

Key West Church of God

RAYMOND L. SHOCKLEY, Pastor

1419 White Street

Key West, Florida 33040 USA

Momentin@Aol.Com Website - <http://Momentin.us/>

Mobile - <http://M.Momentin.us/> Ph. 305-296-8844

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Dear Friends,

I greet you in the name of our soon coming King, Jesus Christ. Recent headlines concerning the Supreme Court's ruling about gay marriage shouts out warnings of our county's demise and the King's quick return. In this newsletter I want to discuss this recent ruling and answer the following questions: Was this decision right? What is the end game? Does God judge a nation for ungodliness? What is the hope of the believer?

In an article entitled "SCOTUS ruling on marriage a 'spiritual 9/11'" Tim Wildmon, president of American Family Association said the court's ruling isn't a call for Christians to conform to the ideas of man, but rather a plea for perseverance and action to hold tightly to the ways of God and to the ideas and morals that this country was founded upon."

"Understandably, many conservatives and supporters of natural marriage are deeply discouraged by today's Supreme Court ruling that makes same-sex "marriage" a constitutional right."

"We're not surprised but extremely disappointed by the Supreme Court's decision. I fear for our country, quite frankly, because this is a spiritual 9/11, I believe. We have said to God Almighty, We don't care what you say about marriage and your definition of what's natural and normal.

"If you look in the scripture, often times when God's people rebelled against Him, He turned them over to destruction. Christians need to pray for mercy and we need to pray for a revival in the land."

"I think the next line of defense is religious freedom. We must take a stand for religious freedom in this country and fight back in the courts and in the state legislatures, if not the federal legislature, to uphold religious freedom." End of quote

God has given us examples of other cultures that strayed from His will as a warning to us about what will happen if we go down the path that they went down. If we choose to follow their example, we will suffer their fate.

Gen 6:5-8 KJV "**And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and *that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*** (6) And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. (7) And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. (8) But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD."

Jud 1:5-7 KJV "I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. (6) And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting

chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. **(7) Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”**

Quoting a speech by Dwight D Eisenhower, Gerald Ford, our 38th President, said, “Without God there could be no American form of government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first - the most basic - expression of Americanism. Thus the founding fathers of America saw it, and thus with God's help, it will continue to be.”

Furthermore, the words of our 16th President and First Republican President Abraham Lincoln spoken in 1863 seem to be a foreshadowing of our nation today.

“We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven... **But we have forgotten God.** We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and **we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.** Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us. **It behooves us then, to humble ourselves before the offended power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.”**

Was the Supreme Court’s decision right? Ted Cruz summed it up best, in recent comments about the court’s ruling.

Ted Cruz on Court Rulings: **'Darkest 24 Hours in Our Nation's History'** by Todd Beamon | Saturday, 27 Jun 2015 04:00 P.M.

“Texas Sen. Ted Cruz Friday slammed the gay marriage and Obamacare rulings by the Supreme Court as “naked and shameless judicial activism” and called on Congress to support a constitutional amendment leaving the definition of marriage to the states.”

“In a National Review op-ed published Friday evening, Cruz also said he would propose a constitutional amendment to put Supreme Court justices' fates into voters' hands.”

“In order to provide the people themselves with a constitutional remedy to the problem of judicial activism and the means for throwing off judicial tyrants, I am proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution that would subject the justices of the Supreme Court to periodic judicial-retention elections,” Cruz wrote. **“As a constitutional conservative, I do not make this proposal lightly . . . But, sadly, the Court’s hubris and thirst for power have reached unprecedented levels.”** (*Hubris (/ˈhjuːbrɪs/, also hybris, from ancient Greek ὕβρις) means extreme pride or self-confidence. When it offends the gods of ancient Greece, it is usually punished*)

“Today is some of the darkest 24 hours in our nation’s history,” the 2016 presidential candidate told Sean Hannity on his radio program. End of Quote

Let’s take a look at what the Bible says regarding situations such as this.

Isa 5:20-25 KJV Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

(21) Woe unto *them that are* wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! (22) Woe unto *them that are* mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: (23) Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

(24) **Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.**

(25) Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcasses *were* torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand *is* stretched out still.

Headline - Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts writes - the decision has “nothing to do with” the Constitution.

“If you are among the many Americans — of whatever sexual orientation — who favor expanding same-sex marriage, by all means celebrate today’s decision,” Roberts wrote. “Celebrate the achievement of a desired goal. Celebrate the opportunity for a new expression of commitment to a partner. Celebrate the availability of new benefits. **But do not celebrate the Constitution. It had nothing to do with it.**”

Justice Antonin Scalia is chastising the Supreme Court’s landmark decision legalizing same-sex marriage on Friday as an affront to the principle of democratic rule. **Adding that the gay marriage decision shows America's 'ruler' is Supreme Court.** Scalia argues in his opinion that the court is increasingly creating policy rather than serving as a neutral arbiter.

“Today’s decree says that my Ruler, and the Ruler of 320 million Americans coast-to-coast, is a majority of the nine lawyers on the Supreme Court,” he writes.

“This practice of constitutional revision by an unelected committee of nine, always accompanied (as it is today) by extravagant praise of liberty, robs the People of the most important liberty they asserted in the Declaration of Independence and won in the Revolution of 1776: the freedom to govern themselves.”

Scalia blasts the majority opinion as “couched in a style that is as pretentious as its content is egotistic.”

“The Supreme Court of the United States has descended from the disciplined legal reasoning of John Marshall and Joseph Story to the mystical aphorisms of the fortune cookie,” he writes in a footnote needling the majority for its bombastic language.

“He wrote that he views the opinion as an overreach by the court, and chides the justices as “hardly a cross-section of America.” He notes that all the justices graduated from Harvard or Yale Law School, eight grew up on the coasts, and that not one is an evangelical Christian or a Protestant, religions that make up significant chunks of the American population.”

“To allow the policy question of same-sex marriage to be considered and resolved by a select, patrician, highly unrepresentative panel of nine is **to violate a principle even more fundamental than no taxation without representation: no social transformation without representation,**” he writes.” End of Quote

None of our Founding Fathers would have approved of such action being taken in this country. They

built a government with checks and balances. They did not trust the human nature and tried to build the frame work of a government that would protect us from tyrants. This country is a Republic by design, a nation of laws that were based on the Judo-Christian Value system. Gay Marriage is in complete and total rebellion to that system. It is an effort to separate us from our freedom and enslave us to a tyrannical government patterned after the communist system that enslaved the peoples of Russia and China.

We are reduced to a leftist President and his party who have corrupted all that they touch. Our leaders are often bribed, bullied and blackmailed so that they no longer represent the people that elected them.

First Vice President and Second President, John Adams wrote in 1798:

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

President Thomas Jefferson said, **"I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever."** - 1781

Was it wrong? Most definitely! It is a rebellion against our creator and the very core of our self-governing people. Time after time the people of America have rejected similar acts only to be overthrown by appointed judges who enforced the will of a leftist agenda.

What is the end game? Satan wants you all to himself. He is trying to force you to choose between him and God. However, God has given you a conscience, an inward sense of right and wrong. He has given you His Word so you have a double witness of what is right and wrong. One day in the future it will be choosing between the Mark of the Beast and being beheaded. Only those who still have a true witness in their heart and knowledge of God's word will be able to resist. Today it is homosexual marriage, tomorrow it will be the Mark of the Beast. If you don't how to choose the right now, you won't be able to choose the right then.

Rev 14:9-12 KJV **"And the third angel followed them,** saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive *his* mark in his forehead, or in his hand, (10) The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: (11) And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. (12) **Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.**"



In the history of nations, no nation has done what we have done, except maybe Sodom. Our President has lit the white house up in rainbow colors, how about that for sticking your finger in God's eyes? When you continually choose flesh over Spirit, you will lose the Spirit.

Rom 2:14-15 KJV For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: (15) **Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also**

bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

God is very pointed in how he feels about what the liberal court decided and a president who has promised to fundamentally change America has gloated over. He reveals it in Romans 1.

Rom 1:19-22 KJV “Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them. (20) For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: (21) **Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. (22) Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,”**

Rom 1:23-25 KJV “And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. (24) **Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: (25) Who changed the truth of God into a lie,** and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.”

It is the will of the creature that America now worships. That happens to also be the dogma of the Seeker Friendly church movement. God’s Word is now the lie. It is hate speech in their eyes. It is the devil’s work, and no one will live happily ever after with this mess. All reap corruption who go in that direction. When God gives you over to earthly corruption, then there is no restraint. Only judgement remains.

Rom 1:28 KJV “And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, **God gave them over to a reprobate mind**, to do those things which are not convenient . . . ”

Does God judge ungodly nations? According to the book of Psalms, He does.

Psa 9:16-17 KJV “**The LORD is known** by the judgment *which* he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgaion. Selah. (17) The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God.”

In addition, the seventeenth chapter of Luke gives us two examples of God’s judgement upon Godless nations.

(26) **“And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.** (27) They did eat, they drank, they married wives, **they were given in marriage**, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. (28) **Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot;** they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; (29) **But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all.”**

The day the fire fell on Sodom was the day that they tried to force their sin on the righteous (Gen 17 and 19). That is what the court and President are trying to do to us.

What is the hope of the believer? God promises to deliver the believer in the time of trouble. Although nobody knows the exact day or hour when the Lord shall deliver His people, the Rapture of the church cannot be far away.

2Pe 2:4-9 KJV “**For if God spared not the angels** that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; (5) And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; (6) **And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrhah into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;** (7) And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (8) (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;) (9) **The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:”**

It is a dark day for America. If you want to see light, you will have to look up. Jesus warned us about all of this. Our time is running out. While we have time, we remain Christians no matter what the cost. God is merciful. If a man will repent, God will forgive him and give him eternal life. We live under a higher law than this land. When the government asks us to violate the higher law, we will not!

1Co 6:9-11 KJV “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind (*homosexuals*), (10) Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (11) **And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.”**

Heaven is a Holy Place. It is the home of a Holy God. No one will be permitted in who have chosen the unholy. God has made provision for the unholy. He has sent his son, the Lord Jesus Christ into the world in order that he might pay sin’s penalty. Rom 6:23 KJV “For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Only when sin is repented of and cast away is it possible for sinful men to enter into heaven. In the Corinthian church were men and women who were captive of sins of varies sorts but had been washed by the blood of Christ. They had been sanctified, changed internally and made acceptable in the site of God. It seems that we have become a people who would rather defile God’s image than to let God restore us to eternal life.

In the days to come you may have to make a choice to follow God or win the approval of a godless society. What choice will you make?

The Message of the Month - “AMERICA’S DARKEST DAY” This is the sermon I preached the Sunday after the Supreme Court’s ruling on Gay Marriage. I was able to cover the subject in a deeper manner than I could in this newsletter. This is a needed message. It will help you stand up. It is yours upon request.

Moments in Bible Prophecy - This month I lost my best friend, JJ. JJ was a Maltese male dog. He was my constant shadow. He was my alarm clock. Everyday right at 6:00 A.M. he got me up, along with the whole household. It was time for a walk. He was in charge of my excise program. He and I shared a health problem he had a heart mummer and I have experienced heart problems. His heart failed him. It broke my heart to lose him. On our last ride to the vet he was alert, I didn’t expect him to die that day.

While at the vet's, his little heart just stopped. I felt the pressure in my own heart. I knew like JJ, I was not indestructible. It was a difficult week. It kept coming to me that I had to do what I could to lower my stress levels so I could stay here and do the work God has given me. Moments in Bible Prophecy's radio program is needed in these dark days. The greatest stress I carry in a normal month is finding enough money to keep the program on the air. I would like to ask you to prayerfully consider helping me to carry this load by making a monthly commitment to support Moments in Bible Prophecy. You can make a big difference but I warn you time is running out for us.

I want to thank all of you who help me carry the load each and every month. What a difference you make. If you would like, you may give online at our website, <http://Momentin.us/> or Mobile - <http://M.Momentin.us/>. Make all checks payable to the Key West Church of God.

Your Friend in Christ,

Raymond L. Shockley

“Moments in Bible Prophecy”