



upon the precious book divine

Reflections

October-December 2005

Volume 1, Number 6

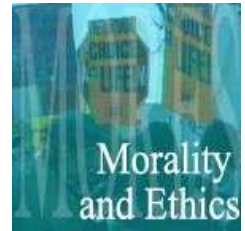
MORALITY MATTERS

- by Brant Stubblefield

Genesis 6:5

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

The overwhelming need for such an article as this is evident by the radical immorality that permeates the society in which we live. The world and her evil deeds are seemingly rushing into the blood bought church of our Lord at an alarming rate. For the glorious body of Christ to remain pure, as commanded by the apostle Paul, she must be educated, convicted, and wise enough to implement these sacred truths concerning the need for biblical morality.



“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”

(1 Peter 1:15-16)

What is morality? According to the American Heritage Dictionary of 1983, morality is defined as, “the quality of being moral, a system of conduct based on principles of right and wrong.”

Morality exists only because God exists. “The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God” (Psa. 14:1). It is foolish for several reasons. One of these is because of the fact that an undeniable set of moral laws exist on earth. Where, if not from God, did these laws that regulate morality come from? The system of atheism that denies the existence of God propagates the acceptance of wicked immorality. For example, why was Adolph Hitler so cruel, ungodly and vindictive? The final result of this man’s failure to recognize and pay proper respect to God can be seen in one bone-chilling phrase: The Holocaust. The lives of innumerable people were exterminated by the ignorance and rebellion of such hateful men as Adolph Hitler. According to the Bible, Satan along with Hitler will be cast into the lake of fire.

The apostle Paul reminds us, “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scripture might have hope” (Rom. 15:4). Thus, a true Bible student will often travel back to the Old Testament to gain pertinent inspired truths, such as “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Pro. 14:34). This powerful foregoing passage underscores two basic principles. First, the requirement God has for every nation to pursue His righteousness and moral laws. Second, the providence of God can and does elevate or destroy nations based on their willingness to be righteous, or their lack thereof. History, both biblically and secularly attest to these sobering facts of reality. Nevertheless, how can God expect nations to be righteous, if the individual citizens of the spiritual kingdom of God fail to be righteous? Thus, Peter commands each Christian to “be ye holy” (1 Pet. 1:16).

Immorality became rampant during the days before the universal flood. “And God saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thought of his heart was only evil continually” (Gen. 6:5). This verse stills speaks as a sad commentary on the spiritual condition of the entire population at that time, save eight souls (1 Pet. 3:20). When we, like those who stoned Stephen, “stop our ears” (Acts 7:57) from hearing the thoughts and principles of holiness, morality, and righteousness, we immediately become

Inside this issue:

What’s Wrong With Premarital Sex	2
Soul Mates! Gambling & Poverty	3
Ten Books For Your Library on Morality	4
Fellowhelpers	7
Neighborhood News	8

Genesis 11:6

And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

(Continued on page 6)

WHAT'S WRONG WITH PREMARITAL SEX?

- by Larry DeLong

Editor:

Brant Stubblefield

Associate Editor:

Rick Popejoy

Staff Writers:

Ben Bailey

Jerry Brewer

Landry Brewer

Nathan Brewer

Larry DeLong

David Dugan

Gary Henson

Richard Melson

Wayne Price

David Ray

Preston Silcox

Stephen Wiggins

Denny Wilson

Two consenting adults want to have sex before they get married. They have decided to give their relationship a “trial run” before they actually commit to marriage. Both come from broken homes and neither one wants to make a long term commitment until they’ve explored this very important facet of the marriage relationship. What could possibly be wrong with premarital sex under these or any other similar circumstances? Most people don’t have a problem with restricting “children” from sexual activity, but unfortunately, they don’t accept the restrictions God has placed on sexual relations for *all mankind*.

God is the Giver, Sustainer and Regulator of life. He didn’t create man and then turn him loose to do as he pleased. Just as God regulates the workings of the universe with various laws (e.g. Laws of Gravity, Inertia, Thermodynamics, etc), He also regulates man with moral law. In every dispensation, man has been regulated by the laws of God: the Patriarchal Law, the Law of Moses and the Law of Christ. These laws were not put in place to ruin man’s fun but rather to protect him and teach him to be more like his Creator.

Our loving Father has allowed man certain special privileges as he journeys through life here on earth. One of these privileges is sex. “Sex” has become a dirty word among much of society today because of man’s abuse, but in the beginning it was not so. God intended for man to procreate and multiply. After man’s fall, God told Eve, “I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children” (Gen. 3:16). Earlier, in Genesis 1:28, God told Adam and Eve, “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it.” The same command was given to Noah

and his wife and his sons and their wives after the flood (Gen. 9:1). God’s desire was for man to procreate through the process of sex, and He made it a pleasurable activity. However, there are restrictions.

God’s restriction on sexual activities is two-fold: it prohibits *extramarital* sex as well as *premarital* sex. Eve’s desire was to be for her husband (Gen. 3:16); not another woman’s husband, another man, another woman or some animal or object. The term “husband” refers to the “male partner *in marriage*” (Webster; emphasis mine, LD). This certainly agrees with the writer of the Hebrew letter when he said, “Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge” (Heb. 13:4). Notice he said, by inspiration, that the marriage bed is undefiled. There is nothing dirty about sex, as long as you are a man and a woman who are married to each other! Engaging in sex outside of marriage renders you a whoremonger or an adulterer, regardless of what justification you seek for participating in such. The word “whoremonger” is translated from the Greek word *pornos* which “denotes a man who indulges in fornication, a fornicator” (Vine’s Expository Dictionary). Fornication refers to any illicit sex; adultery refers to illicit sex within a marriage. There is no doubt that illicit sex, whether before or after marriage, is a sin and condemned by God. The restrictions on sexual activities were put in place by God for man’s good.

There are many dangers for those involved in premarital sex. Man’s lack of self-control has resulted in the rampant spread of sexual diseases. Some of these diseases are incurable, some will be

(Continued on page 7)

SOUL MATES! GAMBLING & POVERTY

- by Kevin Rhodes

Gambling advocates across this country generally attempt to sell their product based upon economic factors, citing increased revenue for government, the creation of many new jobs, and the benefit to surrounding businesses due to an assurance of a boom of new customers who are in the area primarily to gamble. Where state lotteries have passed, the prospect of more money for education and the promise of “rags to riches” for the winners have driven the polls. In short, the gambling industry promotes itself as the answer for every

economic problem society might have. Unfortunately, the masses often buy in to their marketing as if it were a zero-sum game. Gambling does indeed create revenue—mostly for the casino owners. Moreover, gaming has so many detrimental side effects that the revenue created for government quickly evaporates due to the inherent scorching effects of the practice. Gambling preys upon the poor to make them poorer and drains the economy of investment potential due to the dollars spent investing in covetousness (Col. 3:5). Gambling and poverty are soul mates.

While the gambling industry boasts of increasing state revenue, proponents rarely acknowledge the actual source of that revenue. Texas State Representative Charlie Howard sarcastically addressed a recent gambling expansion proposal in the Texas legislature in terms of its negative economic impact: **(If Gambling Wins, Texans Lose, *The Link Letter,***

April 2005, p. 1)

According to a Texas study, minorities will pay an average of twice what whites will pay. High school dropouts will pay four times what college graduates will pay. Those making \$20,000-\$30,000 will pay four times what those making over \$100,000 will pay—and the difference is even more drastic when you measure the percent of income they will spend on this tax. The particular benefit of this tax is that it is addictive, so the 5% who spend the most on this tax will account for about 50% of the taxes received. Unfortunately, the side effects include crime, broken families, debt, and increased substance abuse, but we should ignore these because the tax will bring jobs to our state.

In pursuit of unearned wealth, the poorest in society voluntarily make themselves poorer, often gambling away money that should have paid for basic necessities of life. As a result, those who gamble must resort to other means to find funds for these needs as well as additional money with which to gamble. Some resort to crime. The 2001 Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Reports indicates that in Atlantic City, a haven for gamblers, burglaries occur at about twice the national rate and theft at four times the national rate (Atlantic City NJ Crime Statistics, 2001). These are entry-level crimes aimed at making needed money quickly—exactly what a gambler would find useful. When living in the Kansas City area during the height of the Riverboat Casino debate and expansion, I did not have to go the Missouri river to know that the Riverboats had arrived. I only had to observe the rise in the number of pawnshops in the area. In fact, they began building as soon as the proposal passed, knowing that they would have adequate business. But who provides goods to a pawnshop? Comfortable, middle class, recreational gamblers? I don't

think so. Pawnbrokers know that most gamblers are poor and will sell things at bargain prices to get money with which to gamble. They also know that those same people are seldom able to buy back what they pawned.

Although crime does go hand in hand with gambling, not every gambler becomes a criminal. Some simply finance their gambling debts with credit cards, that is, until they cannot pay these bills either. In an August 2000 study, researchers “found statistically significant increases at the county level in the number of personal bankruptcy filings due to the introduction of gambling.” (Barron, Staten, and Wilshusen, *The Impact of Casino Gambling on Personal Bankruptcy Filing Rates* Washington, D.C.: Credit Research Center, McDonough School of Business, Georgetown University, August 18, 2000. pp. 15-16). Chad Hills, revising the work of Ron Reno, cites the evidence in just one state to powerful effect: “Personal bankruptcy filings in Nevada have risen from 6,112 in 1990 to 19,274 in 2002, an increase of 215% in just over a decade. Nevada is ranked third nationally for personal

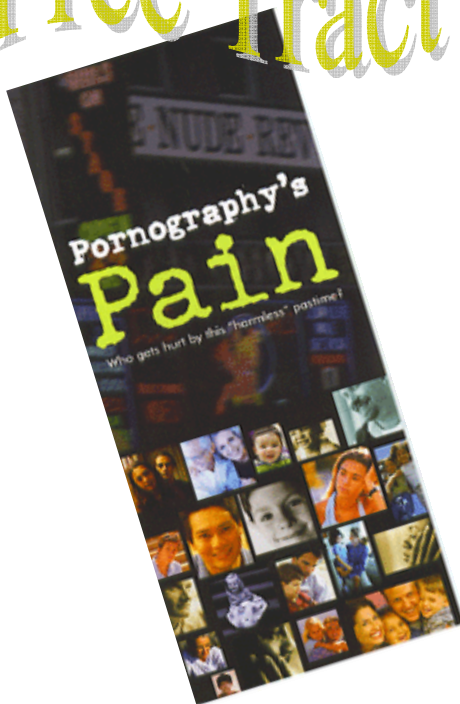


(Continued on page 7)

Morality



Free Tract



For the first 1000 readers who send a self-addressed stamped envelope - the staff of *Reflections* will send you a free tract on **Pornography's Pain** by Allen Webster.

In keeping with our subject matter for this issue, the staff of *Reflections* offers this list of books for your careful consideration and astute reading. [Note: just because a book is listed does not mean that we endorse the author, other works of the author or the entire work itself.]

The Disciplined Life

Author: Richard Taylor Publisher: Beacon Hill Press

“Too often young people who leave home, students who quit school, husbands and wives who seek divorce, church members who neglect services, employees who walk out on their jobs are simply trying to escape discipline. The true motive may often be camouflaged by a hundred excuses, but behind the flimsy front is the hard core of aversion to restraint and control.” There are two parts to this good read: *The Place & Path of Discipline in Christian Living*. In the *Path to Discipline* Taylor discusses fourteen basic principles that will lead to a more disciplined life.

Between Two Worlds

Author: John R.W. Stott Publisher: Eerdmans

Although the book is designed for preachers in mind, the real key of this book for the member is found in chapter two: *Contemporary Objections to Preaching* wherein Stott discusses: the anti-authority mood; the cybernetics revolution; and the churches loss of confidence in the gospel. The section beginning on page 69 entitled, *The Influence of Television* is worth the cost of the book.

The Book of Virtues

Author: William J. Bennett Publisher: Simon & Schuster

The subtitle says it all, “a treasury of great moral stories.” Every parent can now have the best of the great works of literature in one volume. Responsibility, courage, compassion, honesty, friendship, persistence are worthy character traits. As Paul would say of the fruit of the Spirit: “against such there is no law” (Gal. 5:23). My daughter’s personal favorite is “Daddy, Someone Sees You From Above.” This is a good book for any library. William Bennett’s follow-up *The Moral Compass* is another fine book for parents.

Moral – From Man or God?

Edited: David P. Brown Publisher: Gospel Light Publishing

The 2005 Spring Lectureship book is a good up-to-date replacement for the Shenandoah book, now out of print. Each chapter was written by faithful gospel preachers from around the globe. This 670 page volume is a great asset to any library. The editor writes, “[a]ny ethical system not derived from and governed by the morality of the Bible is palpably false. It must be rejected and vigorously opposed.”

The Battle for the Mind

Author: Tim LaHaye Publisher: Revell

The Humanizing of America is the thrust of this book and is handled very well by LaHaye. The author writes, “[h]umanism is a man-centered philosophy that attempts to

solve the problems of man and the world independently of God.” Humanism, he writes, is “based on two Protagoras’s fifth century B.C. misconceptions: ‘Man is the measure of all things’ and ‘Contradictory assertions are equally true.’” Although the book is a bit dated, the chapter dealing with *Your Incredible Brain* and the illustrations make this one of my continual favorites. To be a good soldier we must know what we are fighting against. This book will aid the Christian in that endeavor.

In the Ruins of the Church

Author: R.R. Reno Publisher: Westminster John Knox Press

“Our modernist heritage and postmodern sophistication have trained us well. We take care of ourselves, virtuously avoiding pain, rewarding ourselves with pleasure. Thanks to this thorough cultural training, we often approach the church with the same self-protective posture. Faced with the failures, hypocrisies, and faithlessness in the church, we fall back on the modern strategy we’ve learned so well: we simply keep our distance.”

The Bible & Mental Health

Author: Wayne Jackson Publisher: Courier Publications

Which of us who struggle either on the front lines or on the home front have not grown “weary in well doing”? In this volume, the author has directed attention to the Sacred Scriptures as the richest source of information for the soundness of the human spirit.

Biblical Ethics

Editor: Terry Hightower Publisher: Austin McGary & Company

The Sixth Annual Shenandoah Lectureship was a landmark book and has been very popular. The authors include faithful gospel preachers from around the globe. In the forward, the editor writes, “[i]n this book, we approach this crucial subject with the viewpoint that (1) God exist and (2) that the Bible is His final revelation to His human creatures. The Scriptures constitute the ‘bottom line’ of the decision-making process, superceding mere (unaided) human reason, church tradition, and the natural and the social sciences.” If you can find this 820 pages volume – buy it.

Adrift

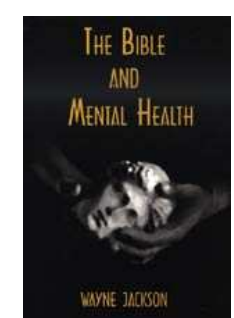
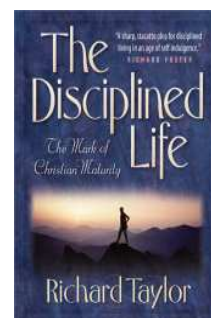
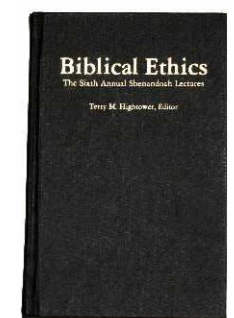
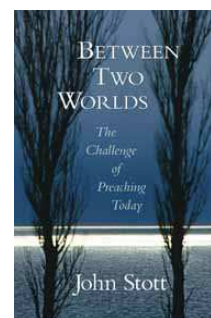
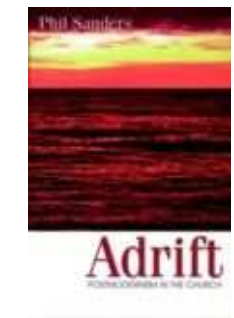
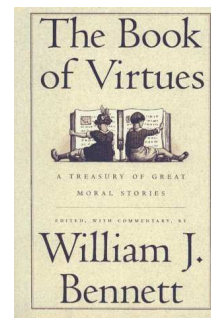
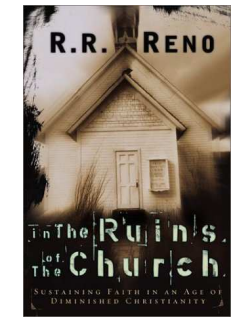
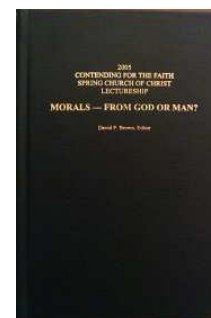
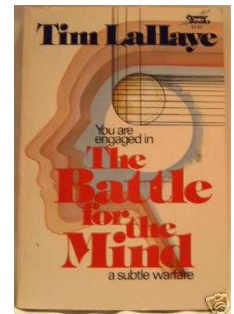
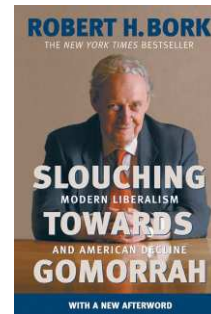
Author: Phil Sanders Publisher: Gospel Advocate

“Change takes place in every facet of life, and the church certainly is no exception. This volume explores attempts by those who advocate postmodernism (the idea that there is no such thing as absolute truth) to usher radical changes into the twenty-first century church, and provides practical, scriptural ways to combat such changes. Its thirteen chapters and subsequent discussion questions provide an excellent structure for classroom settings.”

Slouching Towards Gomorrah

Author: Robert H. Bork Publisher: Regan Books

“A nation’s moral life is the foundation of its culture” writes Judge Robert H. Bork. Here is a “must-read” a “thesis that cannot be ignored” and a “brilliant blend of passionate conviction and sustained argument. May be the most important book of the ‘90’s” are among the many reviews that this book has received by its peers. If you are interested in a historical review of the decline of American society, this is the book for you.



(Continued from page 1)

open prey for Satan who is “seeking whom he may devour” (1 Pet. 5:8).

If we are honest, we concede the comment that God made in Genesis 6:5 was one that was long in the making. Sin entices, builds, and continues to expand to the point that it can quickly engulf our entire lives if we do not consistently, “put on the whole armour of God” (Eph. 6:10). Stand firm brethren!

The true church of Christ has always been opposed to immorality (1 Cor. 5). Immorality, because it goes beyond the limits that God has prescribed is nothing less than sinful (1 Jho. 3:4). We fight the same battles again and again! One of the most serious issues today is not over the fact that the “whole world lieth in wickedness” (1 Jho. 5:19), but the seemingly tolerant attitude displayed by members of the church concerning sin. This soft-peddling and watered down idea of Christianity will be punished by God just as sure as homosexuality in its unrepented state! Many brethren today are not taking a solid stand against such moral filth as homosexuality.

Homosexuality is sinful (1 Cor. 6:9-11), and those who persist in such an “unseemly” (Rom. 1:27) condition are said to be “worthy of death” (Rom. 1:32). This death is described in Revelation 2:14, where the Bible says, “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.” Homosexuality is wicked for several reasons. First, it is without biblical precedence or example. One can read from cover to cover and never discover two men or two women having sexual intercourse, as approved by God. Since all things must be authorized by God (Col. 3:17), Christians wholeheartedly reject the “myth” that such defilement of the flesh is approved in Scripture. Second, the divine institution of marriage, created and ordained by

God is strictly between, “male and female” (Gen. 2:22-24; Mat. 19:4). Such a union is “honourable” (Heb. 13:4). However, all sexual intercourse outside the bounds of a God-ordained marriage becomes nothing more than “vile affections” (Rom. 1:26). Listen to the words of inspiration recorded: “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them. And God blessed them and said unto them, be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth and subdue it” (Gen. 1:27-28).

How can a so called homosexual marriage fulfill such? Is it any wonder why the apostle Paul warned of such evil behavior as “against nature” (Rom. 1:26)? In fact, these immoral souls who were, “professing themselves to be wise, became fools” (Rom. 1:22) and because of that, “God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves” (Rom. 1:24).

Homosexuality, like bestiality is a gross lifestyle that seeks, “pleasure in them” (Rom. 1:32) as they “burn in their lust one toward another” (Rom. 1:27) through seeking an unnatural physical abuse of their own body. Again inspiration records this language, as “abusers of themselves with mankind” (1 Cor. 6:9). No wonder the Bible says, “they did not like to retain God in their knowledge” (Rom. 1:28). Like all “willful sin” (Heb. 10:26), those who are given over to this moral filth must immediately seek help.

The Bible is God’s inspired word (2 Tim. 3:16-17), and all things that “pertain to life and godliness” (2 Pet. 1:3) are found therein. The Holy Spirit, who actively works through the instrumentality of the Sacred Text, has the power to prick the most wicked of men. That is why the word God is “quick and powerful” (Heb. 4:12).

Brothers and sisters, friends and neighbors, we are living in times of uncertainty and an identity crisis is among us. Will the true people of God stand “strong and courageous” (Jos. 2:8) against the liberal left wing agenda that seeks to push the acceptance of homosexuality down our throats? We have been commissioned by God to “contend earnestly for the faith” (Jude 3) and to “speak the truth in love” (Eph. 4:15). For too long our pulpits in many places have been as silent as a church mouse on such controversial subjects as homosexuality. I fear that the day has come in the churches of Christ that many “professional ministers” are weakened by pressures within and without to the extent, that they have fallen prey to politics. Such men have contributed to an apostasy that has already begun among us. Brethren, with all the zeal, courage, strength and might we can produce, may we like the apostle Paul be able to say with honesty and conviction, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith” (2 Tim. 4:7). Preachers of the gospel are commanded to “declare the whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27), lest we stand before the throne of Judgment having the blood of countless souls drip from our cowardice hands. Morality matters. The problem of immorality will not be corrected merely through politics, etc. True wholesome living will only be found where the Bible is taught (2 Tim. 4:2; Acts 17:11), God is feared (Ecc. 12:13) and His word is obeyed (Rev. 22:14).

Preachers must realize the sobering fact of reality that we will be judged on what we say, teach and preach and on what we fail to say, teach and preach. Possibly, that is what James had in mind as he through the Spirit said, “My brethren be not many teachers, knowing we shall receive the great condemnation” (Jas. 3:1). Think on these things! ~R

F “We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth” - 3 Jho. 8
E L L O W H E L P E R S **S**

In Memory:



In memory of “Swampy” Rhodes
 Ethel M. Rhodes (Duncan, OK)
 \$1000.00
 Pikes Peak Church of Christ
 (Colorado Springs, CO) \$35.00

In memory of Ouida Gordon

Thelma Childress (OKC, OK) \$50.00
 Illene McKee (Lindsay, OK) \$50.00

Churches:

Southwest Church of Christ (Ada, OK) \$200.00
 Church of Christ (Durham, OK) \$300.00
 Church of Christ (Willow, OK) \$100.00
 Church of Christ (Elmore City, OK) \$400.00
 Church of Christ (Marlow, OK) \$5000.00

(Continued from page 2)

passed on to your children, and some are deadly. Diseases such as AIDS, herpes, gonorrhea and syphilis have exploded to epidemic proportions. Your participation in illicit sex puts you, your partner and your family at risk for dangerous and even deadly diseases.

Premarital sex does not strengthen or improve the chance of having an enduring marriage. In fact, statistics have proven that it actually hinders marital faithfulness and increases the chance of divorce. People who are used to “shopping around” and “sampling the merchandise” usually don’t stop doing so just because they’re married. People who can’t make a long-term commitment before marriage, certainly don’t make good candidates for a long-term marriage. Additionally, those who have engaged in premarital sex will often unfairly “critique” their spouse, comparing them to previous sexual partners. When the marriage partner doesn’t “perform” to anticipated standards, extramarital

Individuals:

Anonymous (Tuttle, OK) \$500.00
 Anonymous (Lindsay, OK) \$619.00
 Wesley & Lorella Wilson (Newcastle, OK) \$200.00
 Ret. SGM Willie F. Cummings (Lawton, OK) \$25.00
 Betty Jo Mackey (Fox, OK) \$30.00
 Calvin & Edith Mae Adams (Mustang, OK) \$25.00
 James & Nancy Davis (Ada, OK) \$25.00
 Nina P. Owens (Temple, OK) \$50.00
 Maude Duke (Maysville, OK) \$20.00
 Lynda Russell (Lindsay, OK) \$50.00
 Anonymous (Lindsay, OK) \$80.00
 Anonymous (Lindsay, OK) \$441.00
 David & Louise Jennings (Ft. Gibson, OK) \$200.00
 Antonio Vacchio (Yukon, OK) \$30.00
 Robert B. Moore (Marlow, OK) \$20.00
 Catherine Moore (Marlow, OK) \$40.00

sex or divorce becomes the “way out.”

Most importantly, continued participation in illicit sexual activity has eternal consequences. We don’t have to guess what the punishment will be. By inspiration the apostle Paul wrote, “Adultery, fornication...and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:19-21). John said, “whoremongers... shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (Rev. 21:8). Premarital sex, if not repented of, will cause one to lose their soul and their eternal resting place will be the lake of fire. It is that serious!

Premarital sex isn’t an innocent past-time we can indulge in with God’s approval, regardless of how the world portrays it. It is sin, and sin always produces devastation, both now and in eternity. So please, refrain from all illicit sexual activity. Don’t let Satan fool you into thinking you’ll be the “exception” to the rule.

Wayne & Marie Loafman (Lindsay, OK) \$100.00
 Bill E. & Joanne R. Smith (OKC, OK) \$100.00
 Anonymous (Lindsay, OK) \$434.00
 Joe E. & El Doris E. Tate (OKC, OK) \$25.00
 Don R. & Anna M. Siders (Enid, OK) \$50.00
 Lorinda Weisen (Duncan, OK) \$75.00
 Samony Croy (Comanche, OK) \$200.00
 Huber Enterprises (OKC, OK) \$10.00
 Mary Pursey (Yukon, OK) \$25.00
 Roy & Wanda Trout (Carthage, TX) \$552.00
 Anonymous (Dimmitt, TX) \$150.00
 Anonymous (Lindsay, OK) \$488.00
 James & Evelyn Record (OKC, OK) \$25.00

In Honor:

Otis & Virginia Martin’s October birthdays
 Noma D. Johnson (Sentinel, OK) \$50.00

(Continued from page 3)

bankruptcy in 2002.” (*All That Glitters...*, November 24, 2003, Focus on the Family, Citizenlink, www.family.org). Gambling not only makes the poor even poorer, it can also take those who are least financially stable and turn them into the dregs of society. Furthermore, the impact of these financial problems contributes to numerous family problems, including divorce, leaving not one, but two families in poverty.

Perhaps the truth about gambling has finally awakened society. In 2003, only three out of forty-five proposals to expand gambling passed (*Score Card: Gambling Expansion In 2003*, January 20, 2004, Focus on the Family, Citizenlink, www.family.org). But the monster is already there, lurking and stalking society itself. Gambling and poverty are indeed soul mates, but Christians should not measure the ultimate cost of gambling solely by its negative impact on the economy but by its eternal impact on the soul.

~R

~R



May our neighborhood increase!

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

If you enjoy reading, the books listed on pages 4-5 will be an assist to any library. Many of the

books on the list can be ordered from Tucker and Donna Williams, owners and operators of **The Christian Family Bookstore** at www.tuckerbooks.com or by calling 1.800.782.8175.



Radio Stations:

The Words of Life

Sunday @ 7:30 am

KOOL 105.5 FM,

Chickasha, OK

Sunday @ 8:30 am

KBLP 105.1 FM,

Lindsay, OK

Sunday @ 7:30 am

KTLS 106.5 FM,

Ada, OK

Wednesday @ 12:30 pm

KECO 96.5 FM,

Elk City, OK

Friday @ 11:00 am

KEOR 1110 AM,

Atoka, OK

Saturday @ 8:30 am

KKFC 105.5 FM,

Ada, OK

Saturday @ 4:30 pm

KTLV 1220 AM,

Oklahoma City, OK

Preacher Training Student

If you are a congregation or individual looking for a young man to support in preparing for the work of preaching the glorious gospel of our Lord then look no further. Caleb Popejoy is now working with the church in Lindsay, Oklahoma till school starts this next Summer. Working with Brant and the elders at Lindsay will afford him both the time and experience to begin the process of training. He is presently preaching on Sunday's the church in Wynnewood, Oklahoma till they locate a preacher. As budget time approaches, please give prayerful consideration as to how the congregation that you are a part of can assist with this young man's training. If you would like to contact Caleb or one of the elders at Lindsay about this work, please call 1.405.756.2366.



Brewing On Marriage - by Landry Brewer

(This article has been modified for space, rlp)

To say that the home has fallen on hard times in America would certainly be an understatement. One out of two marriages ends in divorce. The home is the foundation of society but as the home fractures, society's foundation cracks. How long can a society last without a solid foundation? When a man and woman work together to make their marriage what God wants it to be (Eph. 5:23-31), the home functions as it should, and society is stable. So make your first marriage your only marriage, and raise your children in a loving home where God's word is taught (Eph. 6:1-4).



upon the precious book divine

Reflections

1205 W. Cherokee
Lindsay, Oklahoma 73052

**Pre-Sort
Standard
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit # 76
LINDSAY, OK**