

What **Sin**



RAY BRUBAKER

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INTRODUCTION

Does America Face Destruction?

Some of our outstanding youth leaders have spoken out concerning homosexuality and the harm it is causing.

Jack Wyrzten, who has long been a fighter against sexual promiscuity, once asked the question, "Do you think there is any possibility that God Almighty might permit a communistic nation like Russia to come over here and drop its deadly bombs and blot out America?"

Replied Wyrzten, "I don't know, but if He does, it won't be the first time that God has used a godless, sinful nation to punish a so-called godly nation."

This book was written to show, without question, we are living in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Won't you join in praying that many who read this book will turn to the Lord?

Thank you, and God bless you.

Ray M. Brubaker, Commentator

The AIDS Epidemic



According to NEWSWEEK magazine (4/18/83), "A new and deadly disease is coursing through the country, wasting the bodies of victims, incubating in an untold number of others who have yet to show symptoms, and triggering one of the most intensive investigations of an epidemic in medical history."

Dr. Peter Mansel of Houston says, "In my professional career, I have never encountered a more frustrating and depressing situation."

What he was referring to was the AIDS epidemic—Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome, but abbreviated AIDS.

Once referred to as "The Gay Plague," with 72% of the cases that of homosexual men, it seems to be moving into the greater population but largely sex-related.

As Bill Sampson, a writer and editor, observes, "It has the American homosexual 'community' in a panic and has put a brake on the so-called sexual revolution of promiscuous lifestyles for fear of contracting the disease from casual bisexual bed partners."

"It has caught everybody by surprise," testified Dr. Abe Macher of the National Institutes of Health. "We're observing the evolution of a new disease."

How tragic!

At a time when the medical profession seemed confident of gaining ground over communicable diseases, here is an infection over which there is no immunity and which ends in death.

How true must be the Bible's assertion to those guilty of such practices, for in Romans 6:23 we read, "The wages of sin is death."

As U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT states, "Doctors don't know what causes this new disease that destroys the body's immune system, and there is no cure."

No wonder Dr. Edward N. Brandt, Jr. of the Department of Health and Human Services says, "This is the most complex illness that has ever faced this nation in epidemic proportions."

AIDS has been mostly limited to homosexual and bisexual men, in-

travenous drug users, Haitian immigrants and hemophiliacs who receive the disease in blood transfusions. Some 25,000 hemophiliacs depend on blood transfusions. And, although the risk from present blood supplies of getting the disease is small, there is always the possibility of picking up the disease from someone who has donated blood who has the disease.

Symptoms of the disease are fever, weight loss, extreme fatigue, and enlargement of the lymph nodes. The throat may become intensely sore and purple-red spots may appear the size of a dime or quarter which are fast spreading, often attacking internal organs.

The seriousness is that a person may have the disease and not know it and spread it to sexual partners. From the time of contact with someone who has the disease until symptoms appear may be a few months to more than two years. It is when the body's resistance finally breaks down that the symptoms appear. Thus, a person who feels perfectly healthy right now could unknowingly have the disease, spreading it to others and bringing death within a short time.

AIDS kills 85 percent or more of its victims within three years. For those who receive the disease through sex perversion we're reminded of the Bible's assertion, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

Of course, there are some reporters who don't want to see any relationship between sin and disease.

One such writer has declared, "Americans who think AIDS is a curse visited only upon drug addicts and the sexually promiscuous are fooling themselves. Micro-organisms aren't governed by morality."

However, the Scriptures we have already quoted and more that we could give show a relationship between sin and disease. God had no choice but to destroy past civilizations because of sins relating to sexual perversion and promiscuity.

Jude refers to this, saying, "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." (Jude 7)

When anyone suggests that there is no relationship between Sodom and Gomorrha and this new epidemic, we feel they are dead wrong. Instead, we are approaching an era predicted by Jesus which finds no solution except the same results of destruction and death as came to these ancient cities.

Peter referred to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha which were destroyed by fire and turned into ashes as an example unto those that after should live ungodly.

It's time we wake up and realize we are seeing what happens when people toss morality aside and live for sensuality and sin.

Florida has the distinction of having the highest rate of drug-resistant strain of gonorrhea. Some 2,000 cases of gonorrhea were reported in our county of Pinellas alone.

Syphilis and herpes are other infections recognizable by blisters, open sores, rashes and infection that occurs in the body area and are also related to having promiscuous sex.

God has ordained that sex not be engaged in until marriage and then

only in a loving relationship and not in lustful desire.

Again Peter explains that Lot was a righteous man who was vexed with the filthy behavior of his associates.

Perhaps you may have been caught in the enormous tide of temptation from pornographic films and movies shown in your local theatre or on television. But God's Word declares you can be kept from sinning if you will yield your heart and life to Jesus Christ.

Again Peter in this same passage declares, "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness." (2 Pet. 2:9-10a)

You don't have to yield to sin. Although it is difficult for a person who has entered into these sinful relationships to stop such activity, it is nevertheless true that God provides deliverance for all who want to truly be set free from their sin.

James explains what happens to a person who is enticed by sin. First, there may be a magazine article or a book cover that attracts your attention. You may be watching a program on television that encourages promiscuous sexual relationships. Whatever the case James writes: "Every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren." (Jas. 1:14-16)

Did you notice? It is not the temptation that is sin. Rather, it is the yielding to temptation that brings remorse and guilt. Let your love for the Lord and His Word overcome your temptation through the help of the Holy Spirit.

Writes James, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." (James 1:12)

There is no question about the temptations. They are all around us. But you don't have to yield to them.

That's why we encourage you to listen to Christian radio and television programs. Keep your mind and heart occupied with spiritual things rather than sensual or worldly things.

As we read in Galatians 5:16, "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."

This may be painful. You are used to giving in to the flesh and it is almost impossible to stop sinning.

But you must come to a place in your life where you are willing with God's help to sever wrong relationships and stop your sinning. If you belong to Jesus Christ, there is no other alternative. For in Gal. 5:24 we read, "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."

Crucifixion is painful. Nevertheless, the life of victory comes when you obey the Lord and yield to His Holy Spirit. Invite the Lord to take control in your life.

You may have invited Jesus to save you. And He will gladly come into your heart and life the moment you yield to Him.

But then, He wants to be Lord of your life.

The way to victory is to invite the Holy Spirit to take over every part of your being. "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

We're reminded in 1 Cor. 12:3, "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost!"

We would ask, Is Jesus Lord of your life? The secret of victory is to let Him be your Lord and master so that you need not yield to temptation and to sin.

How sad when Jesus comes to find many who called Jesus Lord but never allowed Him to take over their lives, their business, or their bodies. They live for self, for gratification of fleshly desires, and often in defeat and sin.

Listen to what we read in Matt. 7:21-23.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

How sad for those who call Jesus Lord to discover they will not be ready for His return. They may have engaged in such spiritual practices as preaching, even casting out devils. But when our Lord comes, He will know who is ready to meet Him and who is not ready.

For those not ready He will say, "Depart from me, ye that sin."

God wants us to turn from our sin. Christ died for our sin so that we don't have to keep on sinning. In Romans 6:11 we read, "Likewise, reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof." (v. 12)

Is sin reigning in your life?

How can you have the victory?

We read, "Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; but yield yourselves unto God . . . For sin shall not have dominion over you . . . Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."

Is this what you want?

This is what God has for you—a life of victory over sin.

Dave Wilkerson once wrote, "Jesus is not coming back for a church that pampers and excuses sin. So, beware! Beware of ministers who excuse vile sin with the whitewash of what they call Christian love." Says Wilkerson, "You cannot bring healing to homosexuals by sympathizing with their sin. Beware of those who come in the name of Jesus who refuse to see 'the exceeding sinfulness' of this sin."

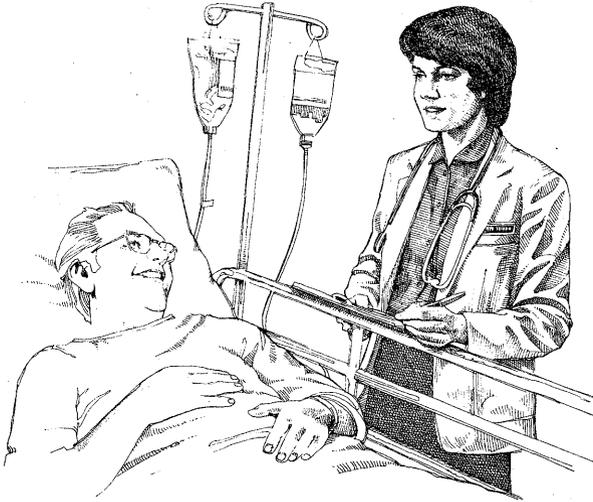
Why not confess and forsake your sin? We read, "If we confess our

sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Come to Christ. Confess your sin to Him. Receive Him as your Saviour and Lord, and live for Him daily.

For he hath said, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

The AIDS Epidemic (Cont.)



U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT reveals, "The nation's blood banks are threatened by a wave of public alarm over the spread of the deadly disease AIDS."

Margaret Heckler, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, says, "AIDS is our No. 1 health concern and the epidemic is our No. 1 priority."

AIDS stands for Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome. It is a mystery malady related to a reckless abandonment of God's moral laws, For 75.9% of the victims in the U.S. have been active homosexual men, 16% were intravenous drug users, and 5% immigrants from Haiti, with 1% hemophiliacs.

Of those infected, most have come down with Kaposi's Sarcoma or KS. Distinctive by its dark purple spots, KS is a rare form of cancer only normally found in older men from the Mediterranean region. In young homosexuals the disease develops rapidly, with the age group of 20 to 49 mostly affected. And there is no known medical cure.

Early symptoms of AIDS include: persistent fatigue, fever, diarrhea and swollen lymph glands in the groin, neck and armpits. The effects of AIDS leave the patient open to all sorts of infections. This is because AIDS attacks the body's natural ability to fight off disease.

One can't help but wonder if this is what our Lord meant when He spoke of "pestilences" as characterizing the day of His coming. And in Revelation we read of plagues that will befall mankind in the day of tribulation that is just ahead.

Already the epidemic has proved catastrophic. After three years, 86 out of every 100 victims have died.

What a reminder of the Scripture that warns, "The wages of sin is death."

According to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, many AIDS victims said they had engaged in sex with more than 1,000 different partners.

Think of it!

No one has yet fully recovered, and the only known cure is the Lord. For in Psalms 103 we read, "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases."

Dr. Jerry Falwell, appearing on a television show in San Francisco, declared homosexuality a choice and a perversion, a blasphemy against the laws of God. Said Falwell: "A man reaps what he sows. If he sows seed in the field of his lower nature, he will reap from it a harvest of corruption."

At a conference of the Metropolitan Community Churches which was organized by and for homosexuals, a resolution was passed asking churches to "reject the heartless social 'pariahing' of persons with AIDS, or suspected of having AIDS," and "to be vigilant, outspoken opponents of any theology that even suggests that any disease is God's divine earthly retribution against any individual or group."

But we would ask, how do you interpret Gal.6:7-8 which says, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Again we ask, how can we call ourselves Christians and not obey the Scripture which says, "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." (Gal, 5:24)

In this same chapter, Paul speaks of the works of the flesh—adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness—saying, "They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God!"

Regardless of what we think, or what church councils say, we will have to answer to God in the day when we stand before Him.

The National Council of Churches has been considering the application of this homosexual-oriented Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Don Eastman, one of the pastors of a gay congregation in Dallas, Texas, says that Christian Churches are bankrupt in their ministry to gays and lesbians.

Dave Wilkerson, outspoken founder of the Teen Challenge Ministries, says of homosexuality, "The church may excuse it. Liberal ministers may taunt those of us who still call it sin; comedians may mock and make jokes about those who resist it; but, in reality, Jesus hates homosexuality . . ."

Notes Wilkerson, "Jesus is not coming back for a church that pampers and excuses sin. So, beware! Beware of ministers who

excuse vile sin with the whitewash of what they call Christian 'love.'"

Says Wilkerson, "You cannot bring healing to homosexuals by sympathizing with their sin. Beware of those who come in the name of Jesus who refuse to see 'the exceeding sinfulness' of this sin."

Whether the National Council of Churches accepts or does not accept this homosexual church is a reflection upon those who are not willing to abide by Scripture as being the Word of Almighty God.

The issue is not whether homosexuality is a sin, but whether or not to accept the Metropolitan Church into membership, says Eastman.

The Rev. Alexander Doumouras of the Greek Orthodox Church said his denomination could never be a part of an organization that included the Metropolitan Church, because its interpretation of the "Holy Scriptures" would prevent it.

Likewise, the Rev. Mark Heim of the American Baptist Church said, "The vast majority of American Baptists believe that the practice of homosexuality is against Scripture . . ."

On the other hand, Susan Turley-Moore, a Swedenborgian pastor, expressed the view that the Bible placed very little emphasis on homosexuality and that, according to Scriptures, "Consumers of pork are in a lot more trouble than homosexuals."

Regardless of the position of churches, even those who call themselves Christians, the Bible condemns these practices as evil, declaring those who are "effeminate," or "abusers of themselves with mankind," will not inherit the kingdom of God.

However, God is merciful. And if one repents of this sin and will allow the Lord to come into the heart and life, there can come forgiveness. For, the Apostle goes on to declare concerning those who were once given over to these evil practices, "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." (1 Cor. 6:11)

How wonderful we don't have to go on in our lust and licentiousness. We can repent of our sin and trust the Saviour.

Ed Anger, news columnist, wrote of homosexuals, "God didn't make these people that way." He adds, "It's time Americans put their feet down and told gays they are sick."

But we would add, it is a sickness that can be cured.

As Jesus said, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." (Mt. 9:12)

Our Lord is able to cure this kind of sickness if we will only let Him.

It may be that some are guilty of a sin just as great. Whatever the sin may be, or whatever the sickness, we have a God that is all-powerful, all-compassionate, able and ready to forgive if we will only repent and ask Christ to come into our hearts and lives and control us.

In view of the coming of the Lord, in the midst of temptations of every kind seeking to lure the unwary, we are commanded to "avoid all appearance of evil."

And we are reminded in Heb. 12 to "lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith . . ." (Heb. 12:1b-2a)

There are some things we do that we do not call sin. Like many given over to lusts and habits, they say, "Everybody does it!" But if you are looking for the coming of the Lord, then God does not want sin in your life.

People may excuse their sin. They call it human weakness. And those with homosexual tendencies may say they were born that way. But God can change them. They can be born anew. They can know victory over sin instead of defeat. If only they will come to Christ and surrender to Him as Lord, then the Holy Spirit will take over in their lives. They will be truly amazed at the difference when they turn their lives completely over to the Lord.

In Hebrews 12 we read, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

It is only reasonable that if we call ourselves Christians, that we live like Christians by allowing Christ to live out His life in us.

We continue to read, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

Is not this what you want? You will never be happy by trying to live for God and serve your own fleshly nature.

There's a battle raging within the believer, Paul writes, "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other . . ." (Gal. 5:17)

But, you ask: "How can I win this battle over the flesh?"

Gal. 5:16 says, "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

How do you spend your time?

What TV programs do you watch?

Do you read the Bible and pray upon awakening?

That is what it means to "walk in the Spirit."

Live in the attitude of blessing. Praise the Lord. Meditate upon His Word. Memorize Scripture and let it become a part of you.

That is what God wants you to do.. to turn your life completely over to Him and be conscious of His leadership in your life throughout the day.

NEWSWEEK, referring to the AIDS epidemic, says, "It is a time for taking stock—a pause, perhaps a turning point, for both Gay America and the mainstream majority."

The consequences of continuing on in sin are too great. It is reported that there are twice as many cases now as eight months ago. Thousands are walking around having contracted the disease who are not aware of it, and who will die from it.

However, testifies Dr. James Curran, head of the AIDS task force in Atlanta, "What's just as bad as the disease is the fear of the disease."

In the United States, homosexuals are large donors of blood, so should they be barred from giving blood?

Hemophiliacs are regularly exposed to the possibility of contaminated blood. They're prone to severe bleeding at the slightest of injuries. And to prevent hemorrhaging they rely on what's known as Factor VIII concentrate. Factor VIII is a clotting agent. When it is mixed with water, it acts within minutes to stop hemophiliacs from

bleeding to death. But Factor VIII is pooled from the blood of between 20 to 70,000 donors. And there is always the possibility that an AIDS victim could give blood and so contaminate a supply. Some scientists tell us there's only a small chance for that to happen. But already over a dozen hemophiliacs using Factor VIII have become AIDS victims. More than half of them have died, and other cases are under study.

Intravenous users are another high risk group. In fact, they're the second largest. They represent 16 per cent of all AIDS cases. Again the evidence points to some form of contamination. The common factor in these cases might point to a virus as the contaminating agent. The common factor in these cases would be the sharing of dirty needles. Drug users may also be a link with another high risk group—little children. Although some of the children with AIDS have been hemophiliacs, a few others had drug addicts for parents.

So far, children, too, have developed symptoms closely resembling those of AIDS. Half of these have already died. And it is this extension of AIDS to children which is most disturbing to many doctors.

In conclusion, we cannot help but make the observation that AIDS affects the blood.

From the time Adam and Eve disobeyed God we find sin affected the bloodstream of mankind. Sin has defiled the whole human race. So it is written, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23)

But we can be forgiven. We can be cleansed from sin.

Again we read, "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:7)

Is this what you want—to be cleansed from sin?

Pray this prayer:

"Dear Lord. I believe you died on the cross to save me and to cleanse me from all my sin.

I do here and now receive you as my Saviour from my sin. Make me yours to do your will and live for you every day until you come."

Pray that prayer and mean it. And, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

The AIDS Scare



"The predominant mood at Gay Pride parades this year was somber," reflects NEWSWEEK. (7/4/83)

The magazine goes on to observe: "For Gay America, a decade of carefree sexual adventure, a headlong gambol on the far side of the human libido, has all but come to a close. The flag of sexual liberation that had flown as the symbol of the gay movement has been lowered. Caution and responsibility—to oneself, to one's friends, to the larger and still pressing concerns of gay life in America—are now the watchwords of gay liberation, and many homosexuals do not regret it."

The indication is that the change is revolutionary, for "to be a male homosexual today is to be afraid of catching AIDS... many AIDS victims die painful and ugly deaths."

Testifies Richard Failla, a professed homosexual who is also a prominent New York judge, "Some people are saying, 'Maybe we ARE wrong—maybe this is punishment.'"

As we have studied the Scriptures to try to discover just how it would be when our Lord returns, we have long felt that it wasn't the time yet for Christ to come.

We know the Scriptures remind us "perilous times would come," and "iniquity would wax worse and worse." But not until we saw demonstrations like we are seeing today did we believe we are as bad as Sodom and Gomorrah.

For the Lord declared, "And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man." (Lu. 17:26) "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot..."

We believe we are now living in those days when the sins of men know no blush, and men profess to feel no guilt or remorse for their behavior.

We believe we're now living in a day as in Noah's time when "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." (Gen. 6:5) As you witness these signs, you know ours is a "sinful and adulterous generation," and Jesus is soon to come.

In the United States the AIDS scare finds police officers asking for protective masks and gloves when dealing with AIDS victims.

Prison guards, knowing bars conceal much homosexual activity, have requested protective suits—just in case.

In some cities, funeral parlors have even refused to deal with the bodies of suspected AIDS victims for fear of contracting the disease.

Homosexuals are known to be large donors of blood so that a crisis now exists which finds the American Red Cross "critically low" in its supplies of donated blood.

Many are demanding that homosexuals be barred from giving blood.

Dr. Glenn Gellhold, a George Washington University surgeon, testified, "I have three people in the course of this week who want to postpone surgery because of a fear of AIDS. They don't want blood under any circumstances."

Look at Frank Reynolds, news anchorman, who is believed to have contracted hepatitis which hastened his death through a blood transfusion.

Moody Adams, in his column, writes: "It is the constitutional duty of government to act now to stop the AIDS hysteria and secure us "freedom from fear." He adds: "School children need to be alerted to the dangers of promiscuous sexual relations. Homosexuals, the principal carriers of AIDS, should be stopped immediately from donating blood. AIDS victims should be quarantined, just as any other plague carrier."

He notes, "Suppose 700 workers in nuclear plants had died from radiation. The government would immediately shut down all nuclear plants, quarantine all carriers and educate all Americans to the dangers."

He adds, "It is just as reasonable for the government to shut down all gay bars and gay baths, stop all known homosexuals from giving blood, quarantine all AIDS carriers (until we know more about the disease) and educate all Americans to the dangers of sexual promiscuity."

U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT (7/25/83) states, "So far, only one person among the three million Americans who receive blood every year—is thought to have contracted AIDS from a routine blood transfusion: an infant in San Francisco."

Declared Los Angeles Red Cross administrator Norm Kear, "The odds are 10 million to 1 against someone getting AIDS through a blood transfusion."

However, reporter Heraldo Rivera on ABC's "20/20" (5/26/83) said, "There is now a steadily growing fear that the nation's entire blood supply may be threatened by AIDS." It was suggested: "The safest thing to do is to store up your own blood."

As the death rate from AIDS victims increases, so is the cry from those who want a cure but want to continue their perverted lifestyle. To homosexuals they want to see more done to help fight this killer disease.

According to William Foege, director of the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, "The average AIDS victim has had 60 different sexual partners

in the past 12 months." How long can God put up with such wickedness?

On one hand, you have men like the Rt. Rev. Paul Moore, Jr. of New York City's Episcopal Church maintaining, "AIDS is not God's vengeance on the homosexual community."

On the other hand, the Rev. Greg Dixon of the Moral Majority, says, "If homosexuals are not stopped, they will in time infect the whole nation and America will be destroyed."

Declared the Rev. Michael Wells of the Mountainview Baptist Church of Jackson, Mississippi: "We believe homosexuality is just another step in destroying the morals of this country. As wickedness increases, it becomes more acceptable. As it becomes more acceptable, it morally drags to the ground society as a whole."

It may sound surprising but Jay Deacon, a homosexual minister in Chicago, says there is a feeling of moral responsibility for AIDS. He comments: "There's a lot of 'This is God's judgment on wicked sinners—the Sodomites are being judged.'"

We believe the time has come for everyone to see that the Bible's verdict is true.

Jude says, "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."

God commanded it was an abomination guilty of death to be given over to immoral practices.

For instance, we read in Lev. 18, verse 22, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind:" We read, "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

For these sins God sent great destruction to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha and has since used them as an illustration of what He will do again.

Writes Peter, "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an example unto those that after should live ungodly." (2 Pet. 2:6)

Did you hear it?

We believe the AIDs epidemic is getting across the message that God's Word is sure—that for those given over to acts of perversion, judgment is certain.

G. H. Montgomery, writing in the DEFENDER magazine, warns: "The sin of Sodom is the one form of evil that God has repeatedly punished with total destruction and annihilation of the guilty."

He adds, "Let those who would be enticed by this sin beware, for the Apostle Paul declares: "They which commit such things are worthy of death." (See Rom. 1:32)

Think of a little baby and the miracle that brought that little life into being. From a little sperm when united with the ovum in the mother's womb, it produced the darling now held in its mother's arms.

It was never intended that man pervert that act of conception and destroy the value of that creative act that results in a miracle birth.

So we read in Romans of the degrading acts to which mankind has succumbed.

Verse 24: "Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour" their own bodies between themselves."

And verse 26: "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections; for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet."

There you have the biblical explanation of what is happening today. For engaging in improper sexual relations men are today receiving in themselves that which God said would happen.

AIDS could be stopped if we were to follow God's laws which were designed to protect mankind from these diseases.

TIME magazine, however, notes: "The gay culture is awash with rumors of unnamed victims who are purposely trying to infect as many others as possible."

Think of it! They have AIDS. They know they are going to die. But they continue to infect others who also will die.

A reporter writes in a Boston weekly: "I go to the bars and nothing has changed. Most gay men, it seems to me, are not altering their lifestyles . . . I don't understand it."

But that is typical of the heart of man. Until Christ comes into the heart and life of anyone given over to these practices, they are helpless to stop them.

Perhaps there are those who say, "I have tried to quit my sinning and have failed miserably."

We receive those kinds of letters . . . from alcoholics, drug addicts, as well as those who are sex offenders, child molesters, and those who have similar problems.

Your letters indicate you want to help. You threaten yourself with suicide if you don't get help.

There is where Jesus Christ can help you.

Without Christ you are like a dead person. But Jesus says to you, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10b)

Paul, writing to the Ephesians, says, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins:"

That is what happens when you give yourself to Jesus Christ. He will quicken you. You will come alive. And life will be pure and beautiful again.

No sin is too great but that He will forgive. Hear our Lord as He says, "He that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37)

Is this what you want?

Or do you want to continue on living in sin, doing your own thing? You know what you are doing is wrong, but you cannot help yourself.

In Romans 6:16 we read, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness."

So you have a choice. You can be a slave to lust, to your thirst for

alcohol, to acts of perversion and reap the wages of sin which is death. Or, you can become free through your acceptance of Jesus Christ . . . "For whom the Son maketh free shall be free indeed."

Verse 18 says, "Being made free from sin, ye become the servants of righteousness."

Again we ask, Is this what you want?

If so, come to Christ. He says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." (Rev. 3:20)

Why not pray this prayer in your own words:

"I believe that you are the Son of God. And I receive you as my Saviour to forgive me of my past life—all the wicked things I have ever done.

Cleanse me from all my sin, and come into my heart, I pray. Amen."

Pray that prayer and mean it. Get a Bible and read it. Pray every morning, asking the Lord to guide you, protect and keep you. And He will do it if you'll let Him.

What a wonderful life!

And this reminder—God does not save you to forget you. Rather, He will keep you if you'll let Him.

Jude writes, "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory ad majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

And, knowing Christ is soon to come for all who are ready, we would add, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

AIDS and Herpes



An article in the **NEW YORK TRIBUNE** (June 16, 1983) states, "France has started screening blood donors in a bid to prevent the often fatal disease AIDS from spreading through blood transfusions."

Another newspaper reported that when an epidemic was feared inside New York jails, it became necessary to isolate AIDS carriers from non-contaminated individuals, and "all homosexuals" were prohibited from serving food to other inmates and asked to refrain from donating blood. (**N.Y. POST**, June 1, 1983)

Pat Buchanan, respected conservative journalist, set forth a furor when he declared, "The mysterious, horrible, and incurable disease spreading like bubonic plague through the homosexual enclaves of New York and San Francisco brings forth an inescapable conclusion. There is social and political dynamite here, waiting for a fuse."

For some time we have wondered concerning the significance of the words of Jesus that His coming would be as it was in the days of Lot. We have looked around to see if conditions today might warrant the observation that times are as bad or possibly worse than in Lot's day.

Now with a new plague called AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), along with an incurable disease called genital herpes which affects twenty million Americans, we can't help but believe we are verily living in the days of Noah and in the days of Lot.

Dr. Ronald S. Godwin writes, "When Legionnaires Disease struck and when Toxic Shock Syndrome surfaced, the health authorities moved immediately and decisively to protect the general public." But when it comes to the AIDS epidemic, it is noted, "The homosexual lobby is so powerful and the homosexual influence in the media so pervasive that an entire nation stands essentially defenseless before a malignant minority—unable to take the simplest steps to protect itself while it wrings its hands in impotent self-condemnation."

We believe it's time the public be both informed and warned of the danger now threatening society in spite of attempts to lobby in favor of the homosexual community.

In fact, a study in the Journal of Communication reports that homosexuals are the most effective and well-organized of the many special interest groups now lobbying the television industry.

According to this report, "There is evidence that the networks consult regularly with gay activists on projects they are considering and that they solicit substantial input from the Gay Media Task Force in writing and producing programs."

A recent Hollywood study showed that only 5% of the Hollywood elite strongly considered homosexuality wrong.

Think of it!

How vital it is to have the support of faithful friends who want this voice to cry out in the wilderness of man's need, calling for those victimized by this sin to repent and find deliverance through the saving power of Jesus Christ.

Joel's promise for the last days is found in Chapter 2, and verse 32, "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered . . ."

Is this what you want? From whatever power binds you and brings you into bondage there is deliverance. Jesus came to set men free from their hangups and their habits. As we read in John 8:36, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

A news aspect of this HERPES and AIDS scare is the threat from lawsuits being filed by partners who have come down with this plague.

Perhaps an explanation is in order concerning Herpes, an infectious disease hitting heterosexuals, or those of the opposite sex. (By way of comparison, homosexuality is a relationship with the same sex.)

Herpes is sexually transmitted, and doctors say there is no cure for the 20 million Americans of both sexes who have the disease, with 500,000 new cases likely to occur this year. That's one percent of the population that suffers from it.

Herpes Simplex is a virus which invades the body and remains with the patient for the rest of his or her life. Through this microscopic view it's possible to see how the virus attacks the living cell. On the left is the outer cell wall. On the right hand side is the wall of the cell nucleus. Outside the cell wall, there's a group of Herpes Simplex. The virus finds its way through the cell wall and can be seen within the cytoplasm. It then passes into the cell nucleus, infecting it. The host cell is now converted into a viral cell, and the infection can then spread.

There are two types of Herpes Simplex. Simplex I—or HSV I—which causes blisters and cold sores on the lips is commonly known as Oral Herpes. Simplex II is the more serious of the two and is known as Genital Herpes. HSV II lodges itself in the nerve cell beyond the reach of the body's immune system. It stays there dormant until the virus is re-awakened and returns to the original site of the infection. Few drugs can prevent these renewed attacks. One of them is Zovirax. Zovirax enters the infected cells and stops their ability to produce the virus. It does this without harming normal cells. But Zovirax isn't a cure and it cannot destroy the virus. It can help prevent or shorten attacks. "Will

there be a cure? At the University of Birmingham's Medical School in England, researchers believe they may have found an answer. What Birmingham's come up with is not a cure but a vaccine. This vaccine is a new virus produced from another Herpes-related virus type. It means that the new virus—the vaccine—when injected will help the body's immune system fight off the infection before it's contracted. The vaccine could also help those who've already got the disease, because it may help PREVENT attacks.

For patients who've had their first attack, treatment is three injections of the vaccine. That's usually enough, but for patients who've suffered several attacks, the vaccine can only help improve the condition.

Of course, we do not consider vaccination the solution for those who are promiscuous—who live in sin. Rather, they need to know the wages of sin is death and be warned of far greater consequences—that of rejection from the kingdom of God. For we read, "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, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 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." (1 Cor. 8:9-11)

Dr. S. I. McMillan, M.D., comments: "It must be bitter mockery, indeed, for people who steal a little illicit sexual pleasure to end with sexual debility and eventual impotence. The type of sin often determines the pattern of the punishment."

The Lord not only gives many warnings to help mankind, but Jesus so transforms and fortifies one with the energy and power of His Holy Spirit that man has no valid excuse for falling into sexual sin. The Apostle Paul expresses the matter forcibly in his epistle to the Thessalonians:

God's plan is to make you holy, and that entails first of all a clean cut with sexual immorality. Every one of you should learn to control his body, keeping it pure and treating it with respect, and never regarding it as an instrument for self-gratification as do pagans with no knowledge of God. You cannot break this rule without in some way cheating your fellowmen. And you must remember that God will punish all who do offend in this matter, and we have warned you how we have seen this work out in our experience of life. The calling of God is not to impurity but to the most thorough purity, and anyone who makes light of the matter is not making light of a man's ruling but God's command. It is not for nothing that the Spirit God gives us is called the Holy Spirit.

If a Herpes vaccine DOES come out onto the market in the next couple of years, it will bring relief to millions of sufferers and their partners. But this research will also have spin-offs in other areas of virology and the study of the body's immune system. Perhaps in a few more years, scientists will actually find a cure for Herpes. But it's still too early to say.

Dr. McMillan comments: "When Moses led the great company of Israelites out of Egypt, the Lord gave him a most remarkable promise

for the new nation: "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Now, although God promised "none of these diseases" would afflict the Israelites if they served and obeyed Him, He also gave detailed instructions which were to be followed.

For instance, in Lev. 22:4 we read, "And whoso toucheth any thing that is unclean by the dead, or a man whose seed goeth from him . . . The soul which touched any such shall be unclean until even, and shall not eat of the holy things, unless he wash his flesh with water."

As Dr. McMillen points out, "The Scriptural method specified not merely washing in a basin, but repeated washings in running water, with time intervals allowed for drying and exposure to sun to kill bacteria not washed off."

At one time there was not the concern about the washing of the hands as today.

The Department of Health specifies, particularly in restaurants, that employees wash their hands before handling food, and if this is not followed, the result can be catastrophic.

NEWSWEEK comments. "Experts disagree on whether herpes viruses can be picked up from toilet seats and other inanimate objects. Dr. Herbert Blough of the University of Pennsylvania created a stir when he reported a young woman had caught oral herpes from a department store lipstick sample."

Notes this news journal, "Right now common sense and meticulous hygiene are the only ways to curb herpes." (NEWSWEEK, April 12, 1982)

Today we should put the cause of this disease where it belongs. There would not be the epidemic from venereal diseases and plagues such as Herpes and AIDS if the biblical injunctions were heeded not to engage in sexual sins and live licentiously.

For instance, in 1 Cor. 10:8 we read, "Neither let us commit fornication as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand."

Continues Paul: "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." (V. 11)

Fornication and other sexual sins can result in such diseases as gonorrhea and syphilis, along with Herpes and AIDS, which are afflicting our society in epidemic proportions.

No wonder Paul writes to the Corinthians, saying, "Flee fornication." Run from sexual sin as you would flee from a serpent.

And, addressing young people, Paul admonishes, "Flee youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." (2 Tim. 2:22)

Today sex is exploited on television and in the movies, through magazines and billboards. But don't fall for the devil's lies. Sexual exploitation can leave you with heartache and headache and ruined

health leading to death.

As Dr. McMillen testifies, "Obedience to God's helpful Guidebook has been and still is the best way to avoid the calamitous effects of venereal disease."

Addressing a meeting of New York state physicians, Dr. Irving J. Sands said, "The Commandments are old indeed, and yet they comprise the greatest mental hygiene code and the best set of rules and regulations for ethical human relationships every produced by mankind."

How tragic when Christians excuse their sin. Dave Wilkerson tells of sending an observer to an annual "Holy Ghost" convention conducted by homosexuals.

"What unbelievable blasphemy," testifies Wilkerson. "Each delegate, as they registered, was given a packet which included, among other things, two 'boy' magazines of all nude men along with a list of the gay bars in the area."

"And those delegates called themselves 'ministers.' How they did sing! They praised the Lord with enthusiasm, but their evangelist corrupted the gospel beyond comprehension. He said, "Sure, Paul condemned men who changed the natural use and burned one toward another. But that's not us. We didn't change anything. We were born this way. So, come out of your closets. Be filled with the Holy Ghost and enjoy your homosexuality."

Jude warns of those "ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." (Jude 4)

He also writes, "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, 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."

How sad to reap such a fate by following the flesh!

Dr. Enos Martin, both pastor and psychiatrist, writes: "To the adulterer the church says, 'whether or not you feel in conflict about your affairs, it is wrong: you should therefore repent and terminate the adulterous relationship to be in fellowship with Christ.'"

Dr. Martin adds. "In a similar manner, the church's stance reflects biblical teaching and Christian tradition concerning the sinfulness of homosexuality."

Not only does the Bible teach this truth, but the United States Supreme Court, in a surprise move, let stand a Washington state court decision which declared that homosexuals are immoral and may be fired from their jobs. (Oct. 3, 1977)

Isn't it time we realize the Bible is indeed the Word of Almighty God? We need to heed its precepts.

While preparing this commentary, reviewing AIDS epidemic which brings sudden death, and Herpes which has no cure, I thought of what we read in 2 Peter 2 and especially as it relates to Christians who teach that anything goes in one's sexual relationships.

Writes Paul, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and

bring upon themselves swift destruction.”

Isn't that what is happening? The Bible says, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." (1 Cor. 6:19-20)

According to God's Word you do not have a right to live a lustful and perverted life-style relationship. If you're a believer, your body belongs to God.

How tragic at the coming of the Lord to see many left behind who profess to know the Lord but are given over to sin.

Jesus declared, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matthew 7:22-23)

"We hear much emphasis today on believing God for miracles, but little is said about departing from iniquity. And yet, that is part of the message Paul preached. For in 2 Tim. 2:19 Paul declared, "And, let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

If you want to be ready for our Lord's return, then depart from iniquity, cease from wrong-doing, get right with God and with one another, and let Christ be the Lord of your life.

Join me in praying this prayer. Pray these words and mean it: "Lord Jesus. I believe you died on the cross for my sins. With your help I receive you as my Saviour and Lord to live for you and serve you 'til you come. Forgive me of all my sins, for your Word says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Is this what you want—forgiveness, cleansing, eternal life?

Indeed, the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Receive Christ as your Saviour and Lord, and become active in winning your lost friends and relatives to Christ. Read your Bible every day and pray when you rise in the morning and when you go to bed at night and throughout the day. Talk to the Lord as you would talk to a friend.

And be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

What the Bible Says about Homosexuality



Charles Whited, newspaper columnist, comments on gay activists. In one demonstration outside the Capitol in Sacramento, California, one sign carried by a protester read: "Jesus died for my sins, not my sexuality!"

Of what significance is the avalanche of support for a practice the Scriptures call an abomination? Is what we are seeing today one of the Biblical proofs that we are living in the Last Days? What does the Bible say about homosexuality? It is a sin or not?

What about homosexuals in the church? Can one be a homosexual believer? Should homosexuals be ordained?

The love of Christ constrains us to speak out on this subject. On many talk shows across the country, homosexuals are invited to give their views, but seldom do Christians have an opportunity to give the Biblical side of the picture.

What does the Bible say?

When homosexuals take to the streets in mass numbers, you can be sure we are living in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Remember the account in Genesis 19, where Lot entertained the two messengers and we read: "The men of Sodom compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter." (v.4)

Surely, we are seeing a repeat of this kind of activity today. Recently, crowds of demonstrators in cities across the country have come out in support of homosexuality. This is unbelievable except that it is prophesied in God's Word.

And, there are to be found too few who protest the practice of homosexuality that is banned in most states. At least 32 states still have laws on their books defining sodomy as a crime. And the U.S. Supreme Court recently voted 6 to 3 to uphold such laws in a decision involving Virginia's anti-sodomy statute.

According to an organization called GROUP, there are 25 million

Americans, or about 10 percent of the population, who are admitted homosexuals. If this is true, it shows the growth of an abominable practice which has led to the destruction of past civilizations.

The Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Kansas City commended Christians for their "courageous stand against the evils inherent in homosexuality." And it decried what it called "a radical scheme" and a national campaign "to secure legal, social, and religious acceptance for homosexuality" by portraying homosexuality as "normal behavior."

It seems there are many afflicted with this lust who want to be free. A typical letter comes from a young man who writes: "Please pray for me. I realize now that homosexuality is the lowest sin there is, according to April's RADAR NEWS Special Supplement. I am possessed by an unclean spirit and I want to be set free from it. O God, set me free. Enclosed is five dollars towards the RADAR NEWS."

What a touching letter! We are praying that the Lord will bring deliverance to this young man. We have written to him of the right that we have as believers to rebuke the devil in the name of Jesus and secure our freedom.

The first sign of victory is to realize that homosexuality is a sin. Too many take the position that the Bible does not mention homosexuality as a sin.

However, there are many scriptures which condemn having sexual relations with the same sex.

In Leviticus 20:13, the Lord warned, saying: "If a man lie with mankind as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death . . ."

The fact that no one is put to death for this sin has "Gay" religionists saying this passage is not relevant for today.

But there are other passages which declare the gravity of this sin inasmuch as it is declared that homosexuals shall not inherit the kingdom of God. (See I Cor.6:9-10)

We read: "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, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Obviously, the reference to "abusers of themselves with mankind" and "effeminate" are references to homosexuality.

The seriousness of this sin is primarily mentioned in Romans 1:24-27,32, wherein it is declared that God gives up to uncleanness through the lust of their own hearts those who "dishonour their own bodies between themselves:" Again, we read where "God gave them up onto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet . . . who knowing the judgment of God that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."

Is this not a clear picture of God's definition and indignation over this

sin?

Reference is made to 2 Pet. 2:6, where it is mentioned how God turned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes . . . making them an example unto those that should live ungodly. Likewise, in Jude 7, Sodom and Gomorrah 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.

So is it not quite obvious that God specifically mentions this sin in connection with His hatred of evil, and He promises judgment upon those whose behavior parallels Sodom and Gomorrah?

A homosexual, like an alcoholic, cannot be convicted, cannot be converted and cannot be entirely cured of his sin unless he admits he is a sinner and in need of help.

Then, realizing that Christ died for all sinners, there can come the change wrought by the Holy Spirit through the transforming power of the Word of God. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation unto everyone that believeth.

As CHRISTIANITY TODAY comments: "Unfortunately, the Christian church has not shown any great ability to accept them (homosexuals) or to help them. And for that we are partially to blame. Acceptance cannot mean acceptance of the homosexual's views, as many of the clergy are now doing, but it must mean acceptance of the deviate as a person for whom Christ died and for whom the Gospel holds transforming hope."

Indeed, when a person is willing to admit his sin, and then confesses and repents of that sin, there is forgiveness. If somehow the desire to sin persists, then the Scriptures have a formula for deliverance. If we do not find victory over sin through faith in Jesus Christ, it may mean a habit has been formed from which it takes the power of the Holy Spirit to break this habit of lust in the life. This may lead to fasting and prayer, as our Lord testified, saying: "This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting."

In Isaiah 58:6, we read: "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke." Indeed, every lust, every sinful habit, and even heavy burdens will take their flight, when in desperation before God we are willing to become sincerely earnest about our need. Dope addicts are cured, chain-smoking is stopped, alcoholics are delivered, and homosexuals set free through accepting God's formula for their deliverance. Through Christ's sacrifice on the cross and the victory won at Calvary, we can be set free if we want to be, regardless of the sin or habit.

A practicing homosexual for 37 years was active in the "gay lib" movement until Christ transformed his life. He testified: "Nobody is born 'gay.' You are born male and female, and the conditioning you receive as you grow up shapes your sexual development. At some point in our lives we make a decision either physically or mentally to participate in a sexual act. The decision is repeated over and over until it's a habit."

Whatever the habit, whatever the sin, we can be delivered and need to be set free, if we are going to be ready for our Lord's return.

In Hebrews 12:1, we're admonished to "Lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith . . ."

The wrong approach is to look to men for help instead of looking to Jesus, for we can be misled quite easily.

A man wrote to Ann Landers, saying: "I was brought up in a Christian home and heard so much about the sinfulness of homosexuality that I stopped going to church. Fortunately, I met a kind and understanding clergyman who spent many hours helping me see that God loves all His children—gay, straight, whatever. Since all else failed, I took his advice and gave God a chance. I prayed, "Lord, I am gay and I don't think I can change. Please take control of my life. Thy will be done." Soon after I prayed I felt serene and at peace. A month later I met another man with whom I plan to spend the rest of my life. I have never felt so fulfilled and contented. Life is beautiful."

What an utter delusion! And to top it off, Ann Landers wrote: "Thank you for sharing your experience. And now a word to all who read the Bible faithfully; Please don't tell me to look up Genesis 19, Romans, chapter 1, Leviticus 18:22 or I Corinthians 6:9-10, etc. Help is where you find it."

We disagree. Help comes only from the Lord who will judge us everyone according to His Word. Reliance upon man's help can be in reality a false hope.

Perhaps the greatest evidence on record of the change that comes to the believer is the biblical account of the Corinthians who had practiced some of these gross sins, including homosexuality, but who were changed by Christ. Thus Paul writes: "And such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of our Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."

Indeed, if bound by this sin, or any sin, be set free in the name of Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

And, be ye therefore ready also for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

DIGNITY Writes:

NOTE: DIGNITY, a Gay Catholic outreach in Atlanta wrote to Mr. Brubaker to comment as follows: "We would urge you to reconsider attributing to the Devil that which may truly be the work of the Holy spirit: We know that Jesus DID come to call us all, and He warned us about making judgments of one another's sincerity. It is truly evil to attribute God's work to Satan, and none of us can be sure in what ways the Lord is working in the lives of others."

"Likewise, we need to keep reminding ourselves of the basic gospel truth; We are all ALIKE sinners. God does not differentiate between the sins of people with homosexual orientations and those of people with heterosexual orientations. God does not judge gay and straight people by different standards. We are all called to follow the Law of Love which Jesus commanded. God will judge us in the last days only by the quality of love which we have showed to Him and to our neighbors. No one of us is given permission to judge either another's motives or the reality of someone else's salvation."

Editor Replies

We are not saved by our sincerity nor by following a "law of love" but by our repentance from sin as evidenced in true faith in Jesus Christ.

When Jesus was asked, "Lord, are there few that be saved?" He replied, "Strive to enter in at the straight gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity." (Lu. 13:23-27)

Indeed, how sad for anyone to parade under the garb of sincerity, or what is called "Christian love," to realize they will be rejected in the day when Christ gathers together His elect.

Is Miami Facing Destruction?

A campaign to recruit homosexuals has been going on in Miami for a long time.

On May 11, 1966, The ST. PETERSBURG TIMES carried this headline: "Homosexuals recruiting young boys in Dade."

Marilyn Arvidson of the Times—Miami Herald Service then wrote:

There is a serious, organized movement throughout Dade County to recruit young boys—some of them only 12 and 13 years old—for homosexual activities."

Detective David Narrow of the Dade County Sheriff's Department related that "Wealthy homosexuals come here from every city in the country and they have access to procurers with lists of boys."

At that time, Detective Narrow said: "We estimate there are between 35,000 and 50,000 homosexuals in Dade County, and 60% of them are recruiting."

Declaring that "Innocent youngsters and apathetic parents are a dangerous combination," Detective Narrow addressed PTA meetings and spoke at junior high school assemblies. He related how boys are contacted in the schools by classmates who are male prostitutes who lend their bodies to the homosexual. The initial reward for playing the role of the passive partner is \$2, \$5, \$10 or more, depending on the activity in which they were engaged.

This sickening activity has resulted in moral degradation that is worse than cancer. Once a young boy engages in such activity, "It becomes worse than dope addiction," with "about one out of 15 committing suicide because he becomes so involved," according to this newspaper article.

In addition, there is the spread of venereal disease which is linked to homosexuality. A U.S. Public Health representative was quoted as saying that the syphilis rate among homosexuals was six times that of normal men. According to one study, 70% of a group of 15-to-19-year-old boys being treated for infectious syphilis in public health clinics admitted that contacts were exclusively homosexual. In another study, 77% of adults said they had homosexual relations.

Homosexuality is destroying future generations, says Detective Narrows who went on to declare: "Today's recruits are tomorrow's competition."

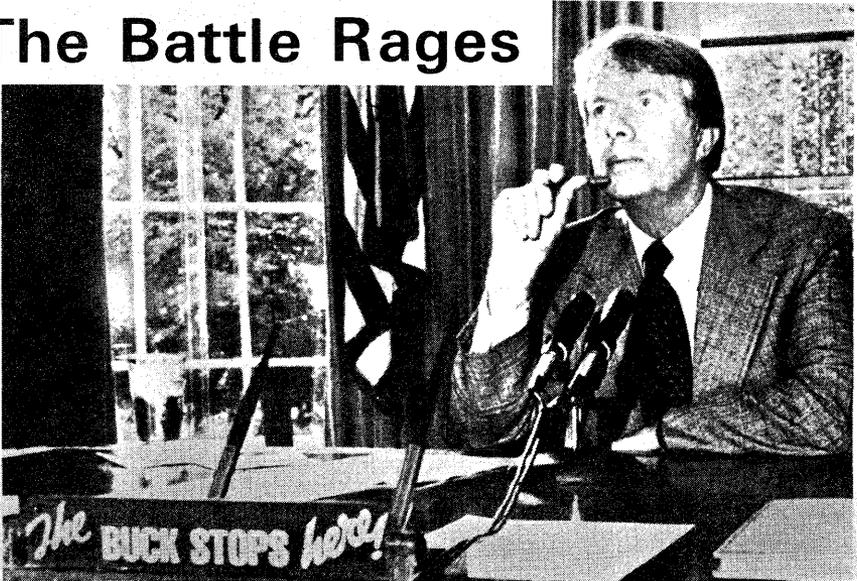
Robert Kunst, leader of the drive in Miami for homosexual rights, says that 300,000 of Dade County's 1.5 million residents may be homosexual.

Think of it!

Like Pompeii, a city given over to sex perversions, was destroyed, so we predict that Miami will meet destruction because of this sin which has engulfed this city. Sodom and Gomorrah, condemned with an overthrow, are "an example unto those that after should live ungodly," says Peter. (2 Pet. 2:6; Jude 7)

Homosexuality!

The Battle Rages



The Carter White House became engaged in a controversial conversation over homosexuality, with aides saying the President was misquoted on the subject.

The conversation involved Dr. Jerry Falwell, widely-known pastor of the Thomas Road Baptist Church, and TV evangelist.

At a rally in Alaska, Dr. Falwell related he had met with the President and other evangelical leaders at which time he asked the President: "Sir, why do you have known practicing homosexuals on your senior staff in the White House?"

Falwell says the President replied: "Well, I am President of all the American people, and I believe I should represent everyone."

Then the question was asked, "Why don't you have some murderers and bank robbers and so forth to represent?" The audience applauded but the White House did not.

Falwell has been in the forefront of a campaign that opposes pornography, gay rights, and abortion, along with Equal Rights legislation and drugs. His crusade is in support of prayer and Bible reading in public schools, support of Israel, and a superior national defense.

In a statement in the MORAL MAJORITY REPORT (Aug. 15, 1980), Dr. Falwell discusses his controversy with the White House.

Aides to the President produced a transcript of the conversation he had with Mr. Carter. The transcript's only reference to homosexuality included Falwell's question to the President, "Is it fair to say that your definition of a family would not include the marriage of homosexual men or lesbians?" The President's response was not picked up by the microphones and so it is assumed he nodded in the affirmative. The recording did include Dr. Falwell's "Thank you—thank you very much."

Dr. Falwell comments on the meeting he had with Mr. Carter, saying:

"My recent statement was not intended to be a verbatim report of our conversation with Mr. Carter. Instead, my statement was intended to be, as was, an honest portrayal of President Carter's position on 'Gay' rights."

Falwell continues: "The entire effort to criticize me is a smoke screen, designed to redirect the minds of the American people, and particularly the evangelical public, away from the real issue."

Dr. Falwell is considered an "Ultraconservative" by those who see him involved in a political movement rather than in a Christian campaign for righteousness. In reality, he is simply seeking to convey to his hearers the Scriptural premise that "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people." (Proverbs 14:34)

In hardly any other issue is the devil waging an unholy war as in the issue over homosexuality. And Dr. Falwell is to be admired for openly defying the White House in its attitude toward "Gay" rights.

In March of 1979, just before his assassination, San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk proposed a march of homosexuals on the White House to bear pressure on the President and Congress to amend the Civil Rights Act. This action was intended to ban discrimination in jobs, housing and other areas on the basis of one's sexual preferences.

Eventually, the march was scheduled and found 75,000 homosexuals coming to Washington to support their cause.

At the same time, Dr. Falwell held a protest-prayer meeting in Washington, saying, "God did not create Adam and Steve, but Adam and Eve." He further labeled homosexuality an "outright assault on the family," and likened homosexuals to other sinners, bank robbers and thieves.

In further response to a question, Dr. Falwell indicated he would not object to homosexuals having equal housing or employment opportunities, but he would object to permitting them to teach in schools or to uphold positions of leadership where their influence could damage others.

Would you believe it, at the march, there was on hand such religious "Gay" rights groups as Dignity (Roman Catholic), Integrity (Episcopalian), Affirmation (United Methodist), along with Mormons, Lutherans and Pentecostals led by former moderator Troy Perry?

When a White House demonstrator saw a sign of a protesting group which read, "Repent or perish (2 Peter 2:12)," he shouted back, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and he knows I'm gay."

There can be only one explanation to such actions. These are demonized times of which the Apostle Paul warned, saying: "The spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils— forbidding to marry, etc." What evidence we are seeing of Satan at work in trying to get perversion to be acceptable!

The message of the Gospel is that Christ changes the hearts of those who put their faith and trust in Him. As Paul declared, "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." (Romans 1:16)

The hour is late. Judgment is approaching. Sin must ultimately be

punished. If you've never done so, why not come to Christ, repenting of sin to trust the Saviour. Find peace of heart and victory through allowing Christ to become Lord and Master of your life. Then live for Him daily in the knowledge that He will soon come again for those who love His appearing.

Indeed, be ye therefore ready also for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh!