THE REPROACH OF AMERICA

Al Brown

"Righteousness exalteth a nation; But sin is a reproach to any people" (Pro. 14:34).

Some may not wish it so, but this ancient truth is still as valid today as when it was first written. We live in a time when righteousness, truth, and goodness are demeaned; and wickedness, lying, and brutality are glorified and applauded. God's standard of morality has never been more blatantly ignored and even ridiculed. Many pay lip service to God. Some even profess to be a part of "Christendom" while utterly ignoring His will. Jesus says such people are headed for torment (Mat. 7:21-23).

The Lord does not allow anyone to compartmentalize his life, doing the will of God at times and then utterly ignoring it at other times when it is not convenient. Every person, whether he/she is a Christian or not, will be held responsible for what he does in this life (2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:11-15). God revealed His will to us so we can know how to live, treat other people, and worship God. Changing, replacing, or perverting His will (the Scriptures) will not excuse anyone at the Judgment (Gal. 1:6-9).

Most people in this country may not know the place where a moral principle is found in the Bible, but they know if a thing is wrong or not. Pure Christianity has impacted the world to that degree. James' warning applies to all people— not just Christians: "To him therefore that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (Jam. 4:17). When Americans put a stamp of approval on sin—any sin—this passage condemns them whether they ever acknowledge it or not.

All this means every person of accountable age must live by God's standard of righteousness or pay the eternal consequences. Showing approval for a lifestyle that God condemns (homosexuality) is immoral (Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9- 10). Approving the murder of unborn children is immoral (Exo. 21:22-25). "No fault" divorce is immoral (Mat. 19:9). Endorsing and voting for political candidates who enact laws legalizing such sin is immoral. These sins and others, are why America is in deep moral decline.~

Deceased