

# *The Pastor's Corner Vol. 39*

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## **Same Sex Marriages - Who's on the Lord's Side?**

*"A man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife,  
and they become one flesh."*



*.... I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith  
that was once for all entrusted to the saints. Jude 1:3 NIV*

## Same Sex Marriage - Who's on the Lord's Side?

Genesis 2:18-24 (NIV) “<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. **I will make a helper suitable for him.**’ <sup>19</sup>Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. **But for Adam no suitable helper was found.** <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and **while he was sleeping**, he took one of the man’s ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>**Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man**, and he brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>The man said, ‘This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; **she shall be called “woman,” for she was taken out of man.**’ <sup>24</sup>That is why **a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.**”

Exodus 32:26-27 (KJV) “<sup>26</sup>**Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the Lord's side? Let him come unto me.** And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. <sup>27</sup>And he said unto them, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.”

Acts 5:29 (KJV) “Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men.**”

In light of the recent statements made by our President, Barack Obama, regarding “same sex marriage,” I felt it necessary to revisit The Pastor’s Corner Vol. 10 dated October, 2009, entitled, “Same Sex Marriages.”

As all Americans now know, our President has publically sided with the gay community on the subject of same sex marriage, something that only came as a surprise to those that did not do their homework prior to the 2008 Presidential Election. Unbeknownst to many Christians that voted for Barack Obama is the fact that he is also “pro-choice,” that is, he’s in favor of abortion.

However, most of our black and white Christian clergy and laity who were aware chose to ignore President Obama’s position on homosexuality and abortion in the 2008 Presidential Election in favor of seeing a black man in the white house promising “change.”

To add insult to the injury inflicted on the Christians that chose not to vote for Obama because of their Christian values, once elected, President Obama gave an inaugural speech that sent cold chills down the spines of the black and white Christian leaders and laity. In his speech he said,

“We are a nation of Christians and Muslims, Jews and Hindus, and non-believers. We are shaped by every language and culture, drawn from every end of this earth.”

Thereby saying America is no longer a Christian nation, a slap in the face to our founding fathers and the Christian Church. In addition, it was no coincidence that President Obama’s inaugural kick-off event held at the Lincoln Memorial the Sunday before the inauguration was opened in prayer by Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly gay Bishop of the Episcopal Church. Nor was it a coincidence to have Rev. Joseph Lowery, a civil rights activist that has spoken out many times in support of same sex marriages, give the benediction at the close of the inauguration.

Prior to President Obama’s inauguration, he attended a church for many years (approximately 20) pastored by Rev. Jeremiah Wright who had performed “commitment ceremonies” for same sex couples. It is highly unlikely that President Obama was not in attendance for one of those ceremonies. My guess is that he congratulated those partaking in the ceremony much the same way most church members congratulate newlyweds after their wedding ceremony.

The closeness between President Obama and his now “former” pastor, Jeremiah Wright, prior to him becoming President is crystal clear to the honest observer when they consider the following:

- Pastor Wright blessed Obama’s home in Hyde Park
- Pastor Wright was described as a “second father” to Obama by Obama himself
- Pastor Wright baptized Obama’s daughters
- Pastor Wright performed Obama’s wedding ceremony

Therefore, in my mind, it is highly unlikely that President Obama disagreed with same sex marriages, prior to becoming President. In my opinion, the evidence says President Obama has always been “pro-gay” and in favor of “same sex” marriages, he just declared it publically in no uncertain terms. Although I totally disagree with our President regarding abortion and same sex marriage, I do commend him for being honest enough to take a position that he knew would offend some of his supporters, and as a result, he would probably lose their vote in the upcoming Presidential Election. Needless to say, President Obama is in need of our prayers (1 Tim. 2:1-3).

However, unbeknownst to some Christians, the opinion or position our President takes on any issue should never govern their opinion or position. For Christians, the will of God, as

spelled out in his word, is where our opinions and position on any issue is derived, there is no substitute.

Although Christians should obey the law and follow the direction given by our government, they must never obey or follow any direction or law given by our government or our President that goes against God's will or word.

This standard was set by the early Church when the apostles were told by the Sanhedrin (the Supreme Jewish Court) not to teach in Jesus' name any more. They responded by saying, ***"We must obey God rather than men"*** (Acts 5:29). Throughout both Old and New Testaments, the true people of God always obeyed the true and living God instead of man. This is in fact the acid test to determine where we are spiritually as individuals and as a local and universal Church. Jesus said the sheep (Christians) will follow the shepherd because they know his voice, and the sheep (Christians) would never follow a stranger; they would run from him because they do not recognize his voice (John 10:4-5). Whose voice do you listen to? Who do you follow? Jesus said, ***"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me"*** (John 10:14). So no matter whose voice it is, Jesus' sheep (Christians) never follow it, they follow Jesus' voice only.

When the Pharisees tested Jesus on divorce, it's no coincidence that he went back to the very beginning where marriage was first instituted. He said, ***"Haven't you read.....that at the beginning the creator made them male and female, and said, for this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?"*** (Matthew 19:4-5). When Jesus asked the Pharisees, ***"Haven't you read,"*** he was referring to the Book of Genesis. Although Genesis was written hundreds of years before this conversation between Jesus and the Pharisees, the Book of Genesis, according to Jesus, was still the final authority on marriage and divorce, otherwise Jesus would have quoted something else to answer their question. That said, the Book of Genesis is still the final authority on the subject of marriage and family as it relates to gender. In fact, nowhere in the Bible do we find anything to support the idea of same sex marriage or the idea of same sex parenting. Instead, all throughout the pages of scripture, we find over and over the clear, God designed parameters for marriage and family. God could not be clearer when he said, "a man will leave his **father** and **mother** and be united to his **wife**..." thereby establishing his design for the family and marriage by gender. According to God's design, each family consists of a father (man) and a mother (woman) and each marriage consists of a man (male) and a wife (female). Sadly, those in favor of same sex marriage believe a "father" could be male or female and a "mother" could be male or female. However, if this is what God intended for the family, he set them up to fail from the beginning according to Genesis 1:28 (NIV) where we read, ***"God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number, fill the earth.'"***

Here's the point, two men cannot procreate nor can two women. The only way that God's directive to "**be fruitful and increase in number**" could have been carried out was through intercourse between a man and a woman, united as husband and wife. Since there was nobody else around to fulfill God's directive, if Adam and Eve had disobeyed God none of us would be here today.

Unfortunately, the subject of "same sex marriage" has divided the universal and local Church, why? I do not know. Some churches openly accept the idea of same sex marriages but refuse to perform them within their walls. Others will perform same sex marriage ceremonies without believing them to be wrong or unbiblical unfortunately. Many pastors and/or ordained clergy have publically agreed with the idea of same sex marriages. Recently, I heard Rev. Al Sharpton say he thought same sex couples should be allowed to marry. To him, preventing them from getting married violated their civil rights. Many celebrities, politicians, athletes, actors and influential people have also spoken out in favor of same sex marriage. However, not one of them can find support for their position in God's word. In truth, preacher's like Al Sharpton and the many other ordained ministers that have publically and/or privately expressed their approval of same sex marriages have in fact sided with the world and abandoned the plain teaching of scripture and God's design for family.

Some of these preachers will put forth their best attempt to justify their support of same sex marriage. Some of their arguments might even sound convincing to those that are not committed Christians or that simply do not know their Bible. Whichever the case, there is no way to justify same sex marriages in light of biblical teaching. The preachers that attempt to justify same sex marriages for any reason bring shame to the body of Christ and our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. In my opinion, any pastor or preacher in favor of same sex marriage should no longer be allowed to grace any pulpit to preach or teach, since they dishonor our Lord and Master. If these pastors and/or preachers are allowed to stand behind any sacred desk and declare things that are contrary to God's will and word, they infect the body of Christ with disease of disobedience to God. Therefore, they must be silenced at any cost for the sake of the Church.

In closing, I realize that some well-meaning Christians, out of sympathy or ignorance, have sided with those in favor of same sex marriage, thereby siding with the world. However, I would like to remind those siding with the world of what God's word says about marriage. Consider the following:

- In Genesis 2:18 (NIV), God said, "...*It is not good for the man to be alone, I will make a helper suitable for him.*" Then God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep, opened up his side, took a rib and created for Adam the helper that he knew was suitable for him (Genesis 2:20-22). Who does God say is "suitable" for man? A woman. This is an inescapable fact, no slick talking pastor or preacher can get around this. Since Adam

was sleep while God was creating his “suitable” helper, it becomes obvious that Adam was never given the freedom to express his opinion or choose the helper he thought suitable for him; God made that choice. Therefore, the first marriage, as designed by God, was between a man (Adam) and a woman (Eve) and nowhere in the Bible do we find marriage re-defined to include same sex marriages.

While it is true that we are now living in the last of the last days, and as a result, Satan has deceived many, even some of our Christian leaders that were held in high esteem into believing his lie that says homosexuality, same sex marriages and abortion are no longer sin. My guess is that this article will find its way into the hands of some who bought into Satan’s lie. With that said, I ask every reader the question Moses asked when he returned from Mount Sinai and found God’s people sinning, **“Who’s on the Lord’s side?”** The consequence for choosing to side with those in error in Moses’ day was physical death (Exodus 32:26-27). The consequence today is broken fellowship with a loving God. Readers, it’s time to choose your side, there is no middle ground to stand on, you are either on the Lord’s side which means you cling to God’s design for marriage between one man and one woman or you side with the world that has been deceived by Satan, and believe that same sex marriage is ok. Make your choice!!

God Bless,  
Pastor D. M. Duncan

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