

WORDS OF TRUTH

A Weekly Bulletin for the Sunrise Acres church of Christ

Volume IX ~ Issue I ~ September 28th, 2008

<http://www.wordsoftruth.net>

Edited By: *Brian A. Yeager*



Sunrise Acres CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting at:
8625 Robert Drive
El Paso, TX 79904

915-755-8137 (Building)
915-525-5794 (Preacher's Office)

OUR MEETING TIMES:

Sunday Bible Class: 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:55 AM
Tuesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM
Thursday Bible Study: 7:00 PM

Are You Visiting With Us?

If you are visiting with us, we want to welcome you to the Lord's church (Matthew 16:18 and Colossians 1:18). Our goal is to simply get to Heaven and to help you do the same. We use the Bible as our standard to govern what we do in our work and worship for the Lord (Colossians 3:17, II Timothy 1:13, II Timothy 3:16-17, and I Peter 4:11).

We welcome your questions and would love the opportunity to study further with you. Luke recorded a fascinating statement we all need to consider: *"Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able"* (Luke 13:23-24). We invite you to join us in being one of the few that are saved!

Let's Boycott Those Homosexual Friendly Companies

By: *Brian A. Yeager*

Conscientious Christians are always concerned about their affiliations and what causes they are supporting (Proverbs 4:14-15, I Corinthians 15:33, I Thessalonians 5:22, etc.). We simply do not want to do anything that will strengthen the hands of evildoers (Jeremiah 23:14). In our society, this means we are often faced with questions of what businesses we ought to support as consumers. Certainly, we must never do anything to violate our own spiritually guided consciences (Romans 14:23).

That being said, Notice Paul's inspired instructions:

"Whatsoever is sold in the shambles, that eat, asking no question for conscience sake: For the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof. If any of them that believe not bid you to a feast, and ye be disposed to go; whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no question for conscience sake. But if any man say unto you, This is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not for his sake that shewed it, and for conscience sake: for the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof: Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other: for why is my liberty judged of another man's conscience? For if I by grace be a partaker, why am I evil spoken of for that for which I give thanks? Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (I Corinthians 10:25-31).

In the text above, Paul authorized brethren to do business in the markets that sold meat that was offered to idols. We know that knowingly partaking of meats offered to idols is Scripturally forbidden (Acts 15:28-29). However, Paul's instructions do show us some important things relative to the point of this article. For one, we do not need to research everyone we purchase products or services through to assure they are good. In fact, if the business owner is not a faithful Christian, you already know they aren't good. Secondly, we can purchase products or services from a business that sells things which contribute to the sins of others. This is important to know, for some brethren often struggle with these points. Questions of purchasing food from a store that sells alcohol, etc. come to mind. We must assure we do not overreact?

Inconsistent Boycotting Caused By Overreactions

The Disney Company has an annual pro-homosexual bash in their parks called “gay day” (<http://www.onenewsnow.com/Culture/Default.aspx?id=126400>). Ford Motor Company supports homosexual organizations (<http://www.boycottford.com/>). McDonald’s promotes homosexuality by sponsoring their organizations (<http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/2008/aug/08081412.html>). You can add Sears to the list of companies sponsoring homosexuals as well (www.americandaily.com/article/16723). Wal-Mart hired Witeck-Combs Communications, a consulting agency known for helping companies better market their products and services to the homosexual community (<http://www.thetrumpet.com/index.php?page=article&id=2581>). Add to the list of companies promoting homosexual agenda’s NBC, IBM, Subaru of America, Volvo, JP Morgan (Chase Bank), Baby Magazine, Procter and Gamble, and the list could just keep going and going! (<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,120902,00.html>; <http://100777.com/node/1032>).

Is homosexuality sinful? Yes, it most certainly is (Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13, and I Corinthians 6:9-10). Does this mean you should boycott businesses that support such sinful behavior? We already gave the Scriptural answer above. That answer showed you are not supporting the causes of a business by purchasing a product or service.

Now, I want to discuss consistency. It is rare that a day goes by wherein I do not receive an email from a Christian or an advocate website urging me to boycott a business because they support homosexuality. Let me ask some questions of consistency. Are those same people going to boycott businesses that hire and support divorced people (Matthew 19:3-9)? Are those same people going to boycott businesses that hire and support liars (Revelation 21:8)? Are those same people going to boycott businesses that hire and support people who drink alcohol (Proverbs 23:29-35 and I Peter 4:1-3)? Are those same people going to boycott businesses that sell alcohol (Habakkuk 2:15)? We no longer have to worry about supporting Ford, Volvo, or Subaru; for none of us can drive since every gas station I have ever seen sells alcohol. Are those same people going to boycott clothing stores that sell immodest clothing (I Timothy 2:9)? What about utility companies that serve businesses that sell or offer sinful services and products, will you boycott them too?

Brethren, what about the many gas stations that sell pornographic magazines, lottery tickets, and tobacco products (I Peter 2:11), will these be boycotted? If you have sent out emails urging Ford, Walmart, etc, to be boycotted, do you have cable television? Do you have regular, over the air television? Do you rent movies from video stores? All of these businesses have aired programs that support the homosexual agenda, promote premarital sex, run beer commercials, show nudity, have explicit language, etc. Are you going to boycott these? What brand of soap do you use? Remember you must boycott Procter and Gamble which produces (not including various generics and store brands): Duracell batteries, Febreze, Charmin, Ivory, Olay, Zest, Cover Girl, Max Factor, Crest, Scope, Gillette, Folgers, Tampax, Always, Pringles, and a lot of other products (http://www.pg.com/common/product_sitemap.shtml). Do you see the point? If we get “boycott happy” we have to be consistent (Romans 2:1ff.). Which, frankly, is IMPOSSIBLE when you are dealing with the world (I John 2:15-17). Let’s not get into uninformed kicks of conscience. If you do, you’ll soon find you are practicing hypocrisy (Job 13:16). I cannot name one business that is free from all ties associated with some sin! Can you?

Conclusion

As Christians we all hate to think we are supporting sin. Therefore, we must remember that purchasing a product or service is not a vote for a company’s immoral policies. We live in a world of sin (Galatians 1:4 and I John 5:19). We have to wake up to the reality that anyone of this world is WICKED! So, let’s boycott sin and show this world what righteousness is all about (Matthew 5:13-16 and Ephesians 5:11)!

What must one do to be saved (Acts 2:37)? Hear and believe the Gospel (Mark 16:15-16 & Romans 10:17), repent of their sins (Acts 3:19), confess Christ (Acts 8:37), and be baptized (immersed) for the remission of sins into the church of Christ (Acts 2:38-41; 47, I Corinthians 12:12-13, and Romans 6:1-6; 16:16). One must then remain faithful (Colossians 1:23).