

THE BIBLE VIEW

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We Have Lost Our Way

Bill Brinkworth

Since America's inception in 1620, God has always been the One whom the country's citizens relied on and whom they followed. Most knew, and many followed, His written commandments in the Bible. His standards enabled people to dwell together

There was always a clear understanding of what was right and what was wrong, as many laws and practices were derived from biblical principles. Crimes were quickly recognized and quickly dealt with. It was understood that if the violation of law went undealt with, it would not be a deterrent for future law-breaking. Laws were made and followed.

Butchering of unborn babies would not have been even considered fifty years ago. Torture was something the ungodly did, not a Christian nation. Work was something that people were proud to do; and it was a shame not to have a job, or to even take someone else's aid when one was not employed.

There were clear understandings of the differences in sexes and their abilities and responsibilities. Marriage was special, and most decent folks would not even consider pre-marital sex as they knew it could lead to social ruin, lack of respect, and other shameful situations.

Teachers were known for their outstanding, moral examples and their decisions and discipline were rarely questioned. Police were honored and respected. Citizens were usually treated equally as a whole, and not different treatments for different groups. Christians usually were better examples of behavior and examples for those facing difficulties, because they followed biblical principles.

After having clearly defined social standards for centuries, something changed. One by one the standards were slowly eroded. Perhaps they were ignored because those guilty of doing something not socially accepted ignored ridicule or publicly encouraged others to accept their sin. Soon convicting consciences no longer had control of people's characters, and people did what changing standards allowed. Moral boundaries were moved further to the left or obliterated completely

It was not long until unprincipled people gained governmental powers. They helped society legislate what was once recognized as immoral. These leaders passed unbiblical laws. Perhaps it was just a means to get more votes, but it pushed overall morality further down the slope of decline. The public allowed these changes to occur and often did not even balk about such legislation.

Since moral measurements were lowered, many immoral philosophies crept into public bully-pulpits such as schools, radio, and television. Thoughts that were previously taboo were now the center of television program and movies. Away from parental control and knowledge, public education became a means of indoctrination of unbiblical philosophies.

Saturation of social input continued to corrupt and confuse morality. Forbidden practices were often initially introduced in comedy television programs. Soon what earlier was unmentionable activities, were now giggled at and accepted more readily. Homosexuality, drunkenness, adultery, law-breaking, and other sins gained acceptance by constant brainwashing on television, movies, and even video games. Those once forbidden practices were now no longer “bad”; they were “entertainment”.

After decades of watered down morality and social engineering, a nation emerged that did not know what was really right, and what was wrong. Men, women, and children now do what is right in their own eyes, as the moral compass God left for man to succeed was discarded.

“In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” Judges 17:6.
Also: Job 32:1, Prov.12:15, Prov. 16:2, Prov. 21:2.

This is why our country and world are in the situation they are in today. Murder is not the fault of guns, nor is it totally the abortion clinic’s fault for butchering millions of young

babies. It also is not totally the fault of some chemicals that there are so many addictions. One cannot blame the government for not having enough laws to stop or curb the out-of-control crime.

The fault for man's decline falls rightly on each man, women, and child for not knowing and obeying God's preserved truths. Society will always fail, when God's roadmap through life is ignored! Only if His Word is believed and followed will mankind find His way again!

“Most often, today's ‘morality’ is yesteryears immorality! Morality's measuring tool has been altered!” — Bill Brinkworth

Is ‘Religion’ Relevant Today?

Bill Brinkworth

“There is no need for religion anymore. Many of us don't even believe there is a God!” quipped the self-proclaimed atheist.

“Is stealing wrong? I asked.

“Why of course it is!” retorted the liberal defiantly.

“Well, where did that moral standard come from?”

“I have no idea. It's been known forever.”

“It was one of the many commandments God gave Israel 1,500 years before Christ.”

“Well, how do you know that’s true?”

“It is found in the Bible.” I continued, “Is adultery wrong?”

“Why sure. Once you are married you shouldn’t fool around.”

“That’s in the Bible, too. Is lying wrong?”

“Of course.”

“It’s also in the Bible, as are not committing idolatry, respecting God and parents, not killing, not stealing, not coveting what others have, and hundreds of other moral principles, many of which are still to be obeyed today.

“Obeying them will not guarantee anyone’s going to Heaven, but those standards must be upheld if people are to coexist. Without those guidelines, there would be anarchy, and man would destroy others and himself. See, there is a need for what you call ‘religion’. Without God’s guidelines, man would be way out of control,” I explained.

The countenance of the unbeliever had now changed. “Well, it makes sense. I never thought of it that way.”

“That’s why all the bad things are happening today. There are no moral guidelines, and every man is doing what he

thinks is right. Unfortunately, 'right' is different for each person and is constantly changing. God created man and knows that he needs His direction. That is why He made sure all mankind would always have His wisdom. Only His way will work. The Bible, which is often mistakenly identified as 'religion'. may be an old book, but its truths must be followed for any people to live together. It is still relevant and always will be."

"The reason you don't like the Bible, you old sinner, is because it knows all about you!" — Billy Sunday

The Bible's Permanent Value

Cecil, 1748-1810

Whatever use man makes of the Bible, the standard of truth, the standard itself remains fixed, tried, and unimpaired. When I read a great author, such as Lord Bacon, I find that time has discovered many errors, and rendered obsolete many positions, to be found in that most comprehensive of human minds. But, I see that time can take nothing from the Bible.

I find it a living monitor. Like the sun, it is the same in its light and influence to man this day, which it was ages ago. It can meet every current inquiry. It can console under every present loss; and it can become, in God's hand, a daily exciting cause of growth and comfort.

"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever." *Isaiah 40:8*