

CALLING EVIL GOOD

Text: Isaiah 5:20

INTRO: The prophet looks down on the society of his day pronounces a woe upon those who call evil good & good evil. His words also serve warning to our generation as well.

I. CALLING SIN A SICKNESS.

- A. We recognize that there is such a thing as mental & physiological illness.
- B. There was a time when drunkenness & homosexuality were recognized as sinful by society in general. Today, for the most part, that is no longer the case.
- C. Homosexuality went from sin to sickness & from sickness to “alternate live style” – but the Bible still says the same thing about the practice that it has always said.

Rom 1:26-27, For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

- D. Likewise, drunkenness was recognized for its sinful nature in times past. Today, it is usually excused as an ailment. There is little or no doubt that some have a stronger tendency than others to succumb to the power of alcohol, and lack the ability to “use it in moderation. But with God’s help, they can resist the temptation to drink. And regardless of their weakness, drunkenness is still sinful.

1 Cor 6:8-11, Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor

thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

II. CALLING FORNICATION “AN AFFAIR.”

Gal 5:18-21, Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

III. CALLING THIEVERY “GOOD BUSINESS.”

Prov 20:14, "It is good for nothing," cries the buyer;
But when he has gone his way, then he boasts.

Hos 12:7, A cunning Canaanite! Deceitful scales are in his hand; He loves to oppress.

Eph 4:28, Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

IV. MAKING EXCUSES FOR SIN INSTEAD OF PROPERLY REPENTING.

“I know I shouldn’t have said that but I have a bad temper.”

“I’m just not able to give as the Bible teaches...”

“I don’t have time to pray... study...etc.”

V. CALLING LIES “STORIES, FIBS, EXAGGERATIONS...”

Phone rings: Husband says, “If it’s for me, tell them I’m not home.”

“I gave at the office.”

RATHER: Yes, I think he's an honest man.

O'REILLY: Do you really?

RATHER: I think -- I do. I think he's an honest man.

O'REILLY: Even when he lied to Jim Lehrer's face about the (UNINTELLIGIBLE)?

RATHER: Listen, who among us have not lied about something?

O'REILLY: Well, I didn't lie to anybody's face on national television. I don't think you have. Have you?

RATHER: I don't think I ever have. I hope I never have. But look, it's one thing...

O'REILLY: How can you say he's an honest guy, then?

RATHER: Well, because I think he is. I think at core, he's an honest person. I know that you have a different view. I know that you consider it sort of astonishing anybody would say so. But I think you can *be an honest person and lie about any number of things.*

O'REILLY: Really?

RATHER: Yes, I do

Rev 21:8, But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

La Porte, TX, November 9, 1975

Exton, PA, July 10, 1988

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, September 19, 2004