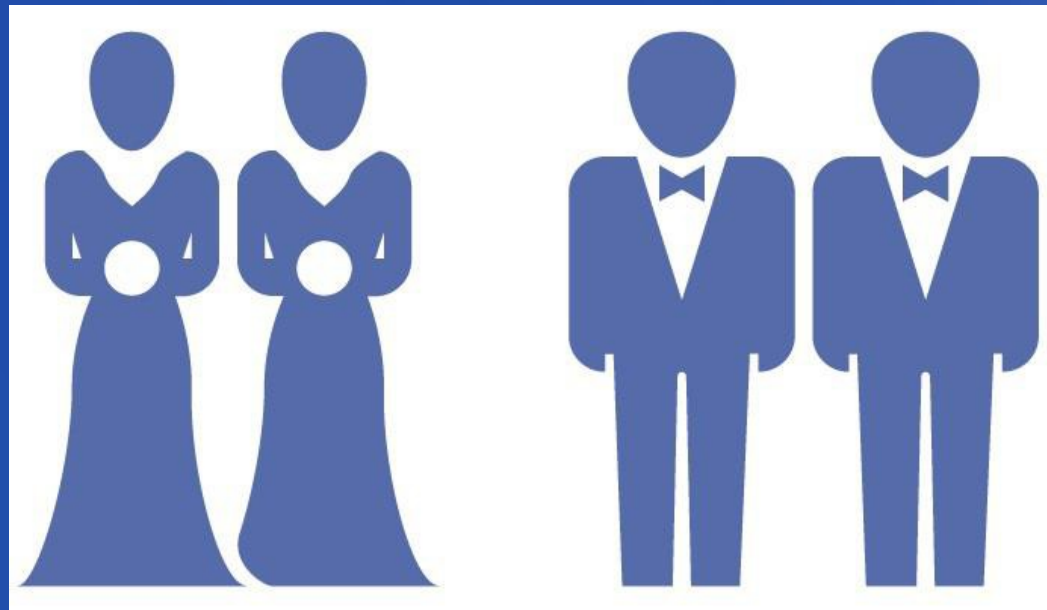


Homosexual Marriage

What should be our response and understanding of the Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriage?

2 Chronicles 7:14



2 Chronicles 7:14

- If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

June 26, 2015 Ruling

- SCOTUS (Supreme Court of the United States) announced a 5-4 decision that same sex marriage is legal in all states and that other states must recognize it as legal.
- There are many questions and issues that arise from this for faithful Christians.

• **WHAT ARE CHRISTIANS
TO DO?**

1 – Do not Panic

- Marriage is still what God said it is.
- SCOTUS is powerful – but there is a higher court
- God is not required to accept what a human court has decided.

2 – Pray for those in Power

- Romans 13:1-7
- 1 Timothy 2:1-3
- We have the freedom to disagree with this ruling. We can express our disagreement.
- But, let's be Biblical, respectful. We don't have to be rude or vindictive.

3 – Get ready for more!

- You ain't seen nothing yet!
- Waiting for this ruling were many lawyers and groups – who are now rejoicing.
- The same twisted logic that was given for this ruling – can be applied to many other situations.

3 – Get ready for more!

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- **Polyandry** – 1 woman, multiple men

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- **Pedophile** – marry a young person

4 – Don't treat Bible as SCOTUS treated the Constitution

- Constitution and Bible are often called living documents.
- This means that it does not mean what it says but what I think it ought to mean. It is believed that the meaning must change with the times.
- Many in the church are doing this with worship, music, women's role, and other moral and spiritual issues.
- To many, the Bible means whatever they think it ought to say.

5 – Follow this rule – Hate the sin, but love the sinner.

- This is what God does with us.
- This is what we do with ourselves.
- It is how we must approach the prostitute, drug addict, homosexual, thief, murderer, etc.
- We must speak out against the sin. Remember to speak about the **SIN**, not the **SINNER**.

6 – Be Prepared to Suffer

- Businesses are being persecuted if that disagree – wedding cake, florist, reception halls
- The SCOTUS assured that we have individual freedom to disagree – BUT - - -
- Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, city officials have laid down the law to Christian pastors within their community, telling them bluntly via an ordinance that if they refuse to marry homosexuals, they will face jail time and fines.

6 – Be Prepared to Suffer

- **Potential problems for Christians and churches**
- Remove tax exemption status
- Order ministers to perform these marriages
- Forced to hire a homosexual preacher or youth minister

6 – Be Prepared to Suffer

- **Potential problems for Christians and churches**
- Christian Universities with married housing
- Courses on marriage / family counseling
- Christian foster placement / adoption agencies

6 – Be Prepared to Suffer

- **Acts 5:40-41** 40 And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.

6 – Be Prepared to Suffer

- **Are we prepared to suffer the consequences of obeying God rather than man?**
- **Acts 5:29** But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men."