

## **EARNESTLY CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH –April 2024**

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### **NO SUCH THING AS A “GAY CHRISTIAN”**

#### **1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NKJV)**

**9** Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **Do not be deceived.** Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites,

**10** nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

**11 And such were some of you.** But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. (emphasis mine)

Repentance is a fundamental change of mind that now aligns with God’s truth! Repentance means that Jesus is Lord over one’s sexuality! Period! This is authentic Christianity!

A great dividing line between bogus Christianity and true Christianity is the issue of biblical morality! What sets true Christians apart is abstaining from sexual immorality.

#### **1 Thessalonians 4:3 (NKJV)**

**3** For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;

It’s not that Christians cannot fall into sexual sin (they can), but they will not live there as a perpetual pattern of life (Heb. 12:7-11). It is one thing to fall into the mud and hate it, it is quite another to live there and embrace it (cf. Rom. 7:15; 2 Pet. 2:21-22).

Paul in 1 Corinthians 6 plainly says those who live immorally will NOT inherit the kingdom. He explicitly says, “Do not be deceived.” He clearly says, “And such were some of you”, but that is NOT what believers are now! As believers our whole identity and orientation is now different (Rom. 8:13; 2 Cor. 5:17).

Some professing Christians claim the Bible merely whispers about sexual sin suggesting we make way too much of this issue. They claim we are religious pharisees. What Bible are they reading?? It’s not a matter of self-righteousness (at least not for Spirit-filled believers), but of biblical morality! So many seemingly want to dumb down a strong stand on the issue of biblical morality so to come off more loving or more acceptable to the rebel world. Where are the preachers of “no compromise” when it comes to the issue of sexual fidelity? Oh, there are some, but they are becoming fewer and fewer and their voices are barely heard.

We read of campus ministries now pushing for updated sexual training for its leaders. This is a response to the culture that DEMANDS acceptance of new sexual norms. Instead of emphasizing holiness and the “cancelation” that goes with it many are being “conformed to this world” (Rom. 12:2). Repentance is OUT, accommodation is IN! They now talk in terms of “pronoun hospitality” to accommodate the narrative of the transgender movement. This is seen as Christian compassion and love.

The full court press for the acceptance and normalcy of sexual deviancy is having a pronounced effect on many in the professing church. The pressure is on to be accepting. Culturally the pressure was to accept divorce and remarriage, then living together before marriage, then homosexuals “came out” followed by same-sex marriage, and now the transgender movement. At each point the culture at large has come to accept the new sexual norms, and then at each point the Church also is pressured to accommodate.

Jude wanted to write of our common salvation but felt compelled to write and exhort the saints to “contend earnestly for the faith” which involves taking an all-out stand against the immorality of those who “turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Jude 3-4). God help us to earnestly contend for the faith in insisting that authentic Christianity cannot compromise biblical morality. It is our solemn responsibility before God! It’s a matter of DEFENDING THE FAITH!

**Thot.** “You might as well talk about a **heavenly devil** as talk about a **worldly Christian**” – **Billy Sunday**

***Earnestly Contending, Pastor Dwight J. Oswald***