

There's Nothing Wrong in America

Introduction

1. Many would see the title of this lesson and say AMEN!
 - A. Because they see America as a great nation and surely there is nothing wrong in this country!
2. Yet others may see this title and also say AMEN!
 - A. Yet they see America's morality going to the dogs and an American people sitting back and condoning the evil that is taking place here!
3. There is a degenerating morality that is evident in American culture today.
 - A. Each degenerating step that is taken, the next step gets easier.
 - B. When a society accepts promiscuity, it is not so hard to accept homosexuality. When it accepts that, other perverted behavior seems less horrifying.
4. Therefore, it seems difficult for many in America to see anything as wrong.

Calling Evil Good

1. In Isaiah 5:18-24, the prophet of God thundered against the perversion and perverts of his day.
Isaiah 5:18-24
 - A. Such men pile sin upon sin, perversion upon perversion.
 - B. Ungodliness is pulled by cords of falsehood, to which they harnessed themselves (v18)

- C. They defy God to do anything about it, laughing at the threat of his judgment (v19)
 - D. No one can rebuke or restrain them because they are wise in their own eyes (v21)
 - E. Their moral vision is dimmed not only by arrogance and conceit but also by intoxicating drink (v22)
 - F. They justify the wicked and take away the rights of the ones who are in the right! (v23)
 - G. But God said their root and their blossom would rot, and be consumed as the fire devours the stubble (v24)
2. Today, America is condoning the perversion and perverts of our time.
- A. Many popular TV and music stars are vulgar in both their singing and actions.
 - 1) They perform in nothing more than undergarments leaving nothing to the imagination.
 - 2) They endorse one vulgar theme after another from promiscuity to homosexuality and other degeneracy!
 - B. Some are at the forefront of “*gay and lesbian rights.*”
 - C. Most are advocates of “*abortion rights.*”
 - 1) These stars are popular because America has made them popular.

3. How far will it go before our society stands up and shouts “enough”!
 - A. Our entertainment industry will continue to push the filth to make a buck!
 - 1) As long as Americans continue to buy and rent filthy movies, even movies that include cursing, it will continue to get worse!
 - a) But most will say that was a “good movie” if you overlook the language (CALLING EVIL GOOD)
 - B. The Bible speaks of such depravity and ungodly progression.

2 Timothy 3:13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

- 1) Never be deceived - there is a degenerating influence of evil!
- C. Homosexuality has now been labeled as "good". As long as it doesn't interfere with my life let them do their thing!
 - 1) The Bible clearly condemns homosexuality and other perversions!
Leviticus 18:22-23; 20:13-16
- D. Let us not be guilty of being caught up with the evils of America and call that which is evil “good”!

Where Have the Morals Gone?

1. It should not surprise us that Americans are making up their own rules and laws in establishing acceptable conduct.
 - A. "SIN" is a word that creates discomfort and most people desire it removed from the American vocabulary.
2. Webster defines "Morals" as: "relating to, dealing with, or capable of making the distinction between, right and wrong in conduct".
3. An article by David Schoenbrun in *Parade Magazine* (Dec 6, 1987) contrasted life in the 1950's and the life in the 1980's. As we look at some of these figures, we can see how much further America has digressed since the 1980's.
 - A. Births out-side the marriage relationship:
1950's.....4.5% 1980's..... 22%

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

- B. Divorce rate:
1957.....2.2 per 1000 1984.....5 per 1000

Matthew 5:32 But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.

- C. Other statistics based on *Divorce Magazine* (July 2008):
SEE CHART
- D. Professional jobs held by women:
1957.....35% 1986.....Most held by women
Titus 2:4-5

- 1) Women began leaving their God-given roles and followed their own desires.
- 2) Families left God's moral standard out of the picture.
- 3) More and more children come home from school with no one at home to supervise them - is it any wonder we're having trouble today?
 - a) Parents then ask "Where did we go wrong?" "Didn't we provide everything they needed?" ALL BUT LOVE AND CARE as God directs!
4. In many ways the 1950's were better than today because the highest moral code ever given to man was followed by a majority of the people!

A Shameless Society

1. The Lord's rebuke of ancient Israel, especially the priests and prophets, ought to serve as a warning for our modern society.

Jeremiah 6:15 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; **Nor did they know how to blush.** Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; At the time I punish them, They shall be cast down," says the LORD.

- A. They committed abomination and they were not ashamed of it.
 - 1) The Lord said "**they did not know how to blush**".
2. America has become a society that has forgotten how to blush!
 - A. Things that used to be done in darkness and in secret are now main street exhibitions - with no embarrassment!
 - B. Our society has become more and more shameless, not only in what it says and does, but also in the openness and boldness in which it is done.

- C. We are exposed to vulgarity and profanity daily on radio, TV, theaters, tapes, the marketplace, at school, at work, at social functions!
- 1) This is frightening because of what Paul wrote about the Pagan society of his day:
Romans 1:26-32
3. One manifestation of how Christians are being more and more affected by the general lack of shame in society is the growing problem of immodesty in dress among us.
- A. Many are being pulled in by shameless America. Those who profess to be New Testament Christians and the children for whom they are responsible!
- B. I have witnessed attire being worn in the public worship that should not be worn in any public place.
- 1) These have never developed a sense of shame or perhaps have completely lost it!
- 2) Christians are to have a sense of shame that is deep rooted in the character, expressed by their clothing and general conduct:
- 1 Timothy 2:9 in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety (**shamefacedness - KJV**) and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing
- 3) Shamefacedness is that modesty which is rooted in the character, that which is regretted.
- C. Usually immodest dress is but a symptom of a deeper problem, a character flaw --- an inward lack of shame that should characterize Christians.

What Are Christians to Do!

1. Though we live in a society that generally feels “there's nothing wrong”, are we to be so overwhelmed by it that we conclude that we and our families cannot be expected to live right in such an environment?
 - A. It is easy for us to avoid our responsibilities as Christians and parents and blame our failures on a shameless society.
 - 1) That is simply a cop-out!
 - B. Early Christians had to live in worse conditions yet were expected to live:

Philippians 2:15blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world

2. The saints at Ephesus had to live in a city where a fertility goddess, Diana, was worshiped.
 - A. Could Christians be expected to live right and teach their children right under these conditions?
 - 1) Notice what Paul wrote to the saints at Ephesus:
Ephesians 5:3-7; 6:4
 - 2) They were expected to live above the society around them and bring their children up right in spite of it!
3. The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations!
2 Peter 2:7-9
 - A. God has promised to help us if we will pursue godliness. It is hard, but we can do it!

