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CONTROVERSY: Part 4

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In this month's edition we continue digging into **Hosea 4:12-14**, "*My people ask counsel (or advice) at their stocks (wooden idols), and their staff (divining rod) declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God. They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow (darkness) thereof is good (convenient): therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom (infidelity), and your spouses shall commit adultery. I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses (husbands) when they commit adultery: for themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots: therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall (be punished)*".

It is a sad state of affairs when Israel seeks a piece of wood for divine advice or direction. The modern church has fallen just as far today as Israel had in their day. Regrettably, the modern church seeks guidance and direction from secularism and humanism rather than the Word of the living God. When the church seeks direction and guidance from the world, it will become corrupted, soiled, and sullied like Israel.

Israel, terribly stained and polluted with sin, was given over to a spirit of whoredom and idolatry.

When the church falls into whoredom and spiritual fornication, the church will surely become shipwrecked due to gross sin and error. Today's church has fornicated with false doctrine and teaching.

The apostle Paul feared for his new converts because he fully understood the power of spiritual fornication. He declared, "*Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste (pure, innocent) virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled (deceived) Eve through his subtilty (trickery), so your minds should be corrupted (defiled) from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear (hear) with him"* (2 Corinthians 11:1-4).

Paul was aware of spiritual fornication and how the enemy would soil anyone's virtuous and chaste relationship in Christ Jesus. Paul worried Corinthian believers would replace their true faith in Christ with a false and perverted faith.

Without a doubt the apostle had every reason to be concerned for his new converts. Corinth was a cosmopolitan city, filled with numerous religions and many cults. Paul was greatly concerned because he knew if they rejected Christ this would lead to painful and severe consequences. If his new converts rejected the abundant life offered by Jesus Christ they would then settle for a life of abundant disaster.

Today our world is filled with innumerable religions and spiritual paths. Christ alone made the supreme sacrifice for our sins and

He was the only one who ever rose from the dead to prove His Lordship.

Our surrender to Christ must be complete, withholding nothing. Totally surrendering our lives to Christ helps us from ever surrendering to other gods or philosophies that oppose the only true and living God, Christ Jesus! This is why absolute dedication is needed in this hour.

The spirit of harlotry and whoredom has infiltrated the church, leading many to embrace many false doctrines that come along.

Paul exhorted, "*That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight (fraud) of men, and cunning craftiness (trickery), whereby they lie in wait (with a crafty method) to deceive"* (Ephesians 4:14).

Many may not be worshiping wooden idols but they have spiritual idols in their hearts just as defective and damnable. The apostle John also makes this simple admonition, "*Little children, keep yourselves from idols (tangible or mental). Amen."* (1 John 5:21).

Recently there seems to be a reviving of horoscopes in America. God forbid Christians would ever look to sorcery and divination for personal guidance and direction. Some would say; *I do it just for the fun of it*. That is just as cynical as Israel believing a piece of wood could tell them the future. Hosea declared Israel would go to the tops of the mountains and burn incense upon the hills. The modern church has run to and fro and has gone to great lengths to make so-called spiritual sacrifices that do not edify the church or give glory to God.

God's prophecy to Daniel was, ***"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased"*** (Daniel 12:4).

Hosea says Israel worshipped under the shadows or darkness of the trees: meaning they were looking for a place of physical and spiritual covering so as to continue living lives of debasement and debauchery.

Jesus declared, ***"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil"*** (John 3:19).

Many today look for a friendly, seeker-church, with a compromised message. True Holy Ghost conviction is not manifested there. It is no longer a "church" when the Holy Ghost is not welcome to work there.

Hosea declares their daughters would commit whoredom and their spouses would commit adultery. This speaks of literal prostitution where daughters would bed anyone.

Likewise, regarding false doctrine, it seems this generation will fall for anything that comes along. Today we witness many so-called TV preachers parading their long hair in rebellion and pedaling nonsense! The New Testament forbids this compromised, casual life style. Deem me judgmental, but it violates the Word of God: ***"Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?"*** (1 Corinthians 11:14).

I would ask people to please not attempt to teach me when they openly defy the Word of God. Have you ever seen a Roman bust with a man having long hair?

This generation no longer feels shame because of their open rebellion. I am witnessing more and more young ladies dressing so risqué when attending church, and even much more in the world. There is absolutely no teaching or preaching on modesty any longer!

When Hosea speaks of spouses committing adultery, he is speaking of their daughters-in-law. What we see here is absolute debauchery both morally and spiritually.

Today you can sense a spirit of uncleanness overtaking modern Christianity. Some of the things I say may seem harsh and offensive but I am declaring the pure unadulterated truth. One Hebrew translation reads: *"your fathers and sons are doing the very same things: sleeping with whores and shrine prostitutes."* Israel refused to understand the end results: therefore, in the end they will be destroyed.

When anyone, a church, or a denomination becomes foolish spiritually they will suffer great loss and make shipwreck. Denominations all over the world are in chaos and have lost spiritual control because they have forgotten Jehovah! No one can dabble and flirt with sin and remain holy and sanctified. Sin will sully, soil, and stain the soul of those who dare touch it. Sin is filthy, degraded, impure, and wholly debased.

These wives and daughters were guilty of adultery, because their husbands and fathers had volunteered them for shrine and temple prostitution. Consequently, the Lord would become impatient with their shameful and indignant acts of sin.

The prophet of God, Hosea, closes abruptly with a declaration of ruin for every such offender with these frightful words: ***"... the people that doth not understand shall fall"*** (Hosea 4:14).

What a shame and disgrace when the church no longer possess spiritual understanding. Those who have no more spiritual sense than this, especially those who profess to be God's people, can expect nothing less than divine judgment.

There are many prophecies declared by today's popular speakers that *America is going to see a great turnaround*. I question any so-called turnaround **until we witness godly**

repentance on a national scale! For there to a national turnaround there must be a genuine manifestation of righteousness. The Bible is clear, ***"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people"*** (Proverbs 14:34)". One Hebrew translation reads: *godliness makes any nation great but sin is a disgrace to any people.*

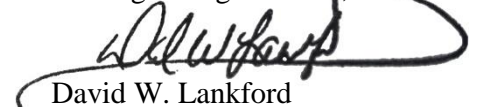
It seems each and every day our nation becomes more perverted and distorted by both our political and spiritual leaders. How can denominational leaders allow such heresy and fallacy to pervade and permeate the church of the living God?

And, forgive me but I have personally given up on our so-called constitutional republic government! Our "President" is selling our reserve petroleum to India and China! Satan and his cohorts have set up shop throughout all of Washington, D.C. On July 4th of this year, we witnessed yet another mass shooting in Parkland Heights, Chicago. Yet in the city of Chicago that same weekend seven were also murdered and 58 were injured by gunfire.

America is no longer a free nation, because it no longer believes in the God of the Bible. Jesus said, ***"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed"*** (John 8:36). No nation is free unless it lives under the banner of Jesus Christ the Son of God!

Let me remind you that in **Part 1** in this series Hosea said, ***"By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood"*** (Hosea 4:2). *Blood toucheth blood* means: murder after murder after murder. Sadly, America has become an adulterous and murderous nation. What will be the end for America?

Serving Alongside You,



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