

Statement on the SCOTUS Decision Legalizing Same-Sex Marriage in All 50 States

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Louis Pasteur lived when the world believed bacteria were generated spontaneously from the mud and dust. Dr. Pasteur alone believed that bacteria multiplied microscopically in most unclean and septic conditions. He was right, and the world was wrong. Galileo dared to affirm that the sun was the center of the known universe, not the earth. Galileo was right, and the world was wrong. Today, the church stands in such a place. Those devoted to Jesus Christ and His Holy Word understand that ultimate truth rests in Him alone. He is always right and the world, time and time again, is always wrong. In time, like civilizations of long ago, they too will come to the knowledge of the truth and realize, they were wrong.

Obergefell v. Hodges, names not familiar to us until now, will no doubt be mentioned in the same breath as Roe v. Wade—the 1973 decision that infamously led to the legalization of abortion across America. Honestly, the very fact that the SCOTUS even considered a ruling on same-sex marriage reveals to me the depraved moral state of our nation. I'm convinced that just a decade ago, few would have predicted the rapid ascent and influence of the gay lobby. According to the most recent US Census, gay couples represent less than one-half of one percent of our population.

What does it mean for the church? The gay lobby says, "Antidiscrimination laws are our next battleground." For those who opposed same-sex marriage and see religious liberty as sacred, it is feared that these laws will inevitably be used to force churches, religious institutions and religious business owners to violate their beliefs, whether by providing services for same-sex weddings or by employing homosexuals in church related jobs. At a minimum, we risk losing our tax exempt status. Worst case, laws may be enacted that limit what pastors can and cannot say from their pulpits and what churches can and cannot say regarding their doctrines. In his withering response to the majority, Justice Scalia stated, "They (the majority) have found, in the fourteenth amendment, a fundamental right overlooked by every person alive at the time of the ratification (of the US constitution), and almost everyone else in the time since." Sarcastically, he writes, "These justices know that limiting marriage to one man and one woman is contrary to reason...They know that an institution as old as government itself, and accepted by every nation in history until 15 years ago, cannot possibly be supported by anything other than ignorance...."

In ruling against same-sex marriage, the US Sixth Circuit Judge John Sutton, writing for the majority, wisely wrote, "...Marriage has long been a social institution defined by relationships between men and women. So long defined, the tradition is measured in millennia, not centuries or decades."

I know that I will be accused of being "a hater." Let me be clear about what I hate. I hate what sin is doing to my country and what sin does to those whom I do love. Our Bibles say, "There is a way that seems right unto man but the way therein is death." I hate that good people, seeking to live their lives apart from God, won't listen to the truth. The Bible also says, "Sin is fun but for a season." I pray that this season ends before His mercy runs out.

Dear church, the Bible is the final authority on marriage. No court, no justice, no state, no legislature, no body, no president and certainly no cultural opinion can change the divine purpose of marriage. The Bible teaches that marriage is to be a covenant relationship between one man and one woman and is ordained by God to reflect the relationship between Christ and His church. The ultimate danger to any generation is the devastating results of disobedience to God's Holy Word. When this society shakes its fist in God's face, it's a warning sign to us of the imminent disintegration of our culture. May we consider His words, afresh and anew, "What God has joined together, let no man separate."

Church, with spiritual ears, hear when the moralists of this end-time are shouting "the world is flat" and "this world will revolve around our Earth," realize this full-fledged attack on the institution of marriage is, in reality, an assault on the church of the Lord Jesus Christ and our message of Good News! It is driven by the forces of darkness that hate the name of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, these principalities have perverted those who have not adhered to the faith or rejected it outright. The only crisis we truly face this day is that lost people are dying and going to hell. We stand between them and an eternity without Him. May we take a stand, and if necessary, stand alone for the truth and freedom found only in Christ. To those who might follow after us, the Christian life is not always easy, and it will be more difficult in the days ahead to honor Christ in all that you say and do. May those who come behind us find us faithful to His Word and to the spreading of His Good News!

Fear not, my friends! As Isaiah the prophet stated,

*"For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our Lawgiver,
the Lord is our King; He will save us."
- Isaiah 33:22, NKJV*