

**“NOW THAT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IS THE ‘LAW OF THE LAND’
WHAT IS THE CHURCH TO DO?”**

INTRO: On June 26, 2015 something happened in the United States of America that I never thought would happen. Many celebrated! It was a very sad day! **THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HANDED DOWN A DECISION ON HOMOSEXUAL MARRIAGE THAT INCLUDED:**

- 1) That all 50 States of the Union may grant licenses for homosexuals and lesbians who desire to get married.
- 2) That all States that **DO NOT** grant licenses for homosexual and lesbian marriage **MUST** recognize the licenses of the States that do.

WHO WOULD HAVE EVER THOUGHT THIS WOULD HAPPEN IN AMERICA?

In reality there are **SEVERAL PROBLEMS** with this ruling:

1) The Ruling of the Supreme Court is Unconstitutional for **FOUR** reasons:

a) The Supreme Court is **NOT** to make laws in America. That is up to the Congress. The Supreme Court is only to interpret the law. **THUS THE COURT VIOLATED THE U.S. CONSTITUTION.**

b) The Supreme Court should not have even heard the arguments for same -sex marriage because it is a violation of jurisdiction. **THE U. S. CONSTITUTION ONLY GIVES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT 17 RESPONSIBILITIES OVER WHICH TO GOVERN AND MARRIAGE IS NOT ONE OF THE 17.**

c) The Supreme Court violated that **TENTH AMENDMENT** of the **U. S. CONSTITUTION THAT PLACES THE JURISDICTION OF MARRIAGE IN THE HANDS OF THE INDIVIDUAL STATES.**

d) The Supreme Court violated the **FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT** of the **U.S.CONSTITUTION THAT STATES THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CANNOT FORCE ANYTHING ON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WITHOUT DUE PROCESS.**

2) The Ruling of the Supreme Court is Unbiblical because **MARRIAGE IS GOD’S INSTITUTION AND HE DEFINED IT AS BEING BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN ONLY – GENESIS 2:18-25.**

3) The Ruling of the Supreme Court has the potential to open the door for **THE INFRINGEMENT OF OUR RELIGIOUS RIGHTS.**

a) Pastors may be forced to marry people of the same-sex.

b) Churches may be threatened to have their tax-exempt status withdrawn if they refuse to allow people of the same-sex to get married in their buildings.

4) The Ruling of the Supreme Court is **LIKELY TO BRING THE JUDGMENT OF GOD ON AMERICA. REMEMBER SODOM AND GOMORRAH?**

5) The Ruling of the Supreme Court **COMPLETELY BREAKS DOWN THE FAMILY STRUCTURE.**

6) The Ruling of the Supreme Court **PUTS THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN JEOPARDY.**

WHAT IS THE CHURCH TO DO NOW?

SOME OBSERVATIONS:

1) The fact that homosexual marriage is even being considered is an indictment on Pastors for not preaching the Whole Counsel of God.

2) The fact that homosexual marriage is even being considered is an indication that the Church of Jesus Christ has been Silent on too many moral issues.

3) The fact that homosexual marriage is even being considered is an indication that many Christians have not been Evangelizing or Speaking the Truth of the Word of God effectively.

4) The fact that homosexual marriage is even being considered is the result of removing the Bible from the public square.

5) The fact that homosexual marriage is even being considered is the result of that secular thought that there is no Absolute Truth.

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TEN BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE CHURCH TO ACTIVATE

I. PROMOTE RIGHTEOUSNESS – PROVERBS 14:34

-Promoting Righteousness will reveal the sinfulness of mankind and the salvation of God and make a spiritual impact upon all of society.

II. PRODUCE SALT AND LIGHT – MATTHEW 5:13-16

-Producing Salt and Light will bring conviction upon the world and shine the light of God’s salvation through Jesus Christ.

III. PERSEVERE IN WELL DOING – GALATIANS 6:9

-Persevering in well doing means not giving up in the Battle. We must not quit but remain strong in the face of raging war.

IV. PROCLAIM THE TRUTH OF GOD IN LOVE – EPHESIANS 4:15

-Proclaiming the truth of God in love means that we do so in a non-condemning way and will open the door for the Holy Spirit to work in the loves of those who hear the truth.

V. PROJECT OUR SPEECH WITH GRACE – GALATIANS 4:6

-Projecting our speech with Grace “seasoned with salt” will give more opportunities to speak and will be used by God to open the ears of the listeners

VI. PREPARE TO UPHOLD THE TRUTH – 1 TIMOTHY 3:15

-Preparing to uphold the truth means to know the truth of God’s Word, Live the truth of God’s Word and proclaim the truth of God’s Word always.

VII. PREACH THE WORD OF GOD – 2 TIMOTHY 4:2

-Preaching the Word of God is the pastor’s duty. But ALL Christians can participate through prayer, encouragement and personal involvement.

VIII. PROFOUNDLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH – JUDE 3

-Profoundly contending for the Faith involves knowing the principles of the faith, developing the principles of the faith personally and pointing out those who do not teach the principles of the faith.

IX. PROPAGATE THE GOSPEL – MARK 16:15

-Propagating the Gospel involves evangelizing the world with the message of Jesus Christ.

X. PRAY FOR BOLDNESS – EPHESIANS 6:18-20

-Praying for boldness involves praying that all Christians will have the strength to unashamedly communicate the Gospel without hesitation or weakness.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

1) Many people who are in favor of homosexual marriage have never really heard the Gospel. If they hear it and receive it, it will change their lives.

-1 Corinthians 6:9-11

2) Shame is upon us as Christians if people around us have not heard the Gospel – 1 Corinthians 15:34

3) Those that practice homosexual activities can be forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ. – 1 John 1:7

4) If Christians do not share the Gospel with sinners, their blood will be on our hands. – Ezekiel 33:7-9

5) We may have lost a battle in the Supreme Court Decision on Friday, but the War is NOT over! – Matthew 16:18; Romans 8:37; 1 Corinthians 15:58

FINAL CHALLENGE:

Let’s determine today to pray for the Church, for pastors, for individual Christians and for those who do not know the Lord that God will have His way and be glorified through the preaching of the Gospel and the salvation of souls.