

Sex – God says these are right:

- Sex is for married couples: ^{NAU} Heb. 13:4 Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled [pure]...
- Sex and the one flesh relationship: ^{NAU} 1 Cor. 7:3-4 The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband. // Kretzmann: “When a man or woman enters into the state of holy matrimony, he or she places the body at the service of the other.”

Sex & More – God says these are wrong:

Continuing without repentance will close the way to heaven: ^{NAS} 1 Cor. 6:9-10

- ...neither fornicators [people having sex who are not married],
- nor idolaters [people not fearing God],
- nor adulterers [people having sex with someone who is not their lawful spouse],
- nor effeminate [the passive partners in same sex relationships],
- nor homosexuals [people engaging in same-sex activity],
- nor thieves [people who steal],
- nor the covetous [people who sinfully desire what belongs to others],
- nor drunkards [people addicted to intoxicating beverages / drugs],
- nor revilers [people who use language or have actions that are abusive],
- nor swindlers [the violently greedy], shall inherit the kingdom of God.

For Good News – see these passages: 1 Cor. 6:11; Ez. 18:32; Acts 3:19

Reasons to Repent

The Opportunity Is Limited: Earlier in **Proverbs 1**, wisdom, called the people to **turn from evil and trust in Jesus!** BUT none responded, so this rebuke was given:

- ^{NAS} **Proverbs 1:24-29** “Because I called, and you refused; I stretched out my hand, and no one paid attention; And you neglected all my counsel, And did not want my reproof; // Wisdom kept trying, but the unrepentant sinners kept ignoring!
- So, wisdom said: **I will even laugh** at your calamity; **I will mock** when your dread comes, When your dread comes like a storm, And your calamity comes on like a whirlwind, When distress and anguish come on you. Then they will call on me, but **I will not answer**; They will seek me diligently, but **they shall not find me**, Because they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD. // When some people cry out, *it will be too late*☹.

The Consequences will be Severe:

- ^{NAS} **Hebrews 10:26-31**...if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain terrifying expectation of judgment, and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries. **Anyone** who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on *the testimony of two or three witnesses* [Deut. 17:6]. **How much severer punishment do you think he will**

deserve who ➔ has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and ➔ has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant [Jesus' blood] by which he was sanctified, and ➔ has insulted the Spirit of grace [by ignoring Him]?
...It is a **terrifying thing** to fall into the hands of the living God.

A Comparison with Jesus' Return

- **A Key Comparison:** Jesus said: ^{NAU} Mt. 24:37-39 “For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.” // Noah told them the truth, but they ignored it! **Don't Be Like Them!**
- **The Days of Noah:** ^{NAU} Genesis 6:5 ...the wickedness of man was great on the earth... // The same is true today!

No matter who you are or what you have done, **God** loves you, **Jesus** died for you, and **God** is calling you to receive His priceless gift of forgiveness through Jesus!

Connect With Us

Website: www.BLC7500.com

YouTube & Podcast: Benefit from the Bible

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Schedule: See our website (440-845-2230)

Location: 7500 State Road, Parma, OH 44134

(Last Update: 7-22)

REALITY CHECK

www.BLC7500.com

A Summary of the 4-Part Sermon Series

Want More? See our Website!

Introduction

Dear Friend: “In a 2020 survey by the Pew Research Center, 65% of adults in the United States identified themselves as Christians” (Wikipedia article: [click here](#)). With that in mind, answer these questions:

1. Do you believe the Bible is the word of God and contains no factual or historical errors? **Y N**
2. Do your own beliefs consistently agree with the Bible? **Y N**
3. Does your own behavior consistently agree with the Bible? **Y N**

Y, Y, and Y would be best for *each person in our nation*, but according to the [American Worldview Inventory 2020](#), by Arizona Christian University, only **6%** of Americans said **Y, Y, and Y** (down from 12% in the year 2000)!

Reality Check: In the USA, **65%** SAY they are Christians, **BUT only 6%** match what the Bible says about being a Christian☹!

What is going on in the USA today? Paul warned us that a time would come – *and I believe that time has now come* – when people would have a **form of godliness but deny its power** (2 Timothy 3:5).

May the LORD use this brochure to:

- *Grow up those who believe!*
- *Sober up the unrepentant!*
- *Stand up our faltering nation!*
- *Ready up many for judgment day!*

Who is God?

- **All good, no evil:** ^{NAU} **1 John 1:5** ...God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.
- **The eternal, tireless, all-knowing creator:** ^{NAU} **Isaiah 40:28** ...the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is [unknowable].
- **The shelter and strength of all who trust in Him:** ^{NAU} **Psalms 46:1** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

What has God done?

- **Created All Things:** ^{NAU} **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- **Promised His Son:** *God said to the devil:* ^{NAU} **Genesis 3:15** "...I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He [My Son] shall bruise you on the head, and you [Satan] shall bruise him on the heel."

- **Sent His Son:** ^{NAU} **Galatians 4:4-5** But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

What is God doing?

- **Controlling All Things:** ^{NAU} **Isaiah 45:6-7** "...I am the LORD... forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being, and creating calamity..."
- **Sustaining All Life:** ^{ESV} **Job 12:10** In [the LORD's] hand is the life of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.
- **Providing All Needs:** *The Psalmist prayed:* ^{NAU} **Psalms 145:16** "You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing."

What did God say?

Because of **Who** I am, **what** I have done, and **what** I am doing, *all people should* ➔ respect, ➔ trust, and ➔ obey Me!

Reality Check: What about the USA? As the Israelites turned away from the LORD and were cast out of the Promised Land (Lev. 20:22), *the USA deserves the same!*

Since God has every right to determine right and wrong, what did He say?

The Ten Commandments: Our breakage shows our need for Jesus (Rom. 3:20). Our obedience shows our **love** for God and **thanksgiving** for His gift of eternal life!

- **1-3: Us to God:** **Trust** in God, **use** His name in honorable ways, and **faithfully** gather for worship.
- **4-10: Us to Others:** **Respect** your parents, **do not** harm others, **follow** what God says about sex, **do not** take what belongs to others, **speak** honestly about others, and **do not** sinfully desire what belongs to others.

Human Life: *It is precious! Why?*

- **God made each person:** *The Psalmist prayed:* ^{NIV} **Psalms 139:13** "...you knit me together in my mother's womb."
- **Jesus gave His life for you:** ^{NAU} **1 Pet. 3:18** Christ... died for sins once for all.
- **God commanded the death penalty:** ^{NAU} **Num. 35:30** "If anyone kills a person, the murderer shall be put to death..." // *Intended to stop murder!*

Marriage: For a man and a woman:

^{NAU} **Gen. 2:24** "...a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh."

Divorce: The LORD: ^{NAU} **Malachi 2:16** "...I hate divorce..." **USA rate is 33%; lower** for churchgoers; **higher** for non-churchgoers.

Family:

- **Wives submit:** ^{NAU} **Ephesians 5:22** *Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. // God is a God of order* (1 Cor. 11:3).
- **Husbands love:** ^{NAU} **Ephesians 5:25** *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her... // Men: think about Jesus' love and action for us; then supply the needs of your wife!*

- **Parents teach:** *Moses to parents:* ^{NIV} **Deuteronomy 6:6-9** "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts [known and lived]. Impress them on your children. [How?] **Talk** about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. **Tie** them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. **Write** them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."
- **Children obey:** ^{NIV} **Col. 3:20** Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. // *Parents represent God to their children!*
- **Children to parents:** ^{NIV} **1 Tim. 5:4** ...if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.

Gender and Appearance:

- **It is wrong to question our gender:** ^{NAU} **Is. 45:9** "Woe to the one who quarrels with his Maker... Will the clay say to the potter, 'What are you doing?'" // *The LORD never makes a mistake!*
- ^{NAU} **Deuteronomy 22:5** A woman shall not wear man's clothing, nor shall a man put on a woman's clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination [detestable, disgusting] to the LORD your God. // *Let us appear in the way the LORD has made us!*