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We pick up our series in **Romans** 1:27-28,

"And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman (that is, coitus between a man and woman), <u>burned</u> in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is <u>unseemly</u>, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a <u>reprobate</u> mind, to do those things which are not <u>convenient</u>...".

We are witnessing this Bible prophecy come to fruition.

Paul previously addressed women's lesbianism; now he addresses men's sodomy. Paul uses the word *"also"* as a formal continuation of this evil and wicked perversion. Paul says these men have forsaken the natural use of a woman in regard to a normal relationship with a man.

Some years ago I heard someone use a term while describing a homosexual – as they appeared physically coupled with their gaudy attire. The quote was "that person is a flaming queer." The word "burned" (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance (SEC) #1572, underlined in the passage above) is *ekkaio* in the Greek. It means 1) to burn out, 2) to set on fire, 3) to be kindled, to burn. Whoever articulated that termed was biblically accurate.

The apostle Paul describes how these sodomites burned or were inflamed with their uncontrollable lust, which is opposed to that which is natural. There is no greater act of perversion than sodomy. By no means am I trying to be graphic: I'm

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simply trying to exegete the Scriptures accurately and clearly. This unbridled lust between men is absolutely unnatural and forbidden by God. These Sodomites work that which is utterly indecent.

Christ declared He would judge every man according to his works. Whether these individuals realize it or not they'll all stand before the Lord Christ to be judged for their evil works: "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works" (Revelation 20:13).

All works will be judged by Christ according to the Holy Scriptures. There is one distinct phrase Christ uses repeatedly when addressing the seven churches of Asia Minor: "I know thy works" (see Revelation 2 & 3). Christ knows the works of each and every person, whether their works are good or bad. The apostle Paul declared: "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men..." (2 Corinthians 5:10-11).

We all are challenged and warned to possess a wholesome fear of our Lord: *"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God"* (Hebrews 10:31).

When believers stand at the *bema* seat of Christ we will not be judged for sin but rather we will be judged according to our righteous works concerning the kingdom of God.

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The works of these sodomites are unseemly. The word "unseemly" speaks of indecent acts; acts of shame and disgrace. The apostle Paul declares sodomites will be rewarded with evil in their bodies. Most of us remember the outbreak AIDS (Acquired Immunoof deficiency Syndrome) in the 80s and we now know the term HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). These deficiencies are their reward and exactly what the apostle Paul describes in our Scripture text.

Paul uses the word "*recompense*", meaning retribution for their ungodly deeds and actions. This recompense or retribution is their payback, ration, or wage for the error of their sin.

Anytime anyone errs they are going in the wrong direction both physically and spiritually. Jesus said to the Pharisees: "<u>Ye do err</u>, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29).

When anyone lives in direct opposition to that which is natural, they not only suffer in their bodies but also suffer eternal ruination if there is no godly repentance.

There are some who seemingly repent moments before death, but we question, *Is that true repentance filled with godly sorrow, or a fear of dying without Christ?*

The apostle Paul defines the right sorrow as that which is godly and leads to genuine repentance: "For godly sorrow (which comes through the Holy Spirit) worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of (no sorrow for godly repentance): but the sorrow (personal grief) of the world worketh death. For behold this self same thing, that ye



sorrow after a godly sort..." (2 Corinthians 7:10-11).

Sadly, Judas Iscariot had worldly sorrow, thus committing suicide, a work of death. When some people get caught they are only sorrowful because they got caught and possess no true godly sorrow.

The great tragedy of sodomy is without repentance men become reprobate. Anyone continuing to spurn Holy Ghost conviction will ultimately suffer their conscience to be seared. Once seared, these souls no longer possess God-awareness. Once the conscience is seared, there is no heartfelt compunction to repent of evil. This happens because they did not retain the knowledge of God. All Christians should be desirous to retain a wholesome knowledge of God but sin will deplete that desire if one is not careful. Because these souls have rejected God, He will reject them even while they are yet alive.

It is sad when the Spirit of God is so grieved the Father will not allow or suffer His Spirit to deal with these reprobates. We read: "And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive (or contend) with man" (Genesis 6:3). God's grace toward sinners is great but there is a point when Jehovah will reject them.

Let it be noted, when anyone becomes a reprobate God has completely rejected them. There is no place of repentance for those who are reprobate. The Greek word for "reprobate" (SEC #96) is adokimos and means: 1) not standing the test, not approved, 2) that which does not prove itself as it ought, unfit for, unproved, spurious, reprobate. Obviously, these all fall short of the righteousness required by Jehovah.

Let me share something that should concern each of us in our walk with Christ. The apostle Paul declared: "<u>But I keep under my</u> <u>body</u>, and bring it into subjection (or subdued): lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a "castaway (unapproved or rejected)" (1 Corinthians 9:27). The apostle Paul told the Corinthians he kept his body in subjection as a slave unto Christ so that after he had preached to others, he would not become a "castaway": which in the Greek is the same identical word as a "reprobate". This refutes those who teach you cannot lose your salvation once you are born again. Paul admitted, after having preached to others, if he did not keep his body in subjection, he too could become a castaway or reprobate himself.

The word "castaway" is a twopart word: something is "cast" or thrown "away". As Christians our desire should be to never become a castaway but rather we should desire to become vessels of honor for the Master's use. We are told: "If a man therefore purge (cleanse thoroughly) himself from these, he shall be a vessel of honour, sanctified (purified), and meet (useful or profitable) for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work." (2 Timothy 2:21). Again we witness that simple word "work". Works do not save anyone but works are a testimony that we are redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ and serve Him via our works in His vineyard.

When anyone becomes reprobate they do those things which are not convenient. The word *"convenient"* means those things which are not "becoming", not "fit"; in this case, grossly unbecoming. This is why we now see a deluge of filth in America.

One of the great signs of the Second Coming of Christ is sodomy. Jesus said: "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all" (Luke 17:28-29).

If you cannot understand the days of Noah regarding fallen angels cohabiting with earthly women and producing giants, then believe what you are witnessing concerning the deluge of homosexuality. America is now awash in perversion from the homosexual community.

The NFL and even our federal government openly promote sodomy. Before long a newsletter of this gravity will get me imprisoned because it will be declared hate speech.

June has become the month for celebrating gay pride, perverted rainbows, and flying gay flags arrogantly in the face of Jehovah.

The spirit of Sodom is more than about homosexuality. It is mostly about pride, slothfulness, idleness, and poor work ethics. We are warned: "Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness (or inactivity)..." (Ezekiel 16:49). We witness these sins daily as they abound and increase everywhere.

I'm all for safety nets but welfare and idleness have engulfed this nation. Since COVID, people no longer want to work. The apostle Paul declared: *"For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if <u>any would not work,</u> <u>neither should he eat</u>" (2 Thessalonians 3:10). When Elohim placed Adam in the garden he was commanded to dress it and keep it. The Scriptures teach every man should work unless they are disabled.*

I humbly encourage you: Remain steadfast in God's Word and spend more time in prayer. America has forgotten her God and soon will witness violence and chaos.

In closing, especially at this time in history, we anticipate an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in our midst. Let us pray for God to glorify Himself. Again, thank you so very much for your love and support for this ministry.

Serving Along Your Side,

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