

Brothers and Sisters of Christ are Sons of God
who do the Will of God

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The Gospel According to Mark

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Bible Text: Mark 3:31-35; 1 Thessalonians 4:3

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All right, Mark chapter three. If you find your place in the Word of God, let's get started with reading the text. Mark chapter number three. We want to get into the Word of God this morning. I trust you came prepared to hear truth and I will do my very best to communicate that truth to you from the Word of God.

Let's begin reading in verse number 31 of chapter number three of the second gospel.

There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee. And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren? And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.¹

Let's pray.

Father, I know that in order for this time of instruction, preaching, teaching, Bible study to be effective, your Holy Spirit is going to have to come and fall upon this place in an amazing way and so I am going to call on you right now to do that. And I ask that you do it in a significant way, that you would give us ears to hear the truth in Jesus' name. Amen.

All right. You may be seated. Let's get started.

Verse number 31.

“There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him.”²

¹ Mark 3:31-35.

² Mark 3:31.

So let's get the context right in our mind. Jesus the teacher is seated or standing and around him are a multitude of people and they are seated and they are listening to the greatest prophet they have ever heard teach truth. And they are on the edge of their seats and they are taking in every word that he says and they are in tune with what Jesus communicates. And suddenly his mother and his brothers show up and they are on the outside and they say to him, "Hey, they are out there and they want to communicate with you. Your mother and your brothers are outside."

And the expectation is that he will stop teaching and now take care of his mother or his brothers. But Jesus doesn't do this. Instead, he asks this question.

"Who is my mother, or my brethren?"³

And so instead of engaging mom and the brothers, let me use this as an opportunity to teach, is what Jesus does. So he asks this crucial question.

"Who is my mother, or my brethren?"⁴

And you say this morning, "Why should I be concerned about that?"

And here is my response, because brothers don't send brothers to hell. What kind of brother would I be if I would send my brother Scott to hell if I had the power to send him or not to send him. You would say, "You are wicked man to send your biological brother to hell. You love your brother. You are crazy about your brother. Why in the world would you send your brother to hell?"

And so this is the critical point here. Are you a brother in Christ? Are you a sister in Christ? This is very important. Please notice what is happening here. People are sitting about him and they are listening. These people are attentive to the words of Jesus Christ as they listen to what they now see as the greatest prophet ever to speak. No one spoke the words that you spoke. No one taught the way you spoke.

And so notice. They are listening to Jesus.

Don't, this morning, think of yourself as a brother of Christ if you don't give a rip about what he taught. Don't call yourself a brother of Christ this morning if you don't care about the gospel of Mark. Don't call yourself a brother in Christ if you don't care about the gospel of Luke. You don't care about John. You don't listen to the Word of God. It is not really important to you. Any old teacher is good enough for you. Don't consider yourself a brother in Christ, because brothers and sisters in Christ listen to Jesus. They listen to him. They are in tune.

³ Mark 3:33.

⁴ Ibid.

And so he says, "For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother. Whosoever shall do the will of God is my sister. Whosoever shall do the will of God is my brother or sister in Christ."

So then how am I a brother or a sister to Christ? Well, this is how. Jesus is the eternal Son of God and so in order for me to be a brother to Jesus, I just be made a son of God.

You see, you are not born a son of God. You are born again to become a son of God. You are born again to become a sister of God. You are born again. You are not born a brother of God, a son of God. This is a second birth.

So does the Scripture teach that there is something I can do to become a son of God? Well, let's take the time to turn to John chapter one and remind ourselves of what the Word of God says, John chapter number one.

Now you notice that I have a little picture of Jesus in a box up there. You notice that I have what we understand as the universal symbol of no in front of that. I want to explain that to you.

Why are you putting that up there, preacher?

I am afraid sometimes in our gospel tracts, in our ease and in our desire to make this as easy as possible, we give people the idea that to receive Jesus Christ is just like receiving a little Christmas gift. Someone gave me a birthday gift and so I have got little Jesus inside, a little package and I will take Jesus along with me every where I go.

Let's make sure we understand that you can't do that with Jesus. You don't put him in a little box and wrap a little bow around him and turn eternal life into something like receiving a birthday gift. That is not what happens.

You say, "Could you explain that a little bit more"

Well, let's just imagine for the sake of discussion this morning that you had an opportunity to have the President of the United States over to your house as a guest. You were going to get to barbecue with the President of the United States, but you said, "Only the president, none of his secret service, none of his entourage." Would that be acceptable? Absolutely not.

That is the equivalent of saying, "I want Jesus, but not Christ. I want Jesus, but not Lord. I like the Savior part, but not everything else."

John, you don't get a choice. You get the whole package when you get Jesus, the whole thing. The Lord Jesus the Christ, the Christ Jesus, the whole thing. You can't pick and choose.

I really like that priest part, but not so much the prophet who is always telling me what to do or not so much the king that expects me to do it. When you get the President of the United States over to your house for a barbecue, you get a communication team, you get a secret security detachment, you get an entourage, the press corps shows up. You don't get to pick and choose what you want.

And so now let's look at our next set. Art, take me there, please.

And so, "But as many as received him..."⁵

So when you receive Jesus Christ you are taking the whole package into your life. How do I do that?

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."⁶

So how do I receive Jesus Christ? By faith. By faith I take Jesus into my life. By faith I embrace Jesus. I love him as Master, King, Lord, Savior. He is my all. I treasure him. I am crazy about him. I take possession like a big hug around this massive tree which I just want to embrace with my entire life. How do I do that? The answer is by faith. I do it by faith, by believing on his name.

But you say, this morning, you say, "Wait a minute, preacher. Many say that they believe, but they don't act like sons and daughters of God. I know lots of people who say they believe and I know the life they live. I know how they are at work. They don't act like sons of God. They don't act like daughters of God and they say they believe."

And here is my response to you. Jesus agrees with you. Jesus says, "You are right." Jesus says, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."⁷

Those are brothers in Christ. Those are sisters in Christ. So what are you talking about? What is the connection here? Becoming a son of God occurs by faith. Demonstrating that I am a son of God occurs by the life I live.

You see, Jesus said in verse number 35, our text verse, "For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother."⁸ Not saying, but doing demonstrates I am clearly a brother in Christ or a sister in Christ or a fraud.

And it could take several years to show that. It might take a little time to work out that fraudulentless, but God knows.

⁵ John 1:12.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Matthew 7:21.

⁸ Mark 3:35.

So here is the bottom line this morning. That doesn't mean we are done. There is no assurance of being a brother or a sister in Christ if your life is not characterized by listening to and doing the will of God.

So you say this morning to me, "Preacher, well, what is God's will for my life? If I am to do God's will, I need to know what that will is?"

So let's talk about it. Let's turn over to 1 Thessalonians chapter number four where Paul talks about this is the will of God. And so if Paul uses that kind of language, "This is the will of God," then I want to see what Paul has to say. "This is the will of God," he says.

So let's look at 1 Thessalonians chapter number four. In verse number three he has got this clear statement.

"This is the will of God..."⁹

So this is a chapter that communicates to me the will of God.

Everyone that does the will of God is a brother or sister in Christ and Paul says, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification."¹⁰

What is the will of God for this church? To sanctify this church. What is the will of God for your family? To sanctify them. What is the will of God for your marriage? To sanctify it. What is the will of God for your children? To sanctify them. To set them apart. The word is translated five times "holiness," five times "sanctification." What does he mean by sanctify? To set apart for a sacred purpose, to consecrate.

You mean to say that God is setting me apart? The answer is yes. If you are a Christian, this morning, God is setting you apart. God has a plan for your life. That is a unique plan that is a sacred plan. God is consecrating you for a divine purpose and mission making you different, making you holy.

You say, "How does that work, preacher?"

It happens in two ways. Listen, please. Number one, positionally. It happens positionally. When you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior by faith the Holy Spirit takes you and sets you apart. He makes you holy in Jesus Christ. When God sees you, God sees the holiness of Jesus Christ.

You say to me, though, "But I know myself, preacher. I am not holy."

And I say to you, "Me neither."

⁹ 1 Thessalonians 4:3.

¹⁰ Ibid.

So what else are we talking about? We are talking about a progressive sanctification, a process whereby over our entire life God is setting us apart and continuing to make us holy, holy, holy day by day over and over again.

For example, verse number seven in our same chapter says, “For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.”¹¹

And I want to stop right now and say, “It seems to me that church of America has forgotten that God is calling his people to live holy lives.”

We are not supposed to think like the world. We are not supposed to vote like the world. We are not supposed to act like the world. We are not to smell like the world. We are not to look like the world. We are supposed to be different, set apart, consecrated, purified, holy.

So let’s talk about this word “sanctify.”

One man gives us a good definition. He is dead. His name is Anthony Hoekema. Sanctification is the gracious operation of the Holy Spirit involving our responsible participation by which he delivers us from the pollution of sin, renews our entire nature according to the image of God and enables us to live lives that are pleasing to God.

So I would submit to you this morning, if you have no desire to please God with your life, plan on going to hell.

You say, “I cannot believe you are beings so harsh.”

I can’t believe that I am not saying it more often. How loving would it be to know, John, that your house is going not burn to the ground and not give you a warning to get out of the house? Wouldn’t that be loving at all. It wouldn’t be loving at all. If I knew that on such a such time you house was definitely going to be burglarized and the man had an intent to kill you and your family and I didn’t give you a warning about that, how loving would you consider me? Not very loving, would you?

Preachers of America have failed to give the warnings anymore. They are not giving the warnings. They are sugar coating messages with lots of felt needs and telling you to have a better checkbook and a wonderful marriage. And they are not telling truth. They are simply not communicating truth.

So sanctification is the gracious operation of God the Holy Spirit working on my life. Remember from last week am I to grieve the Holy Spirit? Church, am I to grieve the Holy Spirit? Am I to quench the Holy Spirit? What am I to do with the Holy Spirit in my life? Listen. Cooperate. Obey. Why? Because the Holy Spirit is doing a work on me.

¹¹ 1 Thessalonians 4:7.

Philippians 1:6. “He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”¹²

So we are talking about this incredible relationship whereby I submit to the Holy Spirit’s leadership in my life and he continues to conform me to the image of who? Christ. That is right. So that I look more and more and more like my brother.

So let’s notice, please.

“For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication.”¹³

Ah, this is the will of God. Be sanctified. Now let me define it one more time. Let me narrow it down. This is the will of God. Big picture, narrow it down a little bit more, Gary, sanctification, narrow it down a little bit more, abstain from fornication.

So let’s get into this. Why doesn’t Paul talk about love like Jesus? I want to go to a church that is loving. I want to talk to a church that is kind.

And here is my response to you this morning. He is talking about love. When he says, “This is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication”¹⁴ he is talking about love.

You said, “I don’t want to go to a church like that. I want to go to a loving church. I want to go to a kind church.”

Really? Is that really where you want to go? Do you really want to go to a church in which your husband never gets an admonishment to be faithful to you? Do you really want to go to a church in which your husband is given free liberty to go and have as many illicit relationships as he wants under the banner of love? Is that really the kind of church you want to go to? I want to go to a church in which we just love God and everybody loves God. Is that really the kind of church you want to go to?

You see, we are dividing. Churches are dividing on this line. There are churches that still hold to sanctification. There are churches that still hold to living a holy life and those churches are being classified as hate churches. This is a hate crime. This is taking a hard stand. There are other churches they say we are a loving church. Everybody is welcome in our church. We have a large tent under our church.

Wait a minute. How loving is that really? Let’s get into that. I say this. I speak to this because I have been asked this question.

“Preacher, do you hate those kind of people?”

¹² Philippians 1:6.

¹³ 1 Thessalonians 4:3.

¹⁴ Ibid.

Are you kidding me? Last Sunday night someone put an anonymous note under my door and said, “Preacher, if your son became a homosexual, wouldn’t you still love him?”

You better believe I would still love him. Nothing would change my love for my son. I will go to the grave loving my son. Nothing would change that.

But you tell me something. What kind of compromising hypocrite would I be if I would flip on the Word of God on one day because of immoral behavior in my son? What kind of hypocrite would I be? Pam and I would keep loving our son through that sin.

Let’s talk about this word “fornication.” It occurs 26 times in your New Testament. It is a Greek words and it is pronounced πορνεία (por-ni’-ah).

Mike [?], it is good to have you home. How long are you home for? Three more days. Well, I praise the Lord you came in for a Sunday morning service for those days. Keep safe, brother, down range, doing your job.

πορνεία (por-ni’-ah) is a Greek word. It means illicit sexual intercourse, fornication is how we translate it in the King James. It is sexual immorality. How do I avoid πορνεία (por-ni’-ah)? Paul tells us very clearly how to avoid πορνεία (por-ni’-ah) and I am going to draw it on this board for you. I am going to help you understand. How do I avoid πορνεία (por-ni’-ah)? What is πορνεία (por-ni’-ah)? I am going to give you a graphic illustration right here with some stick figures on how to avoid πορνεία (por-ni’-ah) right here on this board right here.

How do I avoid this? How do I avoid πορνεία (por-ni’-ah) in the 21st century? Well, let’s get started. I am going to give you a picture of how to avoid it. Number one, according to Paul, ok, one husband and one woman. We put a male up here and we put a female. And we will give her a pretty polka dot dress. And that is how we know she is a female. She looks like a female, acts like a female. She has got earrings on, nice hair and she is a female. That is one female, one male and, Doug, we are going to unite them in holy matrimony, before God in a covenant relationship, one male, one female in holy matrimony.

Look at the text.

“Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.”¹⁵

This is, please notice, this is his wife. This is her husband. They are united in holy matrimony right here. This is what it looks like right here. These are my incredible artist skills right here.

¹⁵ 1 Corinthians 7:2.

All right, now listen. If you decide to introduce anything else into that equation you have just crossed the line, Bill, into fornication. If you decide to bring a DVD into that equation and that DVD has a person on it, you have just added a third person and you are now into fornication, πορνεία (por-ni'-ah).

If you decide you want to add another little honey, men, you have got a little cutie at work and you are going to have a relationship this way and this way, you have crossed the line into fornication. And may I remind you that he that does the will of God is a brother and sister in Christ. And this is the will of God, even your sanctification that you abstain from fornication.

If you decide to bring a laptop into that equation and in that laptop there are images of a third person or a fourth person or multiple people you have just crossed the line into fornication. You have just crossed the line. πορνεία (por-ni'-ah) comes... is with the Greek word when we get the word "porn" from. Porn websites, pornography.

"Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband."¹⁶

I need to let you know very clearly, thirdly, it does not say spouses of spouse. That is not what the Scripture says. And if you have got a gender neutral Bible like a TNIV and they decide to make this gender neutral and you have got spouse as spouse, throw that thing away. You cannot change her and turn her into a dude and be ok with that.

You say, "I can't believe you are preaching this this morning."

I can't believe the number of Christians that are wavering on this issue. That is what I can't believe. I can't believe the number of notes I get underneath my door whenever I talk about this. I am not sure what you think I should be talking about.

Great day in the morning.

By the way, why don't you sign your note? I don't get to preach anonymously. I have got to stand up here and say what I want on the world wide web. Why don't you sign your note? I don't get to go around with anonymous notes. Every time I open up my big mouth you know what I am saying. No need for those amens on that big part. Unbelievable.

So this is how we avoid fornication. The line represents holy matrimony.

Hey, dads, watch your daughter. She has got no business being in the back seat of an automobile with another guy, no business whatsoever. Hands off.

¹⁶ 1 Corinthians 7:2.

So πορνεία (por-ni'-ah) is not limited to being intimate with someone else who is married, male or female. πορνεία (por-ni'-ah) includes all sexual sin outside the bounds of one man, one woman joined in holy matrimony.

At the present time there are 6800 gay affirming churches in America and they are increasing every single day. These churches you would never hear a message like this. In these churches your son or daughter would never be encouraged to marry the person that God intends them to marry, a male if they are female and a female if they are a male. These churches don't encourage that kind of stuff because they cannot preach God's Word like this.

Fornication is not limited to the LGBT movement. Someone sent me a text after my sermon. I like texts because most of the time I can figure out who it is, so at least it is not anonymous. And this is what they said.

There is a current petition being circled around the LGBT movement to have Bert and Ernie get married on Sesame Street.

When is it going to end, folks? The rapture of the Church and the Second Coming of Christ. That is when it is going to end. I am not making this stuff up. Look at the screen with me, please.

[?] who leads an Obama church of 1500 members on [?] street said more than 100 ordained Christian ministers—question mark on that one—have signed a proclamation including leaders from the Lutheran, Episcopalian, United Church of Christ, Methodist, Presbyterians. We believe homosexuality is not a sin.

What Bible are they using? TNIV, you are right. It is not a birth defect or a choice. God created people this way? Really? Well, hey, church, God created me selfish. And I want to be selfish and you just let me be selfish and I am going to be a selfish pig and I want you to accommodate me because I was created that way and don't question my character, because I am selfish. I like being selfish. I am going to be selfish all the days of my life, Brian, and I want you to accommodate my selfishness beginning with a little red convertible BMW. And when I am done with that selfishness, I want some more selfishness.

And don't tell me it is a character flaw, because God made me this way.

Oh, oh, so there is a drawing line. There is a standard. That doesn't work, does it? There is, then, a standard.

It continues.

God created people this way. Isn't it amazing? I have to put my selfishness in check, Doug, but they don't have to put their passions in check. Continue?

And if God created them this way, they need to be honored for who they are.

Really? Is that really what America needs to start doing? We need to start honoring this lifestyle? We need to start honoring it? Is that really the way we want to go as a nation? Is that the right path for America top where we start honoring this?

And if God created them in this way, they need to be honored for who they are and fully included in the church life and the wider society.

I will tell you right now, once you open up this door there is no end to it. Who gets to draw the new line? And when that line gets drawn, who is going to draw the next new line? And the next new line and the next new line?

Because there is no end to it, folks. The line just keeps on sliding and sliding and sliding. Continue?

The pastors who are holding a special event, really, they are holding a special event. What is the proclamation going to say? Reverend Eric [?], pastor of Countryside Community Church said, “The proclamation was created because we were just fed up with the popular notion that the Christian point of view is anti gay. We are just fed up with that idea. We want the whole world to know that God loves this lifestyle.”

Really? According to Jude seven, “Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh...”¹⁷

Let’s talk about that right now. Let’s go back to my great illustration. Here is your strange flesh right here. It is anything outside the circle. Anything outside of the circle. Men, listen. Strange flesh is a female on a piece of paper, on a computer screen, on a television screen. That is strange flesh. Anything. One woman, one male, united in holy matrimony for life. That is God’s plan.

So this is strange flesh right here.

By the way, men, eliminating the female can be sexual immorality also. You say, “Well, I don’t have a female in there.” You can cross the line by yourself. And that is πορνεία (por-ni’-ah) as well.

“Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example.”¹⁸

¹⁷ Jude 7.

¹⁸ Ibid.

It is though the Church in America has forgot that Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed. It is as though the Church in America has forgotten that they suffered vengeance and eternal fire. It is as though the Church in America has decided that the word of God needs to be tossed out. So the fact of the matter is, the true Christian Church must be anti πορνεία (por-ni'-ah).

Say it that many times maybe you will listen.

So are we anti gay? No, we are anti fornication, everything. We are anti premarital sex. We are anti sexual immorality. We are anti all of it.

Really, that anti?

Yeah, we believe God had the right.

What is that?

One woman, one male, united in holy matrimony for the rest of their life. That is God's plan. God's plan is for my son to find a cute little woman, get married and they are supposed to have lots of grand children. That is God's plan.

God's plan is for your daughter to marry a born again believing male who will become the spiritual leader of the family and lead them to have lots of children. That is God's plan. Everything outside of that circle is not God's plan.

You say, "Is that hateful?"

No, that is loving. That is loving. How in the world is that loving? Because the very lifestyle that we are talking about brings with it so many consequences that every single child needs to be encouraged again in God's will and stay in God's will, because the blessings of God are found in God's will.

Ephesians 5:3 says it like this. Paul, again, says, "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you."¹⁹

If pastor Sean Harris crosses the line, you, all collectively, you fire me. And if you are wavering about it, go back to this day and watch the sermon to remind you what I said, because your responsibility is to hold the line. And the line is let it not be named once among you.

You say, "Are you concerned about this?"

Well, look at these numbers with me.

¹⁹ Ephesians 5:3.

In the year 2008-2009 Pew Research reported that 40 percent of main line protestants approved of gay marriage, 40 percent. Forty percent of protestants approved gay marriage. One year later, maybe 18 months later, eight point increase, an eight point increase.

David, that should be of great concern to every single person in this room. What is it going to look like in 2012? Is it going to be 57 percent? Is it going to be 59 percent? Will it be 60 percent? Where is it going to stop?

This is the piece of paper. I crumpled it up. I couldn't find it on my screen, so I am just going to have to stand here and stare at it.

Don't do this in public speaking. This is not how you do in public speaking. Never turn your back to the audience.

All right. Leaders of the Presbyterian Church USA voted Thursday to allow no celibate gays in committed relationships to serve as clergy. It is a step that could make the church one of the most gay friendly major Christian denominations in the country.

Really? Are we still going to call it Christian?

A separate vote is expected later on whether to change the church's definition of marriage from between a man and a woman to between two people.

Presbyterians are rolling over in their grave if they could roll over. We talked to two different Presbyterian denominations to see what they think about the issue. The First Presbyterian Church in downtown Knoxville is part of the USA church who is taking second look at their same sex marriage policies. William Pender, the senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church says, "We are a large tent church and there is a lot of things under that tent. We are willing to stay together even in disagreement."

Really? How big is your tent going to become?

Dr. Wilson, will it get so big that you don't even have to affirm Christ anymore? Because the tent gets bigger and bigger and bigger. There is no end to it.

Teenagers, your life is going to be different than our lives at the rate we are going. The agenda of the world that you are going to be in is going to be a different world than the one we are living in.

Paul reminds us, Pender reminds us that there have been historical changes in the life of his church. For example, women and divorcees were once unable to lead, but now that is accepted. He believes whatever stance the elders take on same sex marriage, his church will honor. Pender says, "Our elders trust when they get together, they listen to that spirit."

What spirit would that be? Great day in the morning, what spirit would that be? Because the Spirit of Truth who has spoken to this Word right here says that God's will is even your sanctification, that you abstain from fornication. That is God's will.

Don't you ever forget. When you start listening to that still small voice, that your heart is deceitfully and that nobody can know it according to Jeremiah 17:9. So that still small voice will justify anything. It will justify divorce. It will justify extra marital affairs. It will justify that magazine that you can't get rid of. It will justify that porn site that you keep going to because you tell yourself, "God understands me. He knows that I need a little bit more than the average guy and so God is ok with this."

No, he is not.

So what is the big deal, preacher? Why are you fired up? I will tell you why, because six days a week there is a stream of garbage coming into your minds from the television and the radio and the political agendas.

When President Barack Obama can say that we are confused on a small obscure passage in Romans chapter one, he doesn't know his Bible.

Let me tell you right now. We are not wrapped up with one obscure passage from the Word of God. Sexual immorality has been a problem from the very beginning of mankind and the entire Bible is replete with admonishments for us to live holy lives. One man, one woman united in holy matrimony. It wasn't God's plan for Solomon to have lots of women, wives. It wasn't God's plan for David to have multiple relationships. That wasn't ever God's plan. God's plan from the very beginning was demonstrated in the Garden of Eden when he gave us Adam and Eve. That was it. And they had children. He could have introduced three people into that equation if he wanted to, but he chose not to as a perfect picture of Christ and the Church. And I will show you that in a few minutes.

So what is the big deal? Well, here is my illustration for you, church. Young people, would you please listen to your pastor who loves you and cares about you? I believe with all my heart and my measly 46 years of living that there is a tsunami building right out there, that the LGBT movement is like a tsunami.

Let me explain this to you. If you were a fisherman 3000 miles away from the coast of Japan you would not encounter a 100 foot wave. That is not how a tsunami works. Study it out with me this week. It is a large wave, but it is not very high. It has a rolling effect to it. It is not huge. It is a lot of power, but the power is underneath the surface and it builds as it draws closer to its point of destination. It builds. And only until it gets into the shallow land does the height of the wave get to where it is. I believe with all my heart that the LGBT is a tsunami awaiting to destroy America.

We are right there. And where the tsunami is here or here or here, I don't know, but I will tell you right now it is out there. It is out there.

Now I want to ask you this question. What kind of pastor would I be if I knew that a tsunami was coming to Myrtle Beach and I wasn't screaming to you, "Get away. Get away"? I do not understand why people ask me or ask others why does the pastor hate gays? I do not hate gays. I am anti πορνεία (por-ni'-ah). I hate all sexual immorality. I hate it in myself. I want to keep myself pure. I want to keep myself focused. I don't want to think thoughts that are impure. I don't want my son thinking thoughts that are impure. That is why he has covenant eyes on his computer and that is why his computer is locked down with parental controls, because I know that there is a tsunami out there. And I have a responsibility as a pastor to protect this flock and as a father to protect my son as best I can.

You say, "Can you perfectly protect him?"

No, I can't. But sure can sound the alarm. I can let him know there is a wave coming. There is an agenda out there.

Isn't it amazing how men have always understood that they have a responsibility to protect their 14 year old from that 17 year old who wants to date their daughter? Don't you see that we have the same level of responsibility to protect our nation from that 17 year old LGBT movement that is seeking to destroy America?

I don't understand how people who call themselves God fearing Christians are throwing in the towel on this idea. I don't understand it. Don't you see, my brothers and sisters in Christ, that God's best for you is found in one husband, one wife, crazy about each other? That is God's plan. And, moms and dads, you should be reinforcing that every single day.

Son, I expect you to get married to a woman and you are going to love her and you are going to be crazy about it. The idea of even crossing the line into something other than that is completely off limits. It is off limits.

Does that mean you hate him? No. No. You love him. You love him immensely.

So let me give you some very quick reasons.

Reason number one, why do we fight for this? Why do we stand for this? Why do we make a big deal this morning? Why do we wish that every member of Berean Baptist Church would listen to this message? Because only males and females can produce children a society needs. That is all. That is it.

Illicit relationships don't produce children. Do you know what they produce? Abortions. Happily married couples very seldom abort children. Happily married couples very seldom abort children. Do you know how aborts children? Illicit relationships, Motel 6 events, back of the vehicle stuff when the girl is 13 years old. That is how children get aborted.

You say, "What is the big deal?"

Societies need children. We need children. America will not do well. Who will America fight World War III with? Do you understand that the reason we are able to succeed in World War II setting aside the bomb, was that we had masses of young men and women that were available to go to combat? Do you understand that it is problematic that the Muslim community that hates us is having children at a rate of three or four to one?

You say, "I am not concerned about that."

You should be concerned about that.

Homosexuals can't produce children.

Here is God's commandment. God's commandment is to be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth. That is God's commandment. To every daughter in this church with a few unique exceptions should understand that God's will is for her to get married and have children.

You say, "Are you being a sexist?"

No, I am not being a sexist, not a sexist at all. I am being a Biblist.

Can she have a career? Sure, she can have a career. Can she teach? Sure. Can she be President of the United States? Yes. Sure. I am not doing anything like that. Not at all.

Don't misunderstand what I am saying. I am just telling you that God's plan for nearly every single girl in this church is to get married and to have children and to be the best godly mother in the entire world. Can she be a doctor and a godly mother? Yes. Can she be a nurse and a godly mother? Yes. Can she be a teacher and a godly mother? Yes and yes again.

However, what is her first calling, the God given calling?

Number two, I am concerned about child development. What is the best scenario for children? The best scenario for children is to be raised by mom and dad who are living under the same roof.

You say, "Preacher, don't you know there are some people in this congregation that aren't doing that?"

Yeah, I know we have single moms out there. Yes, I do.

You say, "Aren't you afraid of hurting their feelings?"

Every single mom would say, "I want my husband to be here loving me and helping me raise my children, if he would just be the husband that God has called him to be."

They are not saying, "I am thrilled that he left," unless he was a bum, unless he was an adulterer, unless he was a fornicator, unless he was a drunk. But God's plan is for mom and dad to raise the children under the same roof.

And, again, how loving would I be if I would allow my fear of offending a single person to not sound the alarm to every teenage girl and every teenage boy that God's plan is for you to marry one woman and stay married for your entire life? And I want them to hear that a thousand times as they grow up in Berean Baptist Church. I want it to be reinforced so many times in their life that when they are considering that D word, my voice comes ringing through and they go, "That is not God's plan. My preacher taught me better. That is not God's plan. We are going to stay and work it out."

Number three, God's plan is where you find health.

Really, you are going there? You are going with the pragmatic?

Yes, I am. I am going to a very pragmatic thing. Gary, men do best when they are married and have a woman helping them. Do you understand? Listen, please, very clearly, statistically the gay community, the males in the gay community die between 20 and 30 years before the heterosexual male counterparts. The average lifespan is about 72 for a heterosexual male. The average lifespan is about 49 for a homosexual male.

You say, "Why don't we hear about that?"

Because there is a concerted effort to suppress truth and elevate an agenda.

Number four. Sexual abstinence and purity set a person apart as the salt and light that God has called them to be. When that teenager girl who is 17 years old says, "Get your grubby hands off me," wow, this girl is different.

That is right. God has called me to be salt and light. You keep your hands off me. You want to touch me, you marry me. That is God's plan.

By the way, guys, you should respect that. You should say, "Wow, this girl is different. This girl is special. I have never met a girl like this before."

That is right. She is a born again, Bible believing, Christ exalting, God glorifying gospel centered Christian. And she is living for the Lord Jesus Christ as salt and light. And she is not interested in compromising her moral purity so that you can have a moment of excitement.

Number five, sexual immorality is almost always accompanied by other sins. Guys, when you are out there looking at that porn while your wife is laying in bed wishing you

would come sleep with her, what you are saying is, “I am not satisfied with what God provided me.”

So you are saying, “Is it just the sin of porn?”

No, it is not just the sin of porn. It is also the sin of not being content with what God has provided you. It is also the sin of not being thankful with what God has provided you.

You see, we like to think that sexual immorality is just a single sin. No, it is often coupled like this in a triad. And most of the time idolatry is wrapped in there because do you know what you are saying? I am serving myself above God.

And, number six. Turn to Ephesians chapter five and we will be done. Why is this so important? Why should the preachers of America jump up and down and holler and scream and run and spit and do whatever they can to get your attention? Why? Paul explains it to us in Ephesians five and we will be done.

Preacher, I want to do the will of God.

The will of God is even your sanctification that you would abstain from fornication. That is the will of God.

So now let’s look at Ephesians five.

We want every single male in this room to get married and to marry a female and to love her like Christ loved the Church. We want every single female to marry a solid male in this room unless God leads you in a unique and special way. And here it is right here.

Verse 31.

Our author is Paul and he is writing to the church at Ephesus and this is what he says.

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.²⁰

Let’s make sure we understand that the reason marriage is so important, the reason we are jumping up and down about marriage, the reason we are promoting marriage, the reason we are saying marriage is one male and one female is because of what it pictures.

The reason this... we cannot compromise on this in any way, shape or form is because God ordained marriage as a perfect picture of Christ and his bride. And the Church is the bride and Christ is the groom. And every single time we hold a marriage ceremony in this sanctuary, we are silently preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to you. We are communicating to you and all the masses and everyone who will watch on the internet

²⁰ Ephesians 5:31-32.

that this is a glorious picture of Christ and his Church and that this idea of Adam and Eve, God giving to Adam a bride, Eve being given to Adam was only a foreshadowing of what is going to be the most glorious wedding in the history of the universe when God gives his Son, his bride, his incredible Gentile bride made up of all those who are born again, past, present and everyone yet to be saved are all part of this glorious bride called the Church.

And, Jason, two dudes doesn't give the picture of that. A female and a lap top computer doesn't give doesn't give a picture of that. A female and a DVD doesn't give picture of that. A female and a nasty magazine doesn't give picture of that. A dude on a cell phone talking to some female in New Jersey paying 25 dollars an hour doesn't get picture of that. The picture of Christ and the Church is found in one thing and one thing only. Christ and the Church male and female in holy matrimony. That is the glorious reason why Sean Harris and every Bible believing Christ exalting, Gospel centered preacher must say, "This is where we draw the line."

Let's pray.