



*"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."*

## **A Controversial Newsletter "The Printed Voice of Summit Theological Seminary"**

*~ All articles are written by George L. Faull, Rel. D. unless otherwise stated ~*

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George L. Faull, Editor

### **WHAT CAUSES LOVE TO CEASE?**

How beautiful is young love! A man finds a woman in which he sees, or thinks that he sees, a woman in perfection. He does not then think of himself but fills his thoughts with ways to please her.

He spends his time and fortune in seeking to find means to bring her joy to her heart. Nor is this done with an ulterior motive to benefit himself. His joy is to see her happy.

On the other hand, the girl, soon to burst into full womanhood, would not hurt her admirer for all the money in the world. She responds to his attention like a flower does to the rain and sun. She beams with joy when he is pleased and sorrows at any pain she causes him.

Nothing is more beautiful than young married love in its innocence, thoughtfulness and joy.

I suppose that is why it is one of the most beautiful types of Christ and His Church. Those of us who have experienced this joy know what heights of joy a human being can attain.

But what hinders this mutual love? What stops this flow of love between two people? Those who would have died for each other, have now become enemies. What has sprung up to block this issue of love?

Your author does not intend to speak only of romantic love, but I would also speak of the love of friendships, the love of brothers and sisters, the love of sons, daughters, and parents. In short, I am asking, "What hinders and destroys love?"

### **FIRST**

If one becomes vexed at the superiority of the faith and service of a friend or mate, they may grow to hate that person.

Why did Cain kill Abel? I **John 3:12** tells us, "...because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous."

When one is violating the plain commands of God and offering less than God requires, it often causes one to hate those who are doing right.

This is an escape mechanism to avoid facing one's own sins. The righteous are termed "self-righteous", "bigots", or "narrow-minded".

God tried to reason with Cain to do right but instead, Cain slew his brother. One should thoroughly examine their own heart to see if their lack of love for their enemy is because they despise their foe's sincere desire to be righteous.

Many a man is angry at his wife's devotion to God. Many women resent their husband's fellowship with God and even demand that their husband's attention be transferred from God's worship to her childish needs. It must be the height of selfishness when one is vexed at another's desire to do right.

### **SECOND**

If one is bitter at one's loved one love is hindered.

The Scripture states, "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble *you*, and thereby many be defiled." **Hebrews 12:15**

Bitterness causes one to be ungrateful for what their loved ones do for them. Bitterness can cause an individual to withdraw their spirit from a loved one; we want to hurt the person towards whom we are bitter. We begin to find faults in them to justify our claim that they are hypocrites. We focus on their faults instead of their strengths. We may even imagine faults and attribute false motives to all that they do.

Ahithophel was David's chief advisor. He was one of David's closest friends. He was the grandfather of Bathsheba, whom David had taken from Uriah. Ahithophel was bitter towards David and joined Absalom in his rebellion against David. He could not forgive David. His advice to Absalom was to rape David's concubines and wives. This was his attempt to "get even" with David. His end was pathetic, for he ended up committing suicide.

Perhaps it was he of whom David wrote when he said, "For *it was* not an enemy *that* reproached me; then I could have borne *it*: neither *was it* he that hated me *that* did magnify *himself* against me; then I would have hid myself from him: 13 But *it was* thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. 14 We took sweet counsel together, *and* walked unto the house of God in company." **Psalms 55:12-14**

These are sad words, but so often true because some cannot handle bitterness. Their weak love cannot cover their friend's sin.

Has bitterness and unforgiveness caused your love to cease for your loved one?

Can you forgive and be big enough to overlook the hurt you feel?

Jesus reminds us that, "14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." **Matthew 6:14-15**

### THIRD

A fear of someone we love can cause us to cease loving them.

The cause of our fear may be real or it may be imagined. King Saul feared that David would become king and rule over his family. He therefore sought to kill David.

John says, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." **I John 4:18**

One cannot love what he fears. Every attempt should be made to overcome fears of those we love. We must make sure that we do not imagine dangers and attribute evil motives to our loved ones, which have never entered their minds.

### FOURTH

Guilt will hinder love from flowing freely toward a loved one.

The Scripture states, "A lying tongue hateth *those that are* afflicted by it..." **Proverbs 26:28** When one sins against another, they often harbor a great dislike for the one they sinned against. King Saul hated David the more he sinned against him.

Amnon loved Tamar, his half-sister, but after he molested her, "he hated her exceedingly." **II Samuel 13:1-15** In fact, it says, "...the hatred wherewith he hated her *was* greater than the love wherewith he had loved her..."

Hating those whom we are abusing is a self-defense mechanism, which allows one to continue in hateful rebellion. In our mind, concentrating on their faults justifies any continued animosity we feel toward the person we have sinned against.

Is your lack of love due to you having sinned against the person you despise?

### FIFTH

Jealousy is a hindrance to love.

Do you remember how Michal watched out the window as David danced with joy before the Ark of the Covenant? **II Samuel 6:16-23**

He had wanted to build God a house instead of the tabernacle. God had told David that instead He would build him a sure house (Kingdom). His house would not fall as Saul's had done.

Saul was Michal's father. David, her husband, danced before the Lord and had thrown off his kingly robes, and rejoiced with the commoners at the safe return of the Ark of the Covenant.

It was obvious to Michal that both God and the people delighted in David in a way that had never been true of her father, Saul. She despised David in her heart. She could not wait to mock him privately, but ran out to meet him saying, "...How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!" **II Samuel 6:20**

David resented her false accusations against his piety. He was being neither lewd nor indiscreet. He was being zealous for the cause of his God.

He had refused to rule as king over Israel unless Michal could be his Queen. **II Samuel 3:13-21** Now she slanders his worship of God and accuses him of lasciviousness and hypocrisy. He had done this in pure joy and with an upright heart.

David knew that he was a commoner, and that in worship there was to be no distinction between a king and his servants in approaching God.

Michal's jealousy had prompted her to unfair accusations, and caused her love for her husband to dissipate. God punished her for this envy by giving her a barren womb.

Solomon said, "Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous, but who is able to stand before envy?" **Proverbs 27:4**

Are you envious of the one whom you should love? Is this envy causing you to slanderously accuse them of evil?

These are a few causes of the death of young love and why many friendships have waned. Solomon said, “6...for love *is* strong as death; jealousy *is* cruel as the grave: the coals thereof *are* coals of fire, *which hath* a most vehement flame. 7 Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.” **Song of Solomon 8:6b-7**

True love is hard to quench. If yours was quenched so easily, perhaps your love was not the divine love described in **I Corinthians 13** that suffers long and is kind. It envies not, and is not proud. It is not selfish. Love is not impatient, nor does it imagine evil. It does not rejoice at another’s sins. Love is patient and trusting. It hopes and endures. These are the signs of divine love.

In short:

- ↳ Love is not vexed at a loved one’s godliness, as Cain was vexed at Abel.
- ↳ Love is not bitter, nor does it seek revenge, like Ahithophel did against David.
- ↳ Love does not fear or imagine evil, as Saul imagined against David.
- ↳ It is not jealous nor does it mock, as Michal did David.
- ↳ Love does not hate those whom it offends, as Amnon did Tamar.

It may be true in your own life that the fault lay in you and not in the one you no longer love.

The writer of Proverbs informs us that “a bother offended is harder to be won than a strong city.” **Proverbs 18:19**

Perhaps if we remove these walls of our own making, our friend’s heart can be recaptured. Divine love will allow young love and friendship to once more be enjoyed. This is God’s Will. It should be sought with all diligence!



#### The Annuity Man

I am not licensed to sell securities as mutual funds, stocks, and bonds. I am not a registered financial planner. By law I cannot make recommendations about them. I am of the conviction that retirement should never be at risk. I only sell what decreases if money is withdrawn. I am an insurance agent. I have sold annuities for 43 years. If that sounds good to you, please contact me!

--George L. Faull

The author of the following article needs to remain anonymous due to the likelihood of his employers’ reaction to an employee making such a bold statement. The workforce of today is threatened by the Gay Agenda to such a degree that employees cannot publicly state the tenets of their own religion in a public forum. I know of no other sin that has the power of the Gay Agenda in abusing its critics.

--George L. Faull

## LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL

To understand this statement more precisely, we need to know the punctuation.

Does the phrase, **LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL** end in an exclamation point, a question mark, or a period?

Actually, I would like to consider each of the grammatical possibilities.

There is the **command**, LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL! with a dictator’s theme and an exclamation point.

Another form is the **question**, LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL? with a “you have got to be kidding” tone.

And then there is the **statement**, LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL. For us, this has a “I don’t understand” response, like Nicodemus in **John 3:9**, “...How can this be...?” asking Jesus how to be born again.

You may be asking, “Why do we have to talk about this? That word is not even in my Bible.” You ask well.

The word homosexual is not in many Bibles. There is a clear reason for that. My Webster’s tells me the word came into common use in the English language in the 1890’s. So the King James Version, Revised Standard Version, and American Standard Versions were translated before that word was in common use.

Even recent translations like the New International or New King James only have the word one time, in **I Corinthians 6:9**. So it is a new word to describe an old problem. But it is a controversial topic in our culture and one addressed in the Bible from oldest times.

To sift through these options I needed to do some research.

**My 10-year-old Webster’s Unabridged says:**

**Homosexual**; -adj. 1 of, pertaining to or exhibiting homosexuality. 2 of, pertaining to or noting the same sex. -n 3 a homosexual person.

**Homosexuality**; -n. sexual desire or behavior directed to a person or persons of one’s own sex.

So it helps to understand the word and consider if the word is being used as a noun or an adjective. Said another way, this word can describe a person or an action.

It is even more imperative to know what Scripture says about this topic:

About 1500 years before Christ, God made clear His thoughts in **Leviticus 18:22** and further in **20:13**

“22 **Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman;** that is detestable.”

“13 **If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable.** They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.”

That command was given 400 years after the Lord had to destroy Sodom because the men of Sodom practiced this sin.

In New Testament times God’s Word reminds us of the consequences of this act in **Romans 1:26-27**

“26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. 27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.”

And again so clearly in **I Corinthians 6:9-10**

“9 know ye not that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.”

And if all we want to do is read the end of the book, **Revelation 21:8** promises the fiery lake, the second death, to those who practice this behavior.

“8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

So Scripture is clear. Homosexual acts and advocacy is a sin. It would take professional help to come to any other conclusion.

With that understood, let’s consider the title with the exclamation point!

### ***LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL!***

This is the command of the politically correct in our country today. At work, at school, in essentially all TV and movies, and more and more in our government, the message is the same. We are told we must accept homosexual behavior. Homosexual people demand their ‘rights’, which somehow they have gotten called “gay rights”, as if that is the only way to have fun.

Even some in denominational churches advocate gay marriage and gay leadership and even gay pride. This command is a double-edged demand. We are told to honor and respect sinners (the homosexual person) and to call sin ‘good’ (the homosexual act).

None of this is found in the Bible. I would remind you of **Romans 1:32**, “Although they know God’s righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”

Seems these sinners are about the only group that has the audacity to have advocacy groups for their sin. No, we must not heed today’s command to love the homosexual act or the person who is proud of them.

### ***LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL?***

The question mark indicated the confusion of this idea. This approach let’s people condemn the act, without dealing with what the person is.

The previous President instituted a policy in our military of, “Don’t ask, don’t tell.” Basically the question mark of this title says to ignore morality. Proponents of this approach use phrases like, “in the privacy of the bedroom” to show their disrespect for God and His all-knowing power. Even worse, everyone will question what you believe if you follow this line.

Remember **Isaiah 5:20** says,

“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,  
who put darkness for light and light for darkness,  
who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.”

So, ignoring the act makes no sense either.

Let me interject here a sanity test I use when trying to understand if my thinking is sound, rational, and most important; Scriptural. Or if it is bigoted, emotional and contrary to God’s Will.

We all know embezzling is a form of stealing and therefore sin. The person who embezzles may rationalize theirs is a victimless crime since the money they take comes from big corporations and “nobody gets hurt”, but we know it is still sin.

So, I test a viewpoint I am about to say about homosexuals by replacing the word “homosexual” with the word “embezzler”.

Let’s practice:

We want admitted **embezzlers** to be church leaders.

We want **embezzler’s** rights advocates to teach our children about Christian morals.

We trust the treasures of God’s church to **embezzlers**.

I think you get the idea, but maybe you don’t like using the word “embezzler”. Let’s try it with some other words;

We want admitted **murderers** to be church leaders.

We want admitted **wife beaters** to be church leaders.

We want admitted **arsonists** to be church leaders.

Obviously none of these statements comply with Scripture.

We want admitted **homosexuals** to be church leaders.

Now it is clear, that statement also is against God's Word. See how interchanging words help understanding?

Now we have the simple sentence, with a period at the end.

### ***LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL.***

When a homosexual becomes a Christian, he enters into God's love, just like the rest of us sinners. God wants us to extend that love for Him, with one significant requirement - that we don't condone sin, or that sin.

As Christians, we know **Romans 6:22-23**, but God's love is well described in the verse before. "22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- ↳ When a sinner realizes there is one God, and He has given us His Word through the Holy Spirit in the Bible:
- ↳ When the sinner is obedient by repentance, confession and immersion in baptism:
- ↳ When the sinner lives the changed life of a Christian:

Then we have someone who may have been a homosexual, but surely someone we now can, should, and must love.

The word makes it clear God loves the repentant sinner in **I Corinthians 6:11**, "And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

In simple terms, we are to love the sinner, but hate the sin. But it is not always so simple or so easy.

Sometimes, that is not the love of turning the head, of condoning sinful behavior. Sometimes it must take a firm stance. We get that position reinforced in **I Corinthians 5:9-13**, "9 I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people 10 not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. 11 But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. 12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."

Here is a parallel example:

When we find a Christian in our fellowship who is living together, without the benefit of marriage, we love them, as shown in **Galatians 6:1**.

**Galatians 6:1**, " Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently" counsel them and if they don't repent and rectify their situation, we disfellowship them as our way of loving them, of leading them to repentance. When they repent and change the sinful behavior and living arrangement, we again welcome them.

So we could say:

Love the **adulterer**, who becomes a Christian.

And much in the same way:

Love the **thief** who becomes Christian.

Love the **lazy** who becomes Christian.

Love the **gossip** who becomes Christian.

And I would say to you,

Love the **homosexual**, who becomes Christian.

Note, this form of **LOVE THE HOMOSEXUAL.** has a period at the end.

- ↳ It is not the emotional or commanding exclamation point.
- ↳ It is not the confusion of the question mark.
- ↳ It is a quiet, rational, Scripture-based love we are to show to all sinners and that we enjoy ourselves as repentant sinners.

There is one more chapter in this process. Now that their sins are forgiven and they have put their old ways behind them, God has forgotten that they were homosexual, so we can joyfully do the same.

"Love the homosexual" becomes "Love our Christian Brother". The good news is why it is more important to lead people to Christ than to worry about leading them from their favorite sin.

So in this area, as in so many, **CHRIST** is the answer to every moral question!

**Post script; The word *pedophile* was also introduced into common English usage in the 1890's. Please God, may it not become necessary to deliver this message with that word!**

**Dear Brother Faul,**

A Brother recently mocked you because you pointed out that **Isaiah 64:6** said, "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags...." You pointed out that the word "filthy" is the word "menstrual" added to the word "rags" or "cloth". He harangued on this for some time saying we are cleansed and that does not apply to us. What say you?

**ANSWER:**

I do not believe that he was mocking me as we are friends and he mentions me in a good way in the article itself. We have spoken since and he assured me he is not attacking me.

Isaiah stated how it was when Israel was being chastened for their sins and their evil ways. Isaiah is humbly expressing how God viewed Israel.

The word "filthy" is only used here in the Bible and it does mean "a menstrual cloth". Isaiah realized that God considered them unclean and their righteousness as a menstrual cloth. Their righteousness was indeed something less than His desire.

He is not speaking of our righteousness in Christ. However, Paul said somewhat the same thing when he wrote **Philippians 3:8-9**, "8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ, 9 ¶ And be found in him, **not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:**"

Paul said he had no confidence in his flesh. His ceremonial righteousness (circumcised the eight day), his ancestry (Hebrews of Hebrews), his orthodox sect (Pharisee), his misused zeal (persecuted the Church), his self-righteousness concerning Law keeping (blameless). Paul once considered these things his assets. He saw them now as a liability to Christ. He now considered these things as dung.

What Paul wanted was righteousness, not his own righteousness that he had just referred to, but the righteousness, which is through faith of Christ, the righteousness which is **OF** God **BY** faith.

No one has preached that I know of, that the righteousness we have in Christ is as filthy rags. It is our own righteousness that we think we have inherited by our own good works that God views in this light. It is I and my own attempts at being righteous that is abhorable.

Paul said the Jews, being ignorant of God's righteousness, went **about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God (Romans 10:3)**. This is the kind of righteousness that is as filthy rags in God's sight.

However, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."  
**Romans 10:10**

Christ is able to present us blameless or faultless, not because we literally are blameless, but because He desired to adopt us as His children and let us walk before Him, holy and blameless in that He has **made us accepted** in the beloved. This is Grace.

George Faull's righteousness is filthy rags. In Christ, by Grace, George Faull had redemption, was cleansed, and forgiven according to His Grace. **Ephesians 1:4-7**

It is by Grace that we are saved. **It is not by works of our own righteousness but according to His Mercy** He saved us. **Ephesians 2:8**

This is the true meaning of the misused text of **Ephesians Chapter 2**. I am saved by what happened to Jesus on the cross, not any righteous thing I was able to come up with myself.

George Faull is indeed a sinner whom God does not view as a sinner but as a Saint. This is due to His Mercy and Grace.

My own goodness, God abhors as filthy rags. My righteousness that is mine in Christ is a garment of holiness. I have put on Christ. In Him there is no condemnation, I'm a new creature. I have the righteousness of God by faith in Him.

I want to always regard my own personal righteousness in the same light God does. My righteousness would damn me. His righteousness saves me!

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#### THANK YOU

After my announcement in the last issue of taking no income from Summit Theological Seminary or the local church but rather helping with their retirement, via annuities; several folk contacted me.

This response allowed me to work less as advisor and prepare my Seminary lectures and revival sermons as well as the lecture we held at Morehead, KY on homosexuality.

We appreciate the freedom from financial pursuits that you gave me in giving me the opportunity to help in these matters.

Your calls and referrals were a great blessing to my ministry.

Thank You!

George L. Faull

## HOW CAN I MAKE PEACE WITH MY ENEMIES?

The Lord has revealed, "When a man's ways please the Lord, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

We believe that we can best illustrate this truth by the life of Jacob. Jacob was not always a godly man. He had been a rascal and deceived his old blind father and cheated his brother, Esau, out of the blessing.

As a result of his crafty deceit he was forced to flee from Esau to live with his Uncle Laban. He lived with him for several years and was given two of his daughters as wives. He fathered several children and after a miserable existence with crafty Laban, he was told by the Lord to leave and return home.

It appears that during this sojourn with Laban, who was an idolater that Jacob had grown closer to the Lord. The Lord had blessed Laban for Jacob's sake. Laban would not want to lose Jacob as a servant. Jacob decided to steal away with his family and all of his possessions with which the Lord had blessed him. It is here that we see how God handles Jacob's enemies.

1. The first enemy Jacob faced was his **Uncle Laban** who thought that Jacob had stolen his gods. **Genesis 31:2, 5**

Jacob's favorite wife had stolen her father's gods when they hastily fled from Laban. Jacob did not know that she had stolen the gods.

Laban and his sons pursued them for whoever had a man's gods in their possession when one died was considered the heir of all that the man had.

Neither Laban's sons nor Laban would want Jacob to be his heir. The situation was a bad one. The sons of Jacob, from who was to come the Messiah, could all be slain. But there is no real problem here.

God had told Jacob to leave and he was obeying that command. The responsibility to do something was God's responsibility. So God appeared to Laban in a dream and told him not to harm Jacob.

As a result of this Laban appeared and peacefully looked for his gods and not finding them, made a treaty with Jacob. He erected a stone as a witness that they would not pass the stone prepared for war with each other. After a meal and some sleep, Laban left in peace with his sons.

God had given peace to Jacob and his enemy. Why? Because Jacob's heart was right before God in that he obeyed and was headed home as commanded him.

2. But Jacob must now face his brother, Esau, whom he had betrayed so many years earlier.

Esau hated Jacob and waited for a chance to kill him. He was coming after him with four hundred soldiers to slay him. Jacob had tried to send Esau cattle and sheep to appease his brother.

He humbled himself and called himself Esau's servant. He prayed fervently for God to soften Esau's heart. He reminded the Lord that He had told him to return and that he was obeying that command.

He admitted his unworthiness of past blessings and expressed his fears. He reminded God of His promises to him. He then sought to place his family away from the attack. What more can a man do than pray and use his own judgement to prepare for a man who seeks to harm him?

Jacob prayed and an angel of God came and wrestled him until the morning light. He fought valiantly with the angel of the Lord and would not let Him go until the angel blessed him.

The angel changed his name and grabbed him by the thigh so that from then on, Jacob limped. He blessed him and left. Jacob limped away from his wrestling with the Lord. He looked up and saw Esau coming with his four hundred men. Jacob bowed before him and offered him many gifts.

But what does General Esau do? He ignores the bowing of Jacob and his gifts and runs to meet him and falls on his neck and kisses him. Then they both wept tears of joy at the reunion.

It was only after much pleading that Esau would accept the gifts. God had somehow softened Esau's heart and he departed. The Lord gave Jacob peace with his enemy because he was obedient to the Lord.

3. Jacob's next enemies were some of the cities of the plain.

Jacob could finally relax. He was at peace with his Uncle Laban and his brother, Esau. It was then that his daughter, Dinah, was raped by a Canaanite named Shechem. Her brothers, Simeon and Levi, pursued after him and confronted the rapist, who happened to be a prince.

The townspeople wanted to intermarry with Jacob's family. The craftiness of Jacob's past rubbed off on his two sons. They conspired together and told the people that marriage with uncircumcised people was not possible. The townspeople agreed to get circumcised.

Then, on the third day, when the men were sore from this operation, the two sons of Jacob went in and killed all the men in the town. They then spoiled the city and took their wives and children. Jacob was grieved and fearful. He feared that the other cities of the plain would pursue after them. God comforted him and told him what to do.

Jacob demanded that all the false gods or hopes be removed from them. This was probably Laban's gods that his wife had stolen. He insisted that they return to Bethel, where he had been successful in prayer before, and seek God.

He also buried all the evil things secretly under a tree so his children could not return to them. This obedience was rewarded. We read, "And they journeyed: and the terror of God was upon the cities that *were* round about them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob." **Genesis 35:5**

Again, we see a man whose ways please the Lord; his enemies are made to be a peace with him.

Is there a lesson in this for us? There surely is! God can give us peace with our enemies if we surrender our will to His. It was not necessary for God to violate man's freewill in granting Jacob peace. Laban could have ignored the dream. Esau's heart could have been hardened like Pharaoh's. The cities of the plain could have overcome the terror of the Lord. No one's freewill was violated, yet Jacob had peace with his enemies.

Would my readers please notice that in each instance, **Jacob was in the wrong!** His family had stolen Laban's gods. He had robbed Esau of the Patriarchal blessing. His sons had murdered a city for the sin of one man. He and his family were plainly in the wrong but when there was repentance and a turning to the Lord for advice, there came peace.

It is in obedience to His commands that we are pleasing unto the Lord. By prayer and humility, God can turn our enemy's wrath from us. We must do as Jacob did. We must put away false gods or hopes. We must return to our Bethel where we have been successful before. We should bury all evil under the tree of Calvary and leave it there. Then you shall indeed have peace from your enemies.

"He maketh even our enemies to be at peace with us!"

## HOMOSEXUAL LECTURES

Several months ago Brother George C. Stewart called me and told me that Morehead State University in Kentucky had a man come in and lecture on homosexuality. The guest speaker argued that it was moral.

Brother Stewart argued that the other side of the coin should be shown to the students. He was encouraged to have someone present the other side.

I was the third choice for doing so, the other two men declined. These both could have done a much finer job than I could. However, fools rush in where angels fear to tread and I accepted the challenge.

The preparation for my response was a miserable time in my life. The study of the subject itself left me feeling disgusted and sick at the terribly deceitful mishandling of the Word by the Metropolitan Church Website. I hope never to have to study such a perverse subject again.

I recruited Summit Theological Seminary's Vice-President, Terry Carter, to do the philosophical side of the subject. He did a great job.

I also recruited Rex James, a recovering homosexual, to give the experiential side. His "been there, done that" approach was open and confessional, proving it is not a "gay" lifestyle. He did extremely well, too!

I refuted the Biblical passage references that they pervert to their own ungodly practice.

George Stewart is to be highly commended for his aggressive work of arranging this at Morehead, KY.

The program was professionally handled in a good Christian spirit.

It was not attended as well as we hoped, but contacts were made and many orders for DVD's or CD's have come in. You may order them from us for \$5.00.

For Brother Stewart's report, watch "The Restoration Herald" subscription coming out soon.

I would be less than truthful if I said I did not have some apprehension in going due to backlash but the fear left us due to the hundreds of prayers of the Saints.

Thank you for the prayers and encouraging calls and words.

This meeting encouraged us as some attending argued with the philosophical answer to their agenda, some argued with the personal testimony given, but they could not argue against the Bible!

**The Word of God is Powerful and Alive!**