



News and Current Events :: Christian Boycotts

Christian Boycotts - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/28 11:42

Recently I believe the Family Research Council announced a boycott of Target stores due to the LGBT bathroom issue.

My question is the propriety of boycotting in light of the following scriptures:

Romans 12:14, 17-18 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

Matthew 5:43-46 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

My question is whether a Christian boycott is a proper response- or does it make us look like unloving jerks?

What if the Family Research Council had instead said "to show our love to the LGBT community we are asking Christians to increase their shopping at Target."

Which scenario better shows the love of Christ?

I do not pretend to have the answer- just throwing it out for discussion.

Re: Christian Boycotts - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/4/28 12:18

The best boycott we can do is one in our own lives against sin:

2 Timothy 2:19 New International Version (NIV)

19 Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: The Lord knows those who are his, and, Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.

I personally would never take our children to a place where LGBT washrooms where there as we would never want to expose them to this perversion in their minds. So our personal choice is not to usually shop in such a place especially with children.

I am sure other saints have other good thoughts on this matter.

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 12:42

Quote:

-----by sermonindex on 2016/4/28 12:18:15

The best boycott we can do is one in our own lives against sin:

AMEN!

Re: Christian Boycotts, on: 2016/4/28 13:00

No comment on the boycott...

But this latest controversy has made me think about where the business world is headed as it embraces the mark of the beast more and more.

What we do know is that eventually it will not be possible to buy or sell unless one accepts the mark. This transgender nonsense is the thin edge of the wedge I think. Its amazing how quickly the business world jumped on top of this and how quickly the country has become polarized over 0.01% of the populations demands. Insanity. It can only be described as an agenda birthed in the pit of hell.

And more, much more is on the way. If this is the kind of wickedness we are dealing with today, try to imagine what the world will look like in 50 years...what kind of things will the State be imposing on the populace? Sodom and Gomorrah, here we come...

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/28 13:06

So will the boycott help matters? Will it help to change the hearts of LGTBs?

We have to decide if this scripture means what it says:

Romans 12:20 Therefore if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.

What does the last part of this verse mean?

Re: - posted by Fatherschild (), on: 2016/4/28 13:25

Sodom and Gomorrah are already here and brought live to you in living blazing technical wonder working power straight to your living rooms and mobile devices via satellite. Our battle is not against the flesh, our own or any LGBT flag flapping lost souls. Our battle is against those powers and principalities that would have us despise these lost souls rather than pray them through as the Lord would lead us.

We had a target store in my reasonably large city and it didn't last long. Within a year or so it was closed because nobody saw the merit in doing business there as better deals were to had elsewhere. Mind you I also believe it was God's hand and the prayers of the saints here for this city and it's people. However, in the future should I be in the proximity of a Target store sans any children (keep the kids out of there), and God orchestrates a divine appointment we'll Glory to God there may be one less LGBT soul lost to the darkness and plucked from the fire amen? He would that none perish.

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 13:25

Neither Target nor transgender people are our enemies so I don't even see how that scripture is relevant to the situation.

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 13:43

I believe as with all things, the Gospel is the ultimate answer.

However, even though I'm not a big "boycott them" guy by nature, if a company is saying that if my family goes there & has to use their restroom, they must be subjected to this perversion: I'm not going there. And while I will always preach the Gospel to transgendered (& everyone else) in love, I still hope Target gets the message & stops the insanity or frankly goes out of business & other retailers get the message & don't do it too. It may very well be that some day there are no other options, but I won't in good conscience deal with them & support them with my hard earned \$. Can't.

It's like the same reason I have turned down big opportunities where I live that fell in my lap to sell products to Casinos (which feed on & perpetuate greed & take advantage of old people, who still have personal responsibility, but they gladly send buses to the nursing homes to get them), porn shops (I had one "given to me" & told my company no thanks & explained why), & I had a chance for the Stericycle account (they take all the "waste" from abortion clinics) & I'd rather struggle

gle with my bills & "have nothing to do with the uneduitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them". I believ God will honor that either now or in eternity (& with 7 kids and single income, it's not as if I don't "need the \$", trust me).

Anyways, that's my 2 cents.

But the only REAL ULTIMATE final solution for reaching all these people is the Gospel, I don't disagree with that. But I'm not going into strip clubs to preach to the people at the bar either. Wisdom I believe.

My 2 cents,
Jeff

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 13:48

Strangely enough, I am not against boycotts as such. I say strangely because I do not believe you can legislate morality and so on. A heart change is a heart change and that is what we as Christians desire to see in everyone, that they find Jesus and their lives are revolutionized. Yet, by simply refusing to shop at that store is a simple enough act. I think about when the black people boycotted the bus company down south back in the civil rights days. It was highly effective and even if they achieved nothing, at least their conscience was clear. They did not want to contribute to the profits of a company who removed a lady because she would not sit at the back of the bus. I see nothing wrong with that. We live in a day and age where corporations are blackmailing municipalities and states into reversing their laws. If Christians decide that they do not want to add to the profits of these companies, then that seems fine enough to me. There are plenty of choices out there :).bro Frank

Re: - posted by Jasmine, on: 2016/4/28 13:50

I'm not going to be diplomatic about this. I'm for the boycott. I'm for the boycott because to me this isn't about transgendered people as much as it is about predators. There are predominately evil men who want to have access to women and children any way they can for their own vile purposes and this is just the invitation they need. I also feel like what did people think was going to happen with their compromise for "gay marriage". Did people really think it was going to stop there? Did they think celebrating Bruce Jenner's "transformation" was going to stop there? I remember over 20 years ago, one of my Professors who was a lesbian telling me that the "movement" wasn't homosexual but rather "polysexual". So yeah "they" all want rights....

I can't just take the position of Joshua 24:15 and act like this doesn't affect my neighbor when it clearly does. I think there's a better way to love transgendered people besides putting women and children in danger. I feel that if transgendered people really cared about community they would have taken the compromise that was offered to them to have their own restrooms. That way everyone could be safe.

I truly know that God's Love is never absent of His Truth and His Holiness. I know because that's how I got Saved. In His Presence, God is pure unadulterated Love but He's fully Truth and He's completely Holy. With all that I had a conviction followed by repentance. I wish I could explain it better but was/is life transforming and God hasn't changed. Jesus is the same. The Holy Spirit is still the Spirit of Truth. So I'm all for loving the LGBT as long as this is the kind of love we're talking about.

I don't think former bad treatment of the LGBT by some Christians is a reason to not continue to stand for right and righteousness.

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 13:57

edit:

I think it is wise to boycott something where there may be danger for your yourself or children, but if we were to boycott everything that is not of God, we would not be paying taxes or shopping at most places. No one would have a credit card, use PayPal, Ebay, own stocks, bonds, or do business with banks. And this is just scratching the surface.

Just as the mark of the beast is spiritual and not physical, so is the mark of Christ. Would anyone say the "mark of Christ" is physical? Is 2 Tim 2:19 speaking of a physical seal?

2Tim 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And , Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Do you think this is referring to a physical looking seal?

Rev 9:4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

One is known as a Christian not by physical, outward marks, but by the fruit of the Spirit and their loyalty to Jesus. Christians display the character of the One who indwells them. Just the same, one is known as a non-Christian by the "works of the flesh" and what "spirit" they are of and their loyalty to the "beast" (world system and religions of this world). Unbelievers display the character of their father, too (Eph 2:2).

We are instructed to try the spirits, not look for physical marks.

1Jn_4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

How many Christians do you know that have Social Security numbers (can't buy and sell without one), credit cards, birth certificates, marriage certificates, driver's license (can't drive without one)?

Do having these things that you need to buy and sell, mean that you are not a Christian?

Re: - posted by Fatherschild (), on: 2016/4/28 14:28

I agree Jasmine that this new "policy" provides great opportunity for predators to have easier access to victimize children and vulnerable women, so yes stay away!

Beyond that, I agree with Jeff that supporting the "perversion" is hard earned dollars down the proverbial toilet (pun intended), and Julius I believe you are correct about the need to find balance in this area per the OP.

I guess in my first post I got a little side tracked and shifted from the discussion about 'boycotting' to plucking a few LGBT from the fire. Sorry for the distraction, and yet do pray for those poor lost souls.

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 14:30

I think you are over thinking it Julius. No one would willingly put their children in a dangerous situation. I have a special needs young man and I still go into the public bathrooms with him. Should I not just rely on God to keep him safe? I think that would be a silly argument, I am tasked with keeping him safe as are all parents for their children. If a specific business is actually going to invite any man into the ladies bathroom, then it would be wise to simply avoid that business. As it is right now, any man in a woman's bathroom in Target, when challenged, merely needs to reply that he self identifies himself as a woman. This is an invitation to predators and has nothing to do with the 0.3% of Americans who identify themselves as a transgender. The lunatics are actually taking over the asylum. In this case the asylum is the secular state. We are going to have to be prepared for living in times no one has ever experienced before.....bro Frank

Re: - posted by dolfan (), on: 2016/4/28 14:46

Boycotts fail when the cause supported lacks consensus support. There are not enough Christians in America to boycott Target 100% and have enough impact to make them change their policy to "only go to the restroom that matches what the Lord gave you". They would double down on this and have glass walls on all the stalls, such is the delusion among us now. Everybody in America except the LGBT and their supporters would have to quit Target to close them involuntarily, IMO.

Boycotts also fail when the cause supported lacks media support. Media are the surrogate for actual thought. That is why they tell us what to think, and are quite open about that fact. America does not think. We do as we are told by media of all kinds and all perspectives. The media tells us LGBT is normal. So, we actually think, to a large enough degree, that Target is not wrong and besides who cares? You can't boycott successfully if the media is not in charge any more than you can be a party nominee for president if the powers that be are not picking you. We only think we are free. We are slaves, albeit unwittingly for the most part.

So, boycott if you like. Sooner or later, you will probably shop there again. We all pretty much lay down our arms eventually when it comes at the cost of laying down our money for something we want. Or, if you don't and you stick to your principles, wave at the folks swarming into the Target as you pass.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/28 15:02

I appreciate all the responses, but no one has addressed the scripture in the OP.

Does a boycott heap burning coals on the heads of the LGBTs (per the actual meaning of that phrase) or is it just making a monetary stab at Target? In other words, what effect does the boycott have on LGBTs?

Target is a soulless corporation.

Let's think about an analogous scenario. Let's say there is a business in town, let's say a bakery, run by an openly gay couple. Would it have more of an effect from God's perspective for Christians to 1) boycott their business to express their disdain for the couple's sin, or rather 2) lavishly patronize their bakery? Who is more likely to influence the couple for the Kingdom- the boycotters or the lavishers?

Re: - posted by JFW (), on: 2016/4/28 15:07

Why does it surprise us when an unsaved, unregenerate people act like unsaved, unregenerate people?

I mean honestly what did we think they were gonna do?

And now we (the body of Christ) are going to follow suit by boycotting their spiritual illiteracy!!??? Isn't that what the "world" would do....?

But we are not of this world,... Nope this place is not our home so why are we trying to get comfortable here?

Did Jesus or Paul or Peter or John boycott Herod, Festus, or Cesar.... Or did they concern themselves with the cause of Christ, namely the kingdom of God and live in such a way that the love of God and the truth of Christ was daily manifest in their lives so as to bring a living hope to a lost and dying world?

Is that what we're doing in our spare time when we're not busy boycotting some new offense or devouring our brothers and sisters that see things a lil dif?

The ship is sinking and we argue over bathrooms.... seriously!?

Now the words of Jesus make more sense than ever... "When the Son of man returns, will He find any faith upon the earth?"

I thought we were to be the lights of this world and as it gets darker and darker we'd shine brighter and brighter, not begin to flicker and sputter out-

Where is the love of God shed abroad in our hearts?

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 15:20

JFW, dolfan, TMK - agree with you.

Of course, no parent would knowingly put their children in a dangerous situation.

Re: - posted by dolfan (), on: 2016/4/28 15:35

TMK, sorry to not address your question. We get off track around here so easily! :)

It can be more effective to lavish love on our enemies than to curse them. We're not told to love them based on how effective it is. And, love is sometimes not lavished -- sometimes it is tougher and truth-telling.

People work at Target. Target is a soulless corporation, indeed. The instruction to love our enemy in Romans 12 is applied by Paul in Romans 13 to government. People work the jobs of government. We pay to them the debt of love we owe to Jesus.

That is probably not often going to be expressed in a boycott. On the other hand, there may be other duties that rightly alter or even halt something recognizable as "love" for an enemy (i.e., predatory behavior against a child would require something way more coercive than a boycott and not generally seen as a loving hand even if it truly is).

As Americans, we treasure the power of a collective voice. It is all wrapped up in this whole democracy razzmatazz. As Christians, we DEEPLY let our American thought inform our Christian heart. It seldom (IMO!) produces anything worth doing or giving much thought to.

Re: Christian Boycotts - posted by AlmostHome (), on: 2016/4/28 16:07

The questions asked are valid, thoughtful ones. Timely for me because, for the first time ever, I signed this very (or any) online petition/boycott just yesterday.

I've never been one to "get involved" with anything online. I've never put my personal information out there for any reason because I've never trusted the internet. Not even in the beginning. (Identity theft, data mining, big brother, etc.,)

Due to very recent, ongoing battles and changes in my life, I put myself out there for the first time with this boycott.

The original post has me thinking about this from a new angle now. I don't regret signing the boycott but I want more than ever to make sure I'm not doing anything out of my own ways or thinking, especially at this point in biblical history and where the Holy Spirit has me in life.

I don't know the answer to this. I don't believe Christians need to be the world's doormat, but I do want to be obedient to the scriptures, regardless of the cost or how I feel about it. What I get out of this thread, more than anything, is the reminder of how important it is to pray and seek God's will for me in all things; and to not forget to examine my attitude and motives.

Re: - posted by Jasmine, on: 2016/4/28 17:27

@TMK

In the example you provided how do you distinguish between showing love by "lavishly patronizing" their business and not cosigning their lifestyle? What message would you be sending and how would the gay couple know the difference? Has this worked for you in the past?

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/28 17:34

I hear you Keith. This is a tough one. Believe me I as much as anyone am so saddened how a very small minority of individuals have taken so much of our culture hostage. There is great organization and militism in that movement.

I read recently a comment that when anorexia became a huge topic after Karen Carpenter died how there was great awareness and push for people who have this condition (which is a condition of mistaken body image) to get psychological and medical help. But with people with transgender issues (mistaken body image) it is celebrated and heralded as normal.

I am just not sure what kind of a witness it is to those folks when Christians do things like this. In other words, how must this make them feel about Christians and the God they say they represent.

Jesus told us to love people and leave the results to Him. It might be loving to boycott Target- I just don't know. Obviously we are to protect our children and not expose them to perversion. The risk of that is likely extremely low particularly

if you are with your child in the restroom. But there is some risk nonetheless.

I don't have answers-- only questions. But I do know the typical Christian response to such issues in the past 20 years or so has failed miserably. After all, look where our society is. It is worse not better.

Isn't the definition of insanity doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results?

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/28 17:42

Jasmine-

It would have to be a lot of Christians doing it- not just a couple. Like a whole church after Sunday service. Soon the owners would wonder "why are they doing this?" It would have a better effect than knowing Christians are avoiding (judging) them. "Heaping coals on their head" means it may bring their sin and shame to light. This could lead either to repentance or further hardening.

It is purely a hypothetical- I have never been in such a situation.

Let me ask this. What if Jesus was here walking with us and he said "I'd like some bread". He sees this hypothetical bakery and says "they sell bread- lets go in here." I say "Master we can't go in there because the owners are gay." What would Jesus say to me, based on what he is recorded as saying in similar situations in scripture?

EDIT: I might add that if we were with Jesus and we came across a pervert abusing a child, we would likely see a side of Jesus we may not expect. Millstones come to mind.

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/28 18:16

Maybe it's time to stop asking what Jesus would do in every situation. Many of us think we have Jesus pegged what kind of car He'd drive, what kind of political party He'd join, and so on. But the fact is, we really don't know what He'd do in this or many other situations. He had a habit of overturning people's expectations and tables. I will go out on a theological limb here, and say there is ample reason to suspect that Jesus would not be nearly as compliant as maybe some suggests. Jesus was very jealous for His Father's reputation. When the Temple departed from its original purpose of being a house of prayer for all nations and instead became a den of robbers, Jesus was outraged. It wasn't because He had scruples against money, but because this sinful system was obscuring God's holy character. The Father's name, rather than being hallowed, was being profaned. Jesus didn't meekly go along with this sacrilege. He overturned the tables.

Jesus, of course, also defined marriage as exclusively between one man and one woman, "from the beginning." He performed his first miracle, turning water into wine at Cana in Galilee, at a wedding. There was no moral question mark attached to this event, because marriage is good in itself good for the man and woman who become "one flesh," good for the children who are expected as a matter of course to result from this union, and good because of the picture it provides of the relationship between Christ and His church. Homosexual unions, even those called marriages, provide none of these benefits, and in fact would obscure them, keeping people from seeing God's best. Homosexual unions certainly don't strengthen marriage. Jesus strongly opposed anything that would undermine marriage that is, the union of one man and one woman. He disallowed divorce except for marital unfaithfulness. Though He was extremely gentle with sexual sinners such as the Samaritan woman and the woman caught in adultery, Jesus was clear that such behavior was unacceptable, telling the latter, "Go, and sin no more."

Re: - posted by Jasmine, on: 2016/4/28 18:31

@TMK

I think you have a false dichotomy because I walked with a gay person for a number of years. The issue was never the fact that he was gay. The issue was he needed to be Born Again. He shared a lot of things with me but I never felt led to focus on his homosexuality. If you get stuck on homosexuality it's like going down the rabbit hole because people can change a behavior even a lifestyle and still go to hell. So you don't focus on that. While I understand what you're trying to say, what you're describing would only encourage them in their homosexual lifestyle IMO. At least the ones I know would have taken it that way. So it's not a good way to witness Christ. Instead the Lord told me to open up my life to this person and welcome him in. It was amazing. God was steadily blowing that man's mind. After six years he got Saved. It really showed me the power of everyday life in Christ. God looks very attractive to others when we just do us in Him!

So I think you have to be careful that your actions don't have an unintended outcome based on faulty perception. People need to know whose you are and what stand for. It's up to us to tell them and then invite them into our lives. So this is not about gays or transgenders. This doesn't just involve Christians even though Christians were the ones to sound this particular alarm.. Sure I think the spiritual component is always there but this is primarily about practical SAFETY, and I don't know why that is so hard for some of you to grasp. Should I as a woman/mother just sit back and say nothing because I'm a Christians?

Re: , on: 2016/4/28 18:35

Jasmine writes.....

"Sure I think the spiritual component is always there but this is primarily about practical SAFETY, and I don't know why that is so hard for some of you to grasp. Should I as a woman/mother just sit back and say nothing because I'm a Christians?"

Spot on sister, its not that complicated. Great post, sound and balanced.....bro Frank

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/28 18:40

Jasmine, I totally believe that God has placed some folks in lives of others to witness to them about Jesus Christ. Please remember, we all are not called to do this, this is why God chooses certain folks for certain things in life. I personally know I would not be able to be around a gay person very long, why? because I feel it might compromise my relationship with the Lord, and of course God already knows this, and that's why it's not my calling.

Re: - posted by Jasmine, on: 2016/4/28 18:52

@MrBillPro

That's okay brother. No blame No shame. Do YOU in God. I think that's all He really wants us to do anyways :)

Re: Jasmine, on: 2016/4/28 18:57

"...this is primarily about practical SAFETY, and I don't know why that is so hard for some of you to grasp."

Exactly...this is the proper basis for a boycott. As I said before, the scripture that Todd quoted is not relevant to the situation at all. And neither is that scripture relevant to many other things, such as the posting of sexual predators on internet databases. Many things must be done for common sense and safety reasons and if corporations do not want to put their customers first then shop elsewhere...or send them a message by signing up for the online boycott petition or whatever it is. Its simply an attempt to send a message to Target.

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/28 19:16

It's ok to love folks, it's ok to witness to everyone if you feel the calling. One thing we all need to be aware of, old sluefoot, is a very crafty character, don't allow him to get you to feeling sorry for folks, thinking they are caught up in a lifestyle they don't want to be in. I will say this, it would absolutely take a special calling, and a heap of spiritual discernment, prayer and fasting, to be able to be around a man that is having sex with another man. I would say a person needs to stay in solid prayer and fasting for a while before taking on such a challenge. I'm as far as the east from the west, to be able to even entertain the thought of witnessing to a man sleeping with another man, and again, I know God knows this.

Re: - posted by JHerndon (), on: 2016/4/29 8:36

I am not big on boycotts. I had never really given much thought about it until the whole chick fil a thing a while back. I think they put off a snobby jerk vibe. Kinda like Pharisees who didn't want to do certain things because it would make them unclean and unable to eat the Passover. Imagine if Jesus was a boycotter. Most of the stories in the gospels wouldn't exist. I believe that there are times where we as followers of Christ are called out of our morale position to meet the need and minister to someone who is broken and hurting. For example i do not believe in abortion. However, if a woman in my community had an abortion should we not minister to her because we are against abortion? For every abortion there is the murder of an unborn child yes but there is also a woman who is lost, broken, and very likely hurting from this experience. We as followers of Christ must step out of our morale position and act in the love of Christ!

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 8:47

If people are boycotting Target because of their openness to LGBT people then go ahead and boycott Apple products because their CEO is openly gay.

A boycott is a great way to send a message but it should be about one thing only and that is the safety of children & women. If it turns into an issue where Christians are disgusted about certain sinners and what certain sinners do then let's not stop with Target...just keep going and boycott every single corporation in America.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 9:05

I guess I am a tad confused about the women's restroom thing. Don't all women's restrooms have stalls?

Presumably, a biological woman in a men's bathroom would also have to use a stall.

I suspect we have all been in a public restroom with a transgender and never knew it.

Obviously these are just practical questions.

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 9:07

True Mark.

We are all to be led by the Spirit, not marshal all the forces of Christianity to force the world to do things our way.

We are to abstain from every appearance of evil and continue to shine as lights IN THE WORLD.

Php_2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Paul all but admits the world is crooked and perverted. No, mention of reforming or forcing it to comply with Christian thought.

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 9:35

Quote:
-----awakened.....If people are boycotting Target because of their openness to LGBT people then go ahead and boycott Apple products because their CEO is openly gay.

Mark, I really had no desire to post on this thread again, I figured I had said enough. Mark, there is a little difference, and we were not exactly comparing apples to apples":-) if you're in Target in a physical contact environment, you and your children will be caught up in the mix of this abomination. I think your chances of running into the CEO of Apple would be almost 0. I think what most are upset about is being in the physical environment of Target stores. Before all this went down, I would have not been concerned about going to the RR in Target, even if the CEO of Apple was in the store, but I sure would be concerned now for my children and myself.

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 10:33

I'm not even talking about "being in an environment with transgendered". That's fine. Let us shine our light. I'm talking about my kids & wife being naked in a bathroom and anyone who wants to go in either restroom can go in with them. THAT'S THE ISSUE, PLAIN & SIMPLE. The whole, "well don't they have stalls?" If you look up the cases online of where this insanity instituted, you see reports (& even cases) where women & children report a "transgendered" or "identifying as female" man in the women's restroom attempting to "peep" through the crack/seam in the stall door or under it. That seems so common sense basic to me as a Father of 6 children (waiting in the hospital for #7 as I write this - mama with epidural & resting/waiting). This seems like common sense to me. I will preach to pedophiles. But I'm not going to let my kids play outside by their house. Wisdom.

Re: - posted by JHerndon (), on: 2016/4/29 11:49

I don't want my tone to come across harsh but a women's bathroom sign isn't exactly some impetrable force. People keep talking about safety but if someone wants to harm someone the bathroom sign isn't going to stop them. I could be wrong but I think all of this is a slight over reaction. Not trying to upset anyone but there are most def more important things to give our time and attention too. Much love

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 11:58

True Josh-

We have much more to worry about from family and friends.

90% of child abusers are known to the victim and/or their family. Usually the abuser is a trusted person who the family would never expect to commit such an atrocity. A primary and glaring example is the RCC abuse scandal.

www.d2l.org

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 12:09

TMK & Joshua - quick question: are either of you parents? Before we get lost here in the "theoretical aetherial" world of hypothetical "does or doesn't matter" & relating it or not to somewhat related things, here are some REAL stories. Again, are any of you parents of small children? Sometimes on a forum we can overthink something like its the hypothetical land of Narnia or something & try to think something so spiritually, we are disconnected from reality, common sense, & wisdom. I don't mean that to be disrespectful either.

1.)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/sexual-predator-jailed-after-claiming-to-be-transgender-in-order-to-assault>

2.)

<http://www.westernjournalism.com/polices-call-to-target-sheds-light-on-transgender-bathroom-debate/>

3.)

<http://thefederalist.com/2015/11/23/a-rape-survivor-speaks-out-about-transgender-bathrooms/>

4.)

<http://controversialtimes.com/news/university-revises-transgender-bathroom-policy-after-peeping-tom-incident/>

5.)

<http://www.youngcons.com/targets-transgender-restroom-policy-has-already-led-to-cases-of-peeping-toms/>

I could go on but common sense & reality (& basic wisdom) should be starting to kick in at this point I think.

God Bless,

Jeff

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 12:43

Jeff, some Christians are hard headed, the best way for them to get the message, is to let them experience this firsthand. This whole bathroom deal is an abomination, and anyone Christian that wants to water it down, in my opinion is not a Christian.

Re: - posted by JHerndon (), on: 2016/4/29 13:01

Yes I am a parent to a 4 month old. And Bill not Christian? Really? So may faith has nothing to do with belief in Christ and is based on how I react to "abominations"?

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 13:17

Joshua, as I said "in my opinion" I have the right to my opinion, but it's just my opinion, not the worlds. Maybe I sound like a uncompromising Christian, well I am.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 13:21

Sure am Jeff though my kids are grown. I have young grandkids however.

I would never have allowed my kids (or grandkids) to go into a public bathroom by themselves. If anything ever would have seemed "strange" at all we would not go in, although I cannot remember that actually happening.

I personally have never seen a pervert in a public bathroom (that was acting like a pervert). In these here parts (NC) a pervert acting like a pervert in a public bathroom is taking his well-being into his own hands because he would likely be in for a beat-down. Like I said in a previous post we might be very surprised to see how Jesus would react if he caught a pervert molesting a child. Throwing over tables would pale in comparison.

Somehow what I have said has been twisted. I am not against these bathroom bills. Here in NC we are a main focus right now. Many businesses have halted expansions to new facilities in the state over HB 2. Various performers like Springsteen and Pearl Jam have cancelled concerts over it (I could care less about this). My question was simply whether a boycott is the best Christian response. It may be- I don't really plan on going to Target but I rarely shopped there anyway. I am NOT arguing that we should not have a problem with perverts in the bathrooms. Obviously we should.

What gets me is the hypocrisy of companies like PayPal who have halted expansion in NC because of HB 2 but readily do business in countries like Saudi Arabia that execute homosexuals.

EDIT: I am a tad concerned that the focus on these bathroom issues is taking the focus off where child abuse usually happens. Like I said the vast majority of abusers are known by the family. I guarantee that there are many many parents who are freaking out over these bathroom issues whose children are being abused by a family friend or relative. That is simply a sad statistical reality. "Stranger danger" is by far less likely. However, that does NOT mean we should ignore the realities of stranger danger for heavens sake.

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 13:25

Todd, swapping gears here a bit, do you agree that these folks are "and I'll be nice about what I call them" mentally challenged? If so why would we want these folks anywhere near us or our families?

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 13:30

I don't Bill! What gave you the idea that I did?

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 13:32

Nothing Todd, it was just a general question, sorry I did not say that in the beginning.

“Homosexuals corrupt the Word of God by changing His truth to a lie” (Romans 1:25).

“Homosexuals are filled with all unrighteousness—wickedness—and maliciousness” (Romans 1:29).

“Homosexuals are haters of God—proud—boasters—inventors of evil things—unmerciful—implacable—and without understanding” (Romans 1:30).

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 13:45

TMK,
You seem (to me in my opinion) to fundamentally not understand the issue: comparing "before" and when someone looks weird in a bathroom 20 years ago to OPENING THE DOORS & ASKING ANY KIND OF PERVERT OF EITHER GENDER TO COME IN THE BATHROOM with a request/invitation to please feel free is APPLES & ORANGES IMHO.

God Bless,

Jeff

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 13:57

I certainly understand that.

But 90% of the perverts are among people you (generic you, not you specifically) know.

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 14:03

I feel the word tolerance has gone to far among news media, entertainment industry, left leaning politicians, gay activists, and other liberal people and some Christians. Yes, tolerance is a good thing and we should all practice tolerance, and try to live in peace with others whose beliefs differ from our own. However, for Christians, we can only be tolerant of others beliefs and actions to the point where they do not compromise Christian doctrinal principles found in the Bible.

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 14:19

So in that case, nothing else matters & don't worry about anything & just go with it?

Fallacious argumentation/point IMHO. Irrelevant. That's like saying I know now rapists are encouraged to go to the bus stop to rape people, but 90% of rapes happen at home, so just go to the busstop & don't worry about it, or something (an imperfect analogy, but the parallel type line of logic you're applying).

Re: - posted by JFW (), on: 2016/4/29 14:21

Did the Lord give us a spirit of fear or a measure of faith?

The Lord has blessed me with 6 boys, one driving, one still in diapers and one potty training with three in the middle at 8,9,10 respectively and honestly while I don't like it (transgender bathrooms) and can certainly agree it's not good or godly, it honestly wouldn't be an exercise of faith (for me) to boycott and would certainly be a fear based activity. So if it's not in faith it's sin (for me).

If people wanna boycott, go for it... Just leave Jesus out of it cause it has nothing at all to do with His kingdom which is His concern. If we chase every rabbit that runs by we will not be advancing the kingdom.

Incidentally in the 1st century Roman Empire they in fact had public bathrooms that both genders used simultaneously and if it wasn't a big enough concern for Holy Spirit to include this in the scriptures, why is it so big a deal to us now? Is it because we spend more time feeding on the world than on Christ and because we ingest this sewage we are becoming more like it by concerning ourselves with it?

Didn't Jesus say He was sending out sheep among wolves and to be as wise as a serpent but as harmless as doves?

Honestly I don't fear for the safety of my children nor do I worry about them, my Lord and savior told me not to and that He has got this and call me crazy but,..... I believe him+)

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 14:30

Question for Jeff and Todd. Are we as Christians supposed to be gathered together in our own camp, to pray for these homosexuals? Or, are we supposed to be split and some of us over there in the homosexuals camp, telling them it's ok, we agree we should compromise on the bathroom deal that's it's no big deal? I guess because I was raised up under a fire and brimstone no compromising Baptist pastor, I don't know how to tolerate, or compromise things that don't line up with the word of God. Did God tolerate, or compromise sodom and gomorrah? I would just like to see where tolerance to homosexual activities was taught in the Bible, that would help me personally.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 14:40

jeff wrote: "So in that case, nothing else matters & don't worry about anything & just go with it?"

Fallacious argumentation/point IMHO. Irrelevant. That's like saying I know now rapists are encouraged to go to the bus stop to rape people, but 90% of rapes happen at home, so just go to the busstop & don't worry about it, or something (an imperfect analogy, but the parallel type line of logic you're applying)."

You must have missed what I wrote a few posts down:

"'Stranger danger' is by far less likely. However, that does NOT mean we should ignore the realities of stranger danger for heavens sake."

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 14:47

Hey Bill-

Tolerance is the wrong word. We shouldn't tolerate sin- absolutely not. Especially in our own hearts.

Jesus did not tolerate sin, but he did not avoid sinners.

At a church I used to attend a group of women in the church visited the dressing rooms in local strip clubs. They made little gift baskets for the girls, got to know them and led some to Christ and helped them leave the business, which unfortunately can be lucrative. These church women were not tolerating the sin, but they were not judging either. They simply went to where these sinners were on their turf, so to speak.

There are many Christian women who would not enter a strip club, even to share the love of Jesus. If that is their conviction I can understand. But I guess I admire more the ones with the courage to do so.

Re: - posted by bro_willy, on: 2016/4/29 16:27

Bill,

In my opinion anyone who takes your position is not a Like Christ but a religious Pharisee. But that's just my opinion and I am entitled to my opinion.

Re: Over 1 million have already pledged!!!, on: 2016/4/29 16:51

From a common sense, decency and safety point of view I have signed the Target Boycott pledge today. Hopefully this will send a huge statement to the dimwits who came up with this idiotic decision.

If anyone else would like to sign up and stand in solidarity, here is the link:

<https://afa.net/action-alerts/sign-the-boycott-target-pledge/>

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 17:10

MrBillPro,

I don't know why you're addressing me? I hope Target goes out of business. I wouldn't take my family there or support their business with Sodom & Gomorrah policies with one cent of my hard earned money. At the same time, I love homosexuals just like Muslims, Mormons, drug addicts, prostitutes & every other type of sinner on earth. But that doesn't mean I want to subject my children to them potentially peeping in the stall where they are naked.

To others: there's not a total opposite difference in faith/love & wisdom. Again, God can do great things, but I'm not going in the strip club to preach, nor letting my kids play in front of the house of known pedophile child molesters without my visible supervision, etc.

God Bless,
Jeff

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 17:31

Jeff, I was just asking you and Marks opinion on a question. As for as Target goes, I haven't shopped there in a long time, most of my purchases are done on Amazon, that way I can get them at my front door. :-)

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 17:48

Oh ok,

Yeah, we actually shopped at Target WEEKLY. Where we got baby food, diapers, turkey for sandwiches, coffee, etc. But I will find somewhere else to shop for those items from now on.

God Bless,

Jeff

Even had the "Target Red Debit Card" for an extra 5% off all purchases. Will be canceling that.

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 17:53

"Are we as Christians supposed to be gathered together in our own camp, to pray for these homosexuals? Or, are we supposed to be split and some of us over there in the homosexuals camp, telling them it's ok, we agree we should compromise on the bathroom deal that's it's no big deal?"

I don't see anyone here on this forum "in the homosexual camp" Mr Bill and neither do I see anyone compromising on the bathroom deal.

Maybe in your blind and much warranted fury against homosexuality you are not reading the posts properly?

Anyway, as someone else said there are far bigger issues we should be spending our time and efforts on. But hey, I did sign the pledge because I think it is important to let dimwitted people know that they are making dimwitted decisions:-)

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 18:00

Mark, was God against homosexuality? If so I'm in pretty good company, right? Maybe in gods blind much warranted fury against homosexuality He burned sodom and Gomorrah.

Mark, I received your correct number, and you're welcome anytime here to correct me, holler at me, agree with me, it doesn't matter. I have a very, very, thick skin, some of my best friends become friends because of my standing up against them, and sticking to my guns, when I believed I was right. :-)

Re: broBill, on: 2016/4/29 18:20

I am not aware of anybody on this forum who is for homosexuality brother. Yes God burned Sodom and Gomorrah but this should make us weep. I am not saying this about you brother because I do not know you at all, but I know people who are full of hatred for sinners, especially homosexuals. It says a lot about their understanding of Christ's love if they would actually want others to burn in hell. And it also shows their pride to think that they deserve less punishment for their sin compared to a homosexual's sin. Those who beat their chests and declare that they are "not like those filthy homosexuals" have forgotten that they too were once sinners.

"...malign no one, be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men. FOR WE ALSO WERE ONCE foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy..." (Titus 3:2)

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 18:28

Yeah,
Amen. I heard someone say, "we are no better than the most vile terrorist in the earth. God didn't save us because we are one bit better, but He saved us purely out of His abundant mercy & Grace." Amen. But that doesn't mean I have to "support terrorism" either. Likewise, I am no better than the most vile pervert ever born. I was saved by the same hope they have, the only hope, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That being said, I don't have to agree with them, nor support those institutions which support, ie celebrate, their sin.
God Bless,
Jeff

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2016/4/29 19:30

Yes! the Bible does say, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ has forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32). But in doing so, Jesus never instructs or expects us to be tolerant of compromising God's Truth found in the Word of God. The Bible actually instructs Christians to take a stand against evil. Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will be standing firm" (Ephesians 6:13).

Christians indeed have a personal responsibility to actively defend biblical truth from being distorted by those attempting to call "good bad and bad good." Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness, who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter" (Isaiah 5:20). "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on solid rock" (Matthew 7:24).

I would remind all gay people who try to defend their sinful sexual lifestyle that whenever Jesus interacted with sinners, which he did quite often, he did not condone their sin" but he exhorted them to "go and sin no more."

The problem today is that gays and all other people who practice immoral sexual behavior seem to have no desire to confess their sins and ask God to forgive them, but rather they desire to continue wallowing in their ever increasing frequency of sexual sins, and actually love to flaunt their sin in the media and courts in an attempt to gain societal popularity and legal approval of their sinful behavior.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 20:44

Yes and mainstream Christianity fails to repent of its idolatries and lukewarmness.

Why do you think the USA is in the moral state that it is in? Because the Church in America is anemic and powerless and probably too far gone.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/29 20:47

And I might add that mainstream Christianity chooses easy routes like boycotting. God forbid we actually repent and turn back to God. But that costs a tad too much.

Re: , on: 2016/4/29 21:13

TMK,
While I think I understand the basic gist of your statement & sentiments, it's just not true across the board. I have repented. I am repentant. I am not looking for "short-cuts" or whatever else your stereo-type includes. But I still don't have to subject my family to weirdos & peeping toms in the restroom & I really hope Target goes out of business.
God Bless,
Jeff

Re: - posted by bro_willy, on: 2016/4/29 23:19

Man, this boycotting post is getting out of hand. We have several guys on here calling people out and I just want to go to the john without folks checking my birth certificate. The last time I checked Christians could be Christians whether they had a birth certificate or not. Some people in Africa don't have birth certificates. I wonder what they could boycott? Huh? Are they not Christians for not having a birth certificate? That's what Billpro would say anyway.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/30 0:17

Man alive Jeff I sure don't want you to subject your children to peepers in the restroom either. Gee whiz.

My bigger point is that this "moral majority" stuff that American Christianity has toyed with the past 30 years hasn't done squat. The American church has its eyes on all the evils in society and tries to politicize everything but the paradox is that the evils exist in large part because the church has not turned its eyes back on itself. It is so much easier to point fingers at an evil society than to look honestly in the mirror. And that goes for me as well. But it most assuredly goes for lots and lots of folks.

And if someone says that society would still be just as evil if the Church was running on all cylinders, then why try to change society? Like that irritating song from Frozen- just let it go, let it go.

Re: , on: 2016/4/30 0:34

Sorry,
I'm not trying to evaluate & change 30 years of history (that I can do nothing about & once you group simple decisions into "what movements they look like so they won't work" it gets over complicated IMHO & common sense & wisdom application go out the window) & see some master blueprint plan that will/won't work. I'm keeping it real simple: "love your neighbor as yourself", "preach the Gospel to every creature", "take up your cross & lay down your life", & "have nothing to do with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them."

God Bless you,
Jeff

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/4/30 6:09

Saints,

We ask that personal attacks not be done in these forums. If we disagree with a brother let us look to the issue and not accuse the actual brother. We are all changing our positions and growing in our understanding, let us have grace with each other.

I believe this thread has run its course and we will lock it.

I wanted to end with the clear note that sexual perversion like this is God's wrath on mankind who is being given over, it is not just like another sin but the end of the road for mankind that is rejecting God. That should put fear in our hearts that a world-wide homosexual and perversion movement is really a very clear indication that we are at the end of the age and near judgment. May we never give up praying for anyone locked away in such sexual sins and a debased mind.

We will be required to do things that in past ages they did not have to make such decisions. Perhaps we can put ourselves in the shoes of Lot who had to live outside the city, though he also ended up compromising.

Romans 1:18-32

God's Wrath Against Sinful Humanity

18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual 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 shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

28 Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. 29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. 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.

This thread is locked.