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**Every Man Did That Which Was Right In His Own Eyes**

Deut 12:8 says “Ye shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, **every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes**.” Many preachers & churches today are not following the scriptures as their authority in religion today. Instead they do what is right in their own eyes. Let’s demonstrate that with some human quotes …

First let’s talk about what the New Testament says about Homosexuality – I Cor 6:9-10 – “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers. Neither **homosexuals**, nor **sodomites**, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, will inherit the kingdom of God.” (NKJV)

But notice what we read from The Birmingham News on Aug 6, 2003 - The Episcopal Church approved its first openly gay bishop … the Rev. Gene Robinson. … Robinson … replied … “We have many times departed from … Scripture.” … Robinson cited the examples of ordaining women priests and accepting divorce in the church as departures … “Just simply saying it departs from … Scripture does not necessarily make it wrong.”

It is not just that the Episcopal Church now accepts homosexuality (that’s bad enough), but notice their reasoning - “**Just simply saying it departs from … Scripture does not necessarily make it wrong.**” They are admitting they don’t use the Bible as their authority anymore, right? They define what is right and wrong by something other than the scriptures. Do you see that?

It is the same for the Presbyterian Church USA. I quote from Time Magazine on 3-18-2015 - “The Presbyterian Church made a historic decision … to formally recognize gay marriage and allow same-sex couples to marry in its congregations. … The … denomination voted to redefine the church constitution on marriage to include ‘a commitment between two people …’”

Did you notice how the Presbyterian Church now defines marriage? – “a commitment between two people.” How do you think they used to define marriage – “a commitment between a man and a woman,” right? Then they are admitting they have redefined what constitutes a marriage, haven’t they? Most importantly, how did Jesus define marriage in Matt 19:4-5? - “Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them **male and female**, And said, For this cause shall a **man** leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his **wife**: and they twain shall be one flesh? God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve.

And according to Time Magazine on 5-6-91 this same Presbyterian Church comes out with this – “**The church should ‘re-evaluate its definition of sin to reflect the changing mores of society.’**” Compare that definition of sin with I John 3:4 – “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.” Aren’t they admitting they are not using the Bible to define sin anymore?

Do you see what many churches are doing? They don’t agree with what God says in the Bible, so they have quit using the Bible to define right and wrong. We should pay more attention to passages like Isaiah 55:8-9 – “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Next notice what the Bible says about Divorce And Remarriage in Matthew 19:9 – “…whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.” This is what all churches used to believe at one time. But notice what Anthony Dunnavant in the Orange County (California) Register said – “Some conservative groups believe that divorced people who marry another spouse are living in sin. However, **the number of divorces in the United States has led most denominations away from that teaching**.”

Dunnavant is a liberal but he is right in this case. Most churches don’t stand for the truth anymore on Divorce And Remarriage, not because they restudied the issue from the Bible and found out they were wrong, but because divorce became so prevalent they were pressured into accepting it. They’re not using the Bible to decide what’s right and wrong anymore, are they?

Notice this quote from the Watchtower Witnesses - “We find that people cannot see the divine plan in studying the Bible by itself. We see also that if anyone lays aside the ‘Scripture Studies’ (Watchtower literature), even after he has read them for ten years - if he then lays them aside and ignores them and goes to the Bible alone, our experience shows that within two years he goes into darkness. On the other hand, if he had merely read the ‘Scripture Studies’ and had not read a page of the Bible, he would be in the light.” So the Watchtower religion is admitting they don’t really use the Bible as their final authority either. They evidently think a person would be better off reading their literature alone than studying the Bible. They position their material above the Bible in what they are going to follow.

* John 20:28 And Thomas answered and said unto Him (Jesus), My Lord and my God.
* John 1:1,14 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us …
* Matt 25:46 And these (the wicked) shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Proverbs 14:12 says “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” - What seems right to us may not always be right. Only God’s word can tell us what is actually right.

You know, allowing Women Preachers seems right to me. If it were up to me, I would allow it, because women are just as smart as men, and can teach just as well as men. But it is not up to me, is it? God said in I Cor 14:34-35 – “Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.”

We need to learn a lesson from the Old Testament in Num 22:18, 24:13, and Deut 5:32 – “Balaam … said … If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the Lord … to do **less or more** … I cannot go beyond the commandment of the Lord, to do either **good or bad of mine own mind**; but what the Lord saith, that will I speak … Ye shall observe to do therefore as … God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the **right hand or to the left**.”

What do we learn about the Action Of Baptism in Rom 6:4? – “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

When somebody dies and we take them out to the graveyard to “bury” them, does that mean we just sprinkle a little dirt on their head, or does that mean we put them all the way under the ground? So we know what buried means, and this verse says we are buried with Christ in baptism. Compare that to the Catholic book - Our Faith and the Facts, page 399 - The (Catholic) church at one time practiced immersion. This was up to the thirteenth century. The Council of Ravenna, in 1311, changed the form from immersion to pouring. If the Bible teaches immersion for baptism and the Catholic Church says they changed it from immersion to pouring in 1311, aren’t they admitting the Bible is not the thing that really decides their practice anymore?

We read in I Kings 12:33 – “So he (Jeroboam, King of Israel) offered upon the altar which he had made in Bethel the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month **which he had devised of his own heart**; … and he offered upon the altar, and burnt incense.” I am thinking many churches are devising doctrines and practices in their own heart instead of following what God devised in His word, am I right?

Regarding the Purpose of Baptism, Jesus said in Mark 16:16 – “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be [condemned].” But notice this quote from the Standard Manual for Baptist Churches, pg.22, Hiscox – “It is most likely that in the Apostolic age when there was but 'one Lord, one faith, and one baptism,' and no differing denominations existed, the baptism of a convert by that very act constituted him a member of the church, and at once endowed him with all the rights and privileges of full membership. In that sense, 'baptism was the door into the church.' **Now, it is different**.”

Do you see what the Baptist Church is admitting? That at the time of the apostles, baptism was the door into the church, but now it is different. Who had the right to make it different? And if it different now than in New Testament times, isn’t that really an admission by the Baptist Church that they are not following what the New Testament says on the subject? Something else is deciding for them what to believe and practice, right?

Did the Bible change on any of these issues? So isn’t God’s view on issues the same as it was 2000 years ago? John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. God’s word has not changed.

Why do so many people want to do what is right in their own eyes? II Tim 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth …