohol regularly. To me, nothing could be better than blowing a couple of joints in the park and drowning myself in a bottle of Jack Daniels or Seagrams.

## DOWN SIDE

But there was a down side to this lifestyle: It didn't help me cope with my dad's increasing alcoholism and my parents' divorce when I was sixteen.

After the divorce, my dad and I moved into an apartment, and from there things got worse. I became a full-blown alcoholic and got deeper into drugs. I tried to escape the pain of my parents' split, but it never really went away.

My dad was no help. When he wasn't drinking he was watching TV, leaving me to search for fulfilment and purpose in all the wrong places. I decided to move out and live with an older woman I'd been seeing. But she couldn't fulfil me either.



## ARMY LIFE

When I was eighteen I enlisted in the Army, thinking the discipline would help me quit drugs and booze. By this time I smoked anything I could get my lips around: pine needles, leaves from green pepper plants, PCP angel dust, cocaine. I also did mescaline and “shrooms.”

But when I got to the Army base, I found more drugs there than I'd found on the streets. I began connecting with drug dealers. I got a rush out of living in the fast lane - partying, taking risks with the law. I even sold speed in Korea, known for handing down life sentences to those caught selling drugs.

Eventually I got word that Army authorities were watching me and was warned to drop my drug connections. To make the break I got involved in martial arts, studying and developing techniques to achieve a black belt. The disciplines I learned in tae kwon do helped my self-confidence and gave me direction. When my instructor

encouraged me to lay back on the partying, I worked out four or five hours a day rather than drink myself to death.

## FIGHTING MAD

In two years I earned a black belt and went on to become a Korean middleweight champion. Things in my life had been looking up but changed one night when I got in a fight in a bar. A guy started to cut me up with a straight razor; I went berserk. I tried to fight three guys with tae kwon do but ended up getting into more trouble. The Army decided to discharge me.

I was furious. *So I lost my cool for awhile*, I told myself. *So what?* But with my ups and downs with drugs in the past, the Army carried through with the discharge.

## COPING WITH ANGER

Back in the States I drank and did drugs to cope with my anger. Over the next few years I totalled five cars while driving drunk. One night when I bounced a guy out of the night club I worked in, he held a pistol to my head but didn't pull the trigger. I was amazed he didn't kill me.

In my late twenties I met Daneen at the night club and married her after dating two years. We both enjoyed drinking and taking drugs and growing our own marijuana in the house. But when our daughter Dayla came along, Daneen started to change. She wanted to clean up her life and be a good mother. But I couldn't give up drinking and drugs.

## VISITORS

Having reviewed my life in that Oklahoma jail cell, I didn't like what I saw. *Drugs and drinking have ruined me*, I told myself. *A bartender in a night club - what kind of job is that for a father? And Daneen - I can't stand being away from her. I'll do anything to get her back.*

After I'd been out of jail awhile, an older couple walked to my house every Friday and knocked on my front door. I didn't know them; I sure didn't want to talk to them, so I hid in a back room until they went away.

But the couple didn't give up.

Finally one day I opened the door when they knocked. They said they were from a nearby church. Would I consider coming?

I said yes just to get them off my back. When I showed up at church the following weekend, I wasn't much impressed with what I saw - except for a guy up front playing guitar. He was about my age. Though I didn't pay much attention to the service, I wanted to meet that guy. I play guitar too; maybe we could "talk shop."

The guy introduced himself as Ron and invited himself over to my house to jam. I didn't go back to the church but did let Ron come over to play his guitar with me. Ron intrigued me; he had a peace about him, almost a glow. He seemed genuinely interested in me and in what was going on with Daneen.

In time Ron became my friend, but he wasn't like other "friends" in my past who wanted to get drugs from me. Something was different about Ron. Whatever it was, I wanted it.

#### A NEED TO CHANGE

I knew I needed to change, so I called Daneen in Texas and said I wanted her back. When she agreed to return, I had hope.

Ron kept coming over to the house with his guitar. During some of our jam sessions, he told me he had done drugs years ago but that God had delivered him from them. After Ron heard more of my story, he said I needed God in my life. But I wasn't sure he was right.

#### LIVING WORDS

During one of his visits, Ron left a Bible and encouraged me to read. I read mainly in the Gospel of John about judgment and realized that my drinking and taking drugs had bad consequences. I would stand before God one day and answer for the kind of lifestyle that had destroyed me.

I also read about something called eternal life, that a person can live forever with God based on his choice in this life. For the first time, I started thinking, *There must be something more than living and dying.*

I read that God loved us so much, He sent His own Son Jesus to die for the

*Continued on page eight*



#### ***THERE'S A BRIGHTER DAY***

**Storms do prevail  
And doubts assail,  
Yet we are not in despair  
For thou doth care,**

**And our share  
Of sorrows here below  
Cannot compare  
To the joys to come;**

**When we will be done  
With trial and temptation,  
And look forward  
In anticipation**

**To that day  
When we shall say  
With joyful heart  
"My Lord and my God!"  
~ Anna Tucker ~**



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## *The Youth Section*

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E	X	C	W	B	U	U	T	T	R	C	Z	S	W	H
E	Z	E	O	C	N	N	E	W	E	A	M	T	B	I
R	W	F	P	J	J	M	N	O	W	S	E	I	M	T
T	Y	G	M	Q	U	E	V	D	O	U	T	L	X	O
G	O	X	N	Z	S	R	I	E	S	S	D	D	L	E
I	S	E	R	A	T	C	R	B	D	E	R	R	G	R
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S	B	E	L	O	S	T	S	O	N	B	T	O	O	I
G	O	O	D	S	A	M	A	R	I	T	A	N	U	H

Two Debtors - Good Samaritan - Rich Fool - Lost Son - Fig Tree - Unjust Steward.

Tares - Hidden Treasure - Pearl - Drag Net - Two Sons - Ten Virgins - Talents - Sower.

## Insights From the Past

### THE EXALTED CHRIST

*By Dr. Alexander Maclaren*

The Epistle to the Hebrews over and over again reiterates the thought that we have a priest that has passed into the heavens, there to appear in the presence of God for us. And the Apostle Paul, in the great linked climax in the eighth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, has it: "Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

There are deep mysteries connected with that thought of the intercession of Christ. It does not mean that the divine heart needs to be won to love and pity. It does not mean that in any mere outward and formal fashion. He pleads with God and softens and placates the infinite and eternal love of the Father in the heavens. It, at least, plainly means this, that He, our Savior and Sacrifice, is forever in the presence of God, presenting His own blood as an element in the divine dealing with us, modifying the incidents of the divine law, and securing through His own merits and intercession the outflow of blessings upon our heads and hearts.

It is not a complete statement of Christ's work for us that He died for us. He died that He might have somewhat to offer. He lives that He may be our Advocate, as well as our Propitiation, with the Father. And just as the high priest once a year passed within the curtain, and there, in the solemn silence and solitude of the holy place, sprinkled the blood that he bore thither, not without trembling, and but for a moment permitted to stay in the awful Presence; thus, but in reality and forever, with the joyful gladness of a Son in His "own calm home, His habitation from eternity." Christ abides in the holy place, and at the right hand of the Majesty of the heavens lifts up that prayer, so strangely compact of authority and submission: "Father, I will that these whom thou hast given me be with me where I am." The Son of Man at the right hand of God is our intercessor with the Father. "Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed through the heavens...let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace."

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above article appeared in the November 21, 1899 issue of **Sabbath Advocate and Herald of the Advent**, an earlier name for the **Bible Advocate**.

*Continued from page six*

sins of the world. As I read about Jesus' death on the cross, I wondered how Jesus could care about someone as messed up as I was.



#### ALIVE

More and more I realized the times I should have been wasted by a drug dealer or by guys I tried to fight. For me to have been delivered so many times, there must be a God.

I quit my job at the bar and committed my life to God. I came home one day and told Daneen, "I'm following God. I think this is what we need in our marriage. Do you want to go with me?"

Daneen agreed and we both started attending church every week. After one month I confessed my sins to God and accepted Jesus Christ's death on the cross for my sins. Daneen did too!

I felt alive, as if I'd been dug up out of the grave and given new air in my lungs! I couldn't stand the thought of booze and drugs. I wanted to act different because I was different. I felt the peace and contentment I had searched for so long. I finally saw the purpose for my life: telling others what Jesus has done for me.

I have more opportunity to do this while serving as a pastor. I'm bringing the message of Christ to people with past hurts, sinful lifestyles, and secret lusts. Whatever has killed them, God can bring new life.

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