
Words of Truth

“For The Name Of God Is Blasphemed...”

By: Brian A. Yeager

In the second chapter of the epistle to the Roman saints, we read this: *“Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God, And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written” (Romans 2:17-24).*

Hypocrisy is what we just read about. Hypocrisy abounds in the false religious world. Not long ago a woman was arrested in Kentucky for standing against homosexuality. Her name is Kim Davis. She was the clerk who refused to give marriage licenses to homosexual couples. A CNN article quoted her attorney as saying this on her behalf: “She’ll do her job good. She’ll serve the people ... and she’ll also be loyal to God, and she’s not going to violate her conscience” (<http://www.cnn.com/2015/09/08/politics/kim-davis-same-sex-marriage-kentucky/>).

Other articles online attack her in pointing out that she too has violated the Scriptures by being divorced and remarried multiple times. Notice some of the wording used against her: “The Kentucky clerk who says she’s following “God’s word” in her refusal to grant marriage licenses to same-sex couples is a longtime civil servant with her own history of marital struggles. Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis was divorced three times and had children out of wedlock before experiencing a religious awakening that cemented her obedience to Christian scripture — and her defiance of the country’s highest court” (<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/clerk-who-denied-gay-marriage-licenses-has-been-divorced-multiple-n420216>).

Before we proceed in our study, let me be abundantly clear on a few things. First, I know NOTHING about Kim Davis outside of what I saw on television and read online. In those things, I FULLY understand that anything said can be lies (Romans 3:8) to attack someone standing against sin (Matthew 5:10-12). I am neither for nor against this woman since I know nothing of her (Proverbs 18:13 and John 7:24; cf. Matthew 7:20). Secondly, I am not saying she is a Christian or not. She can stand all day for what is right concerning homosexuality and still be completely wrong (Matthew 7:21-23). Finally, I am not saying anything about her marriages. I hope she has studied through the Scriptures and is living in a rightful marriage, though the appearance isn’t good (Matthew 19:1-12 and I Corinthians 7:10-11). The reason I bring this woman up is to illustrate some things we [real Christians] need to consider.

When You Stand Up You Also Stand Out

If you properly oppose sin you will be noticed by the enemy and hated for doing so (Proverbs 29:27 and John 3:19-21). If you are standing up people will examine you. The question is, what will they find? As addressed in the opening Scriptural quotes of this article, if we teach one thing and practice another God is made to look bad. Such is why God wants us to clean up our lives completely before we start taking stands against others.

Clean You Up First

“Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye” (Matthew 7:1-5).

The article cited above from the NBC news website quotes Kim Davis as saying this: "I am not perfect. No one is... But I am forgiven and I love my Lord and must be obedient to Him and to the Word of God." Now, is she obeying Matthew 7:1-5 **IF** she really said that? No! In fact, she is being a hypocrite. If her not being perfect is okay so is the practice of homosexuality or any other sin. By her words, she makes our Lord look bad. God is not the author of the idea that you can live imperfectly and cast judgment on others in such a state.

Perfection Is Necessary And The Lack Thereof Removes Your Right To Judge Anyone

The word of God commands us to be perfect (Matthew 5:48). Lest there is someone who will confuse what that means, let's discuss a few other Scriptures. Does that mean sinless? Yes, (John 5:1-14, Romans 6:1-2, I Corinthians 15:34, II Timothy 2:19, and I John 3:8-10). Does that mean you are to be holy? Yes, (I Peter 1:13-16). To clarify that, you are to perfect holiness (II Corinthians 7:1).

Sin in your life, as already has been proven, removes your right to judge anyone else. When a woman was caught in the very act of adultery some wanted to see her judged according to the Law of Moses. They used this occasion to tempt Jesus. In this context (John 8:1-11), Jesus said this: *“So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her” (John 8:7).* We cannot proclaim what is wrong when we are practicing what is wrong.

Conclusion

David committed fornication and murder (II Samuel 11:1-27). David's sins and hypocritical mindset were shown to him by God, through Nathan the prophet (II Samuel 12:1-13). God took the child of David's adulterous relationship so that God's enemies could not blaspheme Him over this situation (II Samuel 12:14). Do you think God takes His name being muddied through our hypocrisy lightly? Clearly not! God's work is perfect. All of His ways are judgment. He is the God of truth and without iniquity. He is just and right (Deuteronomy 32:4). You and I better be sure not to say or do things to darken His holy name.