

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, May 17, 2015
Changing Church Challenges 2015
3 XXX Culture

TEXT: 1 John 4:1-4 / 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

The end is near! The world we live in has some serious issues. Our country has changed radically in just a very short while, and it is going to get faster. Our job is to overcome by the power of the Spirit in us, and not be deceived. We looked at ethnic division and Islam. Today, we look at the danger we face in a society that has made a decision to make it a criminal offence to resist sexual perversion.

- ❖ Anti-Christ is using sexual sin as a lever
 - The “Gay Marriage” question. Marriage is a spiritual banding of two children of God, a particularly well-defined institution, and the unit for caring for women and providing for child-rearing.
 - We see businesses required by the courts to serve “gay weddings” with flowers and cakes, etc. The immediate threat is that government will make an effort to force the church to alter its stance on “marrying” homosexuals.
 - The real problem: The Church has adopted the sexual mores of the culture at large.
 - We started winking at divorce.
 - Cohabitation is tacitly condoned in most churches. 1 Cor 7 follows 1 Cor 6 – marriage is God’s answer to lust.
 - We have lost the moral high ground.
 - We are living in Newspeak. Language is upside down, and the thought police are running amok.
- ❖ The church has gone soft on sexual sin in because we want to be cool
 - Sex is to be confined to marriage, one man with one woman. Gen 2:22-25 / Matt 19:3-10 All other sexual is sinful
 - The issue of homosexual behavior is a small subset of the larger issue of sexual sin in general. The passage most used to hammer folks is 1 Cor 6:9-11
 - All kinds of sexual sin are included in the list, which also includes a lot of favorites for all of us
 - Some other references: Acts 15:20, Act 15:29, Act 21:25, Rom 1:29, 1Co 5:1, 1Co 6:13, 1Co 6:18, 1Co 7:2, 2Co 12:21, Gal 5:19, Eph 5:3, Col 3:5, 1Th 4:3, 1Co 6:18, 1Co 10:8,1Ti 1:10, Heb 13:4, Rev 21:8, Rev 22:15 1Co 5:9-10, 1Co 6:9, 1Co 5:11, Heb 12:16

- **We live in a hyper-sexualized, entertainment obsessed, electronically addicted culture which has simultaneously postponed, marginalized, and trivialized marriage.**
- Sexual sin brings its own judgment:
 - Heterosexual sin results in
 - Out of wedlock births and abortion brings effects to bear on innocent parties.
 - Hearts hardened to real love
 - Rampant spread of std’s
 - Homosexual life, brings devastating results: Romans 1:23-25
 - Both are described in 1 Cor 6 as sins against the body
- Please note 1 Cor 6:12-13: You are free, stay that way
- ❖ **Our response to a XXX society:**
 - Hatred and vitriol is not a Christian response to sin in the world. Be careful who you curse unless you are sure your pet sin is not likely to be demagogued. Abomination? Pro 6:16-19 / Deut 7:25-26 / Pro 11:1 / Lev 18:22 / Deut 22:5
 - Get your heart right before you open your mouth!!!! Proverbs 26:24-28
 - We have an obligation to teach godly behavior. Let’s get real::
 - It is hatred, not love, to encourage someone else to engage in sin to satisfy your lust. It is selfishness to display your body in a way designed to incite lust in others.
 - Sex is not a right or even a necessity. It is a blessing confined to husband and wife.
 - If you’re gonna have sex, get married. No other options.
 - If you get a divorce there is a price to pay in terms of service in the church. You can’t just keep on serving in leadership.
 - **God’s instruction:** “Honor marriage, and guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy between wife and husband. A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. This is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. God draws a firm line against casual and illicit sex.” Ephesians 5:31-32 NLT / Hebrews 13:4 MSG mashup

Next week: Getting real about homosexuality