

APOSTALIC COUNCIL TALK

WHERE THE
APOSTOLIC COUNCIL
SHARE THEIR HEARTS

APRIL
2013



FROM
DAVE'S
HEART TO
YOURS

ARE WE CAVING IN?

The temperature has been ramping up over the past while and reached a tipping point this March over the whole same sex marriage debate.

The United States supreme court is examining the whole issue of DOMA (defense of marriage act) which states that marriage is between a man and a woman and is even questioning the whole constitutionality of the act. The Court seems to be in a tail spin itself and is tossing the matter around like a hot potato, trying to duck the issue and find a way out by sending it back to the House of Representatives.

The liberal media continually raise the flag in favour of gay and same sex marriage and are quick to pounce on or malign anyone with a differing position. This leaves ordinary folk wondering if things

have changed and that perhaps they are out of step with reality and society.

To add to the pressure and confusion, President Obama's recent endorsement of homosexual marriage has only compounded the situation, by him being in favour of same sex marriage.

It is a sad indictment when 58% of a nation now subscribe to the values of Sodom and Gomorrah as not only being acceptable but endorsing it.

So where does this leave us as the Church along with thinking Christians?

In this debate, the church's voice seems to be ever diminishing and becoming quieter, whilst the gay lobbyists seem to be ever beating their drum louder and louder.

Is it because the church is complacent, afraid or just simply overwhelmed as how to tackle the vast onslaught of its values being adjudicated by a secular unregenerate society?

Or is it just that we are caving in?

Recently the US football model 'poster child', Tim Tebow, was confronted to make this choice. Tebow is one of the most decent and personable sports personalities to come along in recent years. Not only is he an unashamed witness, placing a scripture under his eyes each time he runs on the field, he is also an unapologetic follower of Christ, even in stringent cynical media interviews on channels like CNN.

Tim was invited and scheduled to be the guest at a large Dallas, Texas church which has made a strong stand and been very outspoken in favour of biblical marriage. When the liberal media and pro same sex marriage gang got involved, Tebow's agents backed down and cancelled his scheduled commitment. Sadly, he gave in!

Already, prominent Christians are being sidelined and maligned for taking a biblical stand. Louie Giglio was pressured to 'stand down' from taking part in the second Obama inauguration when it was discovered he had preached a message almost 20 years ago that affirmed the sinfulness of homosexuality and stressed that the "only way out of a homosexual lifestyle... is through the healing power of Jesus."

Many preachers, when in the pulpit these days, pause and think twice before addressing these issues, a thing they would not even have hesitated to confront twenty years ago.

Whatever your view of the Roman Catholic Church, the world was recently fascinated at all the conjecture surrounding the election of a new Pope. In an interview one of the Cardinals was asked if one of the more 'reformist thinking' candidates would revise the church's position on the subject in question. He responded by stating that 'there is

nothing that the new pope would actually be able to do in altering the church's position on this, as it is God's word'.

Well put, I thought.

"Our role as the church is to be unwavering in applying God's word as emphatic."

God's word is clear and is 'from everlasting to everlasting'. Nothing has changed from the time God first ordained marriage and declared that 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh'. (Gen 2:24). Nothing has

changed in God's view since Sodom and Gomorrah, a theme which runs through His word and is strongly upheld in the New Testament.

Our role as the church is to be unwavering in applying God's word as emphatic. We need to make a clear stand in the defense of family values where already 80% of all households are not the original nuclear families they started out as.

We need to approach this with love and humility, never forgetting that we are all God's children. At the same time we need to be resolute in sounding a 'clear trumpet' call and not cave in to the voices of the day which would seek to undermine the very foundations on which our faith stands.

'Be strong, and let us show ourselves courageous for the sake of our people and for the cities of our God; and may the Lord do what is good in His sight!'
1 Chr 19: 13.



DAVID & CAROL CAPE

David



A **FAMILY** OF APOSTOLIC CLUSTERS
ADVANCING THE **KINGDOM** OF GOD

TIME TO **WALK**
THE **WALK**
NOT JUST **TALK**
THE **TALK**

Embracing a kingdom theology takes more than just intellectual consent. It takes a personal application that affects every part of our lives. As I've grown in understanding the kingdom message over the 35 years I've been sharing on it, a number of

people have impacted my life greatly. One of them is my friend Dennis Peacocke. In a recent article called "What do we really believe?" he emphasizes this point.

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." –Matthew 7:24

I have often said that life is a journey of moving from believing to knowing. There are many things I "believe," but I don't "know" something until I will act upon what I say I believe, both consistently, and especially, under pressure. The following story is told to illustrate this point:

A man takes a wheel barrow across Niagara Falls on a tight rope in both directions, once full of rocks and with a precious cargo of glassware. He then asks, "Who believes I can do this with a small child in the wheel barrow?" Virtually everyone says that they believe he can. He then asks, "For a thousand dollars, who will put their child in my wheel barrow to do so?" There were no takers...

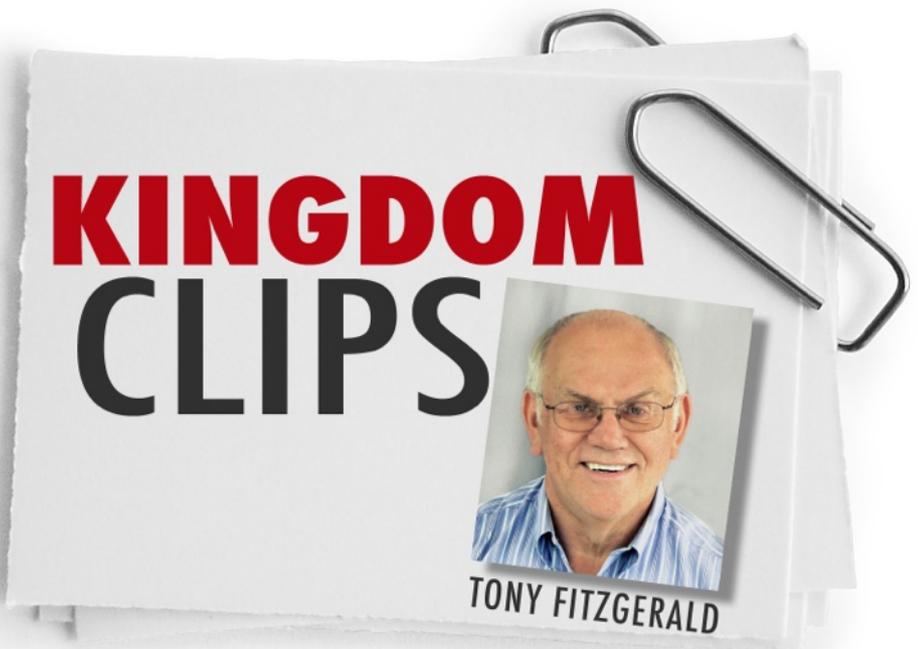
They were "believers," but not "knowers." Knowing is believing in action.

We Christians are now standing before our Niagara Falls relative to what we believe about what Jesus taught on the yeasting power of the Kingdom of God in society. Can and will the Kingdom of God come to a mature harvest amidst the tons of an increasingly sick and secularized society, or will that secularized society smother out the wheat of the Kingdom (Matthew 13:24-43)? All true Christians "believe" in Jesus and in the Bible, but does their belief pass the test of knowing amidst real-time challenges? Granted, the Scripture speaks of "light in Goshen and darkness in Egypt" (Exodus 10:21-23; Isaiah 60:1-5), but amidst both tensions and opposite forces colliding, will God's Kingdom leaven the nations before Christ returns as Christ clearly indicated, particularly in Matthew, chapter 13? Does your believing line up with how your knowing is guiding you to live right now in these days of increasing social chaos?

As Dennis said, "This is a time to know what we believe." It is not a time to be tossed around by every wind of doctrine, but be focused, disciplined and committed to the King and His Kingdom.

Tony

If you would like to read more of Dennis, go to www.gostrategic.org



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