

Right or Wrong?

By Bill Brandstatter

I have noticed a change in our society. There are some things that were once considered wrong, even illegal, are now considered okay and legal. One example is the legalization of marijuana. When I grew up in the 1960's and even until recently, the use of that drug was illegal. Now some states have legalized it.

What was once wrong is now considered to be right. I once read an article about "civil disobedience." The article was about individuals who were objecting to the minimum wage and wanted it increased to \$15.00 per hour. There was even a meeting being held on civil disobedience. One lady commented that their efforts would change the moral consciousness of people. I am afraid our society has become more lawless in many areas, and the idea of obedience is not what it once was. Society is changing the idea of right and wrong.

What does the Bible say about this? God, after all is the great lawgiver and lawmaker. From Him we learn obedience and disobedience. Isaiah, the prophet, wrote, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness" (Is. 5:20). In the book of Romans Paul wrote about those who "did not like to retain God in their knowledge" (Rom. 1:28).

Obedience is something the Bible emphasizes. Jesus saves those who obey Him (Heb. 5:8, 9). Paul wrote that people should obey the gospel (Rom. 10:16; 2 Thess. 1:8, 9). Jesus stated, "If you love me, keep My commandments" (Jn. 14:15). The Hebrews writer stated: "We have human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?" (Heb. 12:9) What we learn in one area of life can often affect us in another. My concern is that when our society makes legal that which was once illegal, and makes disobedience something to be considered right, what will happen to the souls of individuals who need to obey Christ? Will they understand the obligation to the law that God has given? Will they obey that form of doctrine that was delivered by the apostles? (Rom. 6:17)

We need to obey the Bible, no matter what man says. Peter and the other apostles said; "We ought to obey God rather than man" (Acts 5:29). So when society says something is okay, we should see what God has to say. When society makes something legal, we need to check what the great lawgiver has in mind. When society promotes disobedience and rebellion, we need to look at what is written in God's Word. God wants all men to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4). We can only do that if we know what it means to obey the laws which God has given.

Let us learn from the Scriptures and obey from the heart. (Rom. 6:17)

Bill Brandstatter preaches for the
Marion Church of Christ in Marion, IL

Schedule of Services:

Greeting: Mark

Song Leader: Mark

Opening Hymn:

393—Mansion Over the Hilltop

Opening Prayer

Ray

Hymn:

A—My God and I

Scripture Reading:

Larry

John 14:15-24

Hymn:

300—Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?

Lord's Supper:

Myron & Ron

Hymn:

192—Anywhere With Jesus

Sermon: Mark

Invitation Hymn:

188—Where He Leads I'll Follow

Closing Hymn:

488—Never Alone

Closing Prayer:

Dale

PRAYER LIST

- *Juanita's sister Betty is doing better.
- *Mary and her family.
- *Nina's brother, James.
- *Robert and Sara
- *Pat and Ron.
- *Juanita and her family.
- *Larry and Ruth
- *Dale in reference to his work, his mother and his cousin Jayna and her family. His friend Zarna and her family.
- *Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.
- *Our congregation
- *Our Veterans
- *Our Nation

CALENDAR

- Oct. 20—Bible Study 10 am
Tom
- Oct. 20—Worship 11 am & 6 pm
Speaker: Mark
- Oct. 20-23—Loraine Ave. Gospel Meeting
- Oct. 23—Bible Study 7 pm
Rob
- Oct. 24 & 25—Winter Lectures
Fishing Road
- Oct. 26—East Broad St. Ladies Day
- Oct. 26—Ft. Hill Fund Raiser
- Oct. 27—Bible Study 10 am
Tom
- Oct. 27—Worship 11 am & 6 pm
Speaker: Mark
- Oct. 27—b. Gary
- Oct. 28—b. Larry
- Oct. 30—Bible Study 7 pm
Rob
- Nov. 3—Bible Study 10 am
Mark
- Nov. 3—Worship 11 am & 6 pm

Jesus Promises Another Helper

Scripture Reference: John 14:15-24

ABIDE	ANOTHER	ANSWERED	ANYONE
BECAUSE	CANNOT	COMMANDMENTS	DWELLS
FATHER	FOREVER	HELPER	ISCARIOT
JESUS	JUDAS	KEEPS	KNOWS
LEAVE	LITTLE	LONGER	LOVES
MANIFEST	MYSELF	NEITHER	ORPHANS
RECEIVE	SPIRIT	TRUTH	WHICH
WHILE	WORDS	WORLD	YOURSELF

F R I F Y Y O U L J L T E L I H W T
 L E T D O O V E E O O M E I D K E O
 E C I E W P U S M N V Y C T O M M I
 S E R A N E U R N D M E E T N T T R
 Y I I E S S L A S M W B S L M S H A
 M V P U H R C L R E H T I E N E U C
 W E S S E T S R S S L W O E L F F S
 K Z E G W A O B S N L F V P C I T I
 G F N N D O E N D H V A E R G N G J
 Z O O U O C N C A U E R P B D A V Z
 L I J R A Y F K I L T A Z E K M U Q
 A K M U E W N A R T W O R D S Z I X
 B H S X O V A A T M L E V O J W Q Z
 I E P R O O E O I H W S N A H P R O
 D O L L K M F R K S E W H I C H A F
 E D L Q S F N L N I K R X Q J A G Z
 S T N E M D N A M M O C T R U T H B
 K E E P S S C G E X F C M S P L A V

Hidden Message: _____
 _____.

Answer to Puzzle: If you love Me, keep My commands.

**"To learn to succeed, you must first learn to fail."
 Michael Jordan**

SUNDAY: Bible Class — 10:00 am; Worship — 11:00 am; Evening — 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Bible Study — 7:00 pm
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