

A Changed Morality In America

by Kent Heaton

The face of America has changed so dramatically that without hindsight it is difficult to notice how subtle the changes have been. Images splash across the television with common abandon that describe the levels of depravity being accepted by society. Men kissing men and women kissing women is now a common theme on television. How many commercials hawk the cry of the old medicine man and his traveling side show with new drugs for male impotence, sexual fulfillment, depression, heart disease and some drugs I am not sure what they are for. Violence is presented in CSI investigations, made for television crime series, criminal stories with multitudes of heinous violent deaths, and all the end-of-the-world scenarios filled with chaos. Reality shows exploit the bachelor and bachelorette in sexually provocative series and endless dribbles of other reality shows where people show their supposed real lives. Talk shows bring mindless victims to their stage to humiliate themselves to find out who the father of the seven children really is and why your daughter is a prostitute and marriage counseling before millions of people. And then there are those ungodly cartoons that use foul language and sexual immorality to make stupid people laugh. Welcome to American television.

The wise man Solomon said, "Is there a thing of which it may be said, See, this is new? It has already been in days of old, which were before us" (Ecclesiastes 1:10). Immorality is not a new dish that man has dined on the past few years. The challenge to morality has been going on since the Garden of Eden when Satan said to Eve, "Has God indeed said...?" (Genesis 3:1). As a society America has moved away from being "One nation under God" to "One nation under Man." God is slowly being eroded from the moral conscience of the people of the land. The minority has begun to rule the majority. The days of Isaiah have returned: "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil; who put darkness for light and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Woe to those wise in their own eyes, and bright in their own sight" (Isaiah 5:20-21).

As people of God it is important to "discern the weather" and be prepared for the coming storm. On the horizon clouds of immorality, worldliness, persecution and the godless armies of the devil are gathered. They sweep across the land even now but a greater conflagration is looming in the years to come. Opposing homosexuality, adultery, divorce, religious division and the hosts of schemes of the wicked one will bring the church of Christ into full battle. Tolerance will be intolerable for those who stand for truth. The words of Jesus will echo throughout the land: "Do you suppose that I have come to give peace on earth? I tell you, no, but rather division. For from now on, there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law" (Luke 12:51-53).

The message of the Revelation will become a dear book for the saints of God. John the apostle portrays the struggle of the people of God with the hosts of enemies like government, immorality, worldliness and the battle of good and evil. For the saints of God who cry out, "How long?" (Rev. 6:9) the answer will come from the "King of Kings and Lord of Lords" (Rev. 19:11-16). The battle will be long and the hardships difficult but the victory is assured to those who are not defiled with the changing morality in America. The country may fall victim to snares of the devil but the people of God must rise above the tide of destruction to live for the King. Citizens of the Kingdom must stand for truth and righteousness on every hand. There may come a day when we must follow the example of those in Ephesus: "Many of those practicing the curious arts, bringing together the books, burned them before all. And they counted the price of them and found it to be fifty thousand pieces of silver" (Acts 19:19). Standing for the Lord may require standing alone -- but stand we must (Ephesians 6:13-18).

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