**AMOS LESSON 21 (05-22-16)** AMOS 3, pg. 34

***Amos 3:10 "But they do not know how to do what is right", declares the LORD, "these who hoard up violence and devastation in their citadels."***

This is not a good time to be a young female living in the U.S.

**From Men In Women's Bathrooms To Women In ISIS Foxholes**

*The Obama administration's gender-bending social experiments know no bounds. Women made vulnerable in Obama's bathroom wars could soon find themselves in a literal 'cut the throats or shoot the heads off of your enemy' war, warns this retired female Marine gunnery sargeant. And there are big-name Republicans whose fingerprints are all over this "equality" plan. WND, 5-21-16*

A retired female U.S. Marine Corps gunnery sergeant said that it is a

huge mistake to put women into combat. She said that America's active-duty daughters 'can now involuntarily be assigned to infantry 'because lawmakers and policy makers don’t know what they’re talking about.

Also, momentum of the idea of requiring women to register for the draft is unmistakable.

# *Has America Lost The Will To Survive?*

## *****By Chuck Baldwin, May 19, 2016*****

*The big question is: are the moms and dads of America's public school children going to stand for this perversity that is going to directly affect their children? Are they really going to sit back and give their sons and daughters over to the government-mandated corruption of the innocence and moral purity of our nation's schoolchildren? Lt. Gov. Patrick predicts the implementation of this order will be the “end of public education.” But will it? Will the parents of America actually resist this blatant attempt to invade not only the bathrooms and showers but also the moral conscience of their children? Or will they passively allow their children to be subjected to this grotesque and overt attempt to destroy their moral conscience?*

*William Wilberforce, the famed British statesman who was primarily responsible for ending the slave trade in Great Britain, astutely observed, “It is a truth attested by the history of all ages and countries, and established on the authority of the ablest writers, both ancient and modern …that the religion and morality of a country, especially of every free community, are insepa-rably connected with its preservation and welfare; that their flourishing or declining state is the sure indication of its tending to prosperity or decay. It has even been expressly laid down, that a people grossly corrupt are incapable of liberty.”*

*This is not a conservative or liberal issue. And at its core, it is not even a religious issue. This is an issue about the most fundamental duty that responsible adults have in a civilized society: the responsibility to safeguard their posterity. Failure at this level would mean that this country no longer has the will or reason to survive.*

***If this order is allowed to be fully implemented, this nation is toast.*** *In the entire history of the world, no nation has ever survived once it has given itself--and especially its children--over to universal moral corruption. Ever. And giving our children over to moral corruption is exactly what Obama’s proclamation does.*

*This is not a conservative or liberal issue. And at its core, it is not even a religious issue. This is an issue about the most fundamental duty that responsible adults have in a civilized society: the responsibility to safeguard their posterity.*

***Failure at this level would mean that this country no longer has the will or reason to survive.***

**Family Research Council**, 5-20-16 AMOS 3, pg. 35

*What kind of country forces Marines* [*to scavenge parts to keep their planes flying*](http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2016/04/17/budget-cuts-leaving-marine-corps-aircraft-grounded.html)*, but has no problem paying for new parts for the gender-confused? Yours! Welcome to the sick world of the Obama administration, where taxpayer-funded sex changes are just the latest example of a presidency completely off the rails.*

*The Obama administration took its agenda from the principal’s office to the doctor’s office. In a quiet rule change, Health and Human Services lowered the transgender boom on every hospital, physician, and insurer in America.*

*It’s demanding that the entire health care industry include gender transition treatments as part of their services. Refuse, the president’s team warns, and kiss your Medicare and Medicaid dollars goodbye. And it gets worse: the rule doesn’t include a single religious exemption. [Ten] years after having the surgery, the transgendered began to experience increasing mental difficulties. Most shockingly, their suicide mortality rose almost 20-fold above the comparable non-transgender population.”*

**WND: Stunner! Obama Names Transgender To Faith Post**

*“Obama did something that was actually designed to promote religious freedom and respect for religion and he subverts it by putting in a transgender activist from a liberal church who is at odds with the God of the universe,”*

Our out-of-touch-with-reality president is now singlehandedly trying to legislate perversion with letters sent nationwide in an effort to destroy our children’s modesty, morality, and safety. Implementing this order would institutionalize licentiousness and corruption. What he is trying to do is unconstitutional, indecent, immoral, unbiblical, and disgraceful. This president has done many things that demand his impeachment, but none worse than this!

The question is, **“What will People do about it?”**

Are the people ready to declare their refusal to comply or to tolerate such insanity under any circumstances?

Are they ready to cry out against this outrage and hold people in office accountable who are supposed to be representing them? Will they do whatever it takes to stop it?

Shame on any Congressman, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Judge, Mayor, City Councilman, or Sherriff who fail to protect the people they represent from this evil. And double shame on them if they are Christians!

Are people ready to insist that this president be impeached as well as other government officials who support or comply with this disgusting, indecent, perverted edict?

***Psalm 94:16-19 Who will stand up for me against evildoers? Who will take his stand for me against those who do wickedness? 17) If the LORD had not been my help, my soul would soon have dwelt in the abode of silence. 18) If I should say, "My foot has slipped," Your loving kindness, O LORD, will hold me up. 19) When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Your consolations delight my soul.***

This has absolutely nothing to do with whether there is an “(R)” or a “(D)” before someone’s name; it has everything to do with standing for righteousness and justice. It’s about saving our beloved country and being good ambassadors of our Holy God.

North Carolina’s Charlotte Observer newspaper advised young women to prepare to share locker rooms with naked men by overcoming their discomfort of seeing male genitalia.

*“This is what the Obama administration nudged the rest of the country toward Friday”,* the Charlotte Observer editorial said. *“Yes, the thought of male genitalia in girls’ locker rooms and vice versa might be distressing to some. But the* ***battle for equality*** *has always been about overcoming*

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*discomfort with blacks sharing facilities, with gays sharing marriage, then realizing it was not nearly so awful as some people imagined.”*

The Observer also claimed the idea that transgender bathroom laws threaten the privacy of women and children is *“political fiction”* concocted by Republicans.

*Blog: Obama and his ilk are certifiably insane and should be removed from power! This bathhouse Barry is a pervert as are many confused people who clearly need psychiatric help and not access to women bathrooms.*

Vice President Joe Biden told the graduating cadets at West Point that the diversity of having women and homosexuals serving strengthens our military.

The CEO of target said the reason their sales plummeted after implement- ing their new transgender bathroom policy was because of climate change.

Remember what we have seen over and over again in the book of Amos:

***Amos 2:6 Thus says the LORD, "For three transgressions of Israel and for four I will not revoke its punishment…***

A nation can reach a point where its level of degeneracy and its defiance towards God will cause Him to withdraw His grace and execute His fierce wrath upon it.

***Psalm 94:1-23*** Read

***Nehemiah 5:7 I consulted with myself and contended with the nobles and the rulers and said to them, "You are exacting usury, each from his brother!" Therefore, I held a great assembly against them.***

Money lust and power lust can easily overcome those who have no Bible doctrine. What do you suppose happens to anyone who ignores God and takes advantage of people who are less fortunate?

***Psalm 107:33-34 He changes rivers into a wilderness and springs of water into a thirsty ground; 34) A fruitful land into a salt waste, because of the wickedness of those who dwell in it.***

***Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.***

***Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD…***

**AMOS LESSON 22 (06-5-16)**

***Amos 3:11 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, "An enemy, even one surrounding the land, will pull down your strength from you and your citadels will be looted."***

***Proverbs 10:2 Ill-gotten gains do not profit, but righteousness delivers from death.***

Looters will soon be looted. This was fulfilled by Assyria in 722 B.C.

The people of Israel had plundered one another, but now a pagan Gentile nation would plunder them. The corrupt rulers and elite who had been looting the people would themselves be looted. This was fulfilled by Assyria in 722 B.C. (2 Kings 17)

This is an example of “What goes around comes around.”

Indeed, we reap what we sow. The Bible puts it this way: ***Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.***

***Amos 3:12 Thus says the LORD, "Just as the shepherd snatches from the lion's mouth a couple of legs or a piece of an ear, so will the sons of Israel dwelling in Samaria be snatched away-- with the corner of a bed and the cover of a couch!***

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There wouldn’t be much of Israel left after God dealt with their stiff necked defiance. The leaders in Samaria would continue to lounge around on their beds and couches in their decadent and lavish lifestyle, ignoring Amos’ message until they were utterly destroyed by God.

Read ***Isa. 10:1-6***

Can this happen to us? Will it happen to us? Will the people of our country heed this warning?

Question: Do any of you expect the U.S. Congress to halt, impede, or nullify the shameful directive by Barack Hussein Obama that would coerce all schools in the nation to implement his insane and immoral transgender plan? If you do, you need to think again.

*Last week, over 40 Republicans in the U.S. House joined with Democrats to allow the passage of a dangerous amendment from Rep. Sean Maloney (D-NY) to an appropriations bill. The amendment would place into law President Barack Obama's radical LGBT agenda and punish those who try to exercise their religious freedom. One lone Texas Republican, Rep. Will Hurd (CD 23 - San Antonio), voted IN FAVOR of the Maloney Amendment. Congressional Republicans Support Obama’s Radical Bathroom Agenda*

Shame on those who voted for this! They are absolutely despicable and demented!

Bob Unruh of WND said that Obama’s transgender campaign will probably allow daycare and kindergarten teachers to openly cross-dress for their classes “with no recourse” for parents and require women’s shelters to provide a bed to any man claiming to be a woman.

Did you know that a decision will soon be announced by the U.S. Supreme Court, dealing with the definition of marriage? In late June or early July, the justices will reveal their decision to either affirm the definition of marriage as being exclusively between one man and one woman, or it will redefine this institution to include same-sex unions. If marriage is to be reconfigured in the law, which court-watchers predict is almost certain, every dimension of the culture will be adversely affected.

1. Religious liberty will be assaulted from every side. You can be certain that conservative churches will be dragged into court by the hundreds. Pastors will be coerced to officiate at same-sex marriages and they could be prohibited from teaching Scriptures that condemn homosexuality. Many will be protested and picketed by activists.

Churches are already being pressured to take homosexuality off their sin list. Pastors who teach that homosexuality is a sin very possibly will be accused of committing a hate crime and could be thrown into prison.

2. We’ve already had a taste of what will happen to Christian businesses and ministries from the photographers, bakeries and florists who were fined and went bankrupt for refusing to serve at gay weddings. This kind of legal oppression is coming all across the nation.

3. Christian colleges may be unable to teach scriptural views of marriage. Any nonprofit Christian organization that opposes same-sex unions, will likely lose its tax-exempt status and many will be forced to close their doors.

LGBT activists are on a march to force all Americans to affirm what they do under the penalty of law.”

4. Any professional with a state license of any kind may be stripped of his or her right to practice or do business if he or she doesn’t conform to the court’s biases on same-sex relationships. This would include councilors, therapists, psychologist, psychiatrist, educators, chiropractors, physicians, nurses, lawyers, child care professionals, realtors, CPAs, veterinarians, etc.

5. Textbooks for children of all ages will almost certainly be rewritten and republished to illustrate gay and lesbian marriages.

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6. Public schools could require children as young as 5 to be taught gay and lesbian concepts. It will matter not that this teaching will contradict the beliefs and convictions of parents. This could become a requirement in every public school by judicial decree. It is already the law in California and Massachusetts.

Of the 196 countries in the world today, only 18 recognize the legitimacy of same-sex marriage. America appears on the verge of becoming No.19.

***Amos 3:13-14 Hear and testify against the house of Jacob," declares the Lord GOD, the God of hosts. 14) "For on the day that I punish Israel's transgressions, I will also punish the altars of Bethel; the horns of the altar will be cut off And they will fall to the ground.***

Was it possible for the house of Jacob (Israel) to escape the punishment from the Lord?

***2 Kings 17:13-14 Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets." 14 However, they did not listen, but stiffened their neck like their fathers, who did not believe in the LORD their God.***

God is always gracious to a stiff-necked nation, giving it a chance to turn from its evil ways, but there is a point when He will not revoke His punishment and that nation experiences His wrath and crushing judgment.

We should not be surprised that so many in our own country have gone to the dark side and turned their back to God.

***Jude 1:17-18 But you, beloved, ought to remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, 18) that they were saying to you, "In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts."19) These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.***

***Horns of the altar…***

***Exodus 27:2 You shall make its horns on its four corners; its horns shall be of one piece with it, and you shall overlay it with bronze.***

Fugitives could grab these horns to claim asylum from their pursuers (*1 Kings 1:50; 2:28; Ex. 21:12–13*). Murderers, however, could not receive protection, but were torn by force from the altar (*Ex. 21:14*).

Nobody would be able to lay hold of the horns of the altar and claim protection (1 Kings 1:50–53), for the horns would be cut off.

**AMOS LESSON 23 (06-26-16)**

***Amos 3:15 "I will also smite the winter house together with the summer house; The houses of ivory will also perish And the great houses will come to an end," Declares the LORD.***

Only the rich could afford to have both a winter house and a summer house, but the Lord was not going to smite them because of their wealth, but because they oppressed those who were less fortunate to obtain their power and riches.

***Proverbs 11:4 Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteous- ness delivers from death.***

The following passage describes the 2nd Advent, however it demonstrates God’s attitude toward rich and powerful people and rulers who use their position to oppress those less fortunate.

***Zephaniah 1:17-18 I will bring distress on men So that they will walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the LORD; and their blood will be poured out like dust***

 AMOS 4, pg. 39

***And their flesh like dung. 18) Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them on the day of the LORD'S wrath; and all the earth will be devoured in the fire of His jealousy, For He will make a complete end, indeed a terrifying one, of all the inhabitants of the earth.***

***Amos 4:1 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan who are on the mountain of Samaria, Who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, Who say to your husbands, "Bring now, that we may drink!"***

*Bashan is a territory on the east of the Jordan River between the mountains of Gilead in the south and Mount Hermon on the north. It was settled by three tribesand was part of the northern kingdom of Israel. It was a very fertile area and noted for its fine breed of cattle. The cows of Bashan were strong and sleek in appearance because of the lush grazing lands. J. Vernon McGee, Thru the Bible Commentary, electronic ed., vol. 3 (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, ‘97), 699.*

The Lord was addressing “the cows (‘kine’ fem.) of Bashan” whichis a figurative description of the elite wives of the Northern Kingdom who were oppressing the poor and crushing the needy. Of course it wasn’t the wives themselves who were doing this, but their husbands whom they dominated and manipulated. These wives were strong and probably sleek in appearance like the cows of Bashan.

These women were insolent, and self-pleasing, these haughty dames manipulated their husbands to oppress the poor and crush the needy, that they might satisfy their own carnal desires. Indifferent to the sor­rows their ill-gotten pleasures entailed on others, they feasted and rejoiced; forgetting that the Holy One of Israel was looking on.

Unscrupulous wives manipulate their husbands to get what they want but they are never satisfied and they bring ruin upon themselves.

One of the signs of a weak nation that has turned its back to God is domineering wives and faint-hearted spineless husbands. Notice that the wives are not asking, but commanding their husbands to bring them something to drink.

***"Bring now, that we may drink!"*** “*Bring*” is a hif’il imperative. Would it be proper for a woman at work to tell her boss to bring her something to drink? If it is wrong for her to give commands to one who has authority over her at work, why would it be OK to give commands to the one who has authority over her at home?

Example of a domineering wife: ***1 Kings 21:1-19***

***Amos 4:2-3 The Lord GOD has sworn by His holiness, "Behold, the days are coming upon you when they will take you away with meat hooks, and the last of you with fish hooks. 3) "You will go out through breaches in the walls, each one straight before her, and you will be cast to Harmon," declares the LORD.***

Verse 2) There are several interpretations on these two verses. Some say that verse 2 refers to literal corpses being removed while others say that hunting and fishing metaphors are used to describe how the people would be taken into captivity.

Verse 3) There would be so many breaches in the walls that there would nearly be a breach before each person. Harmon is only used here and no one is sure where it is. Some think it might be Armenia or Mount Hermon. Others take it in the sense of armon, “a palace,” intending probably a palace or citadel of the enemy.

All agree that what is described in these two verses is certainly not good.

**AMOS LESSON 24 (07-3-16)**

***Amos 4:4-5 "Enter Bethel and transgress; In Gilgal multiply transgression! Bring your sacrifices every morning, your tithes every three days. 5) "Offer a thank offering also***

 AMOS 4, pg. 40

***from that which is leavened, and proclaim freewill offerings, make them known. For so you love to do, you sons of Israel," Declares the Lord GOD.***

Of course this is biting sarcasm. **Bethel** was the place they went to worship their idols. Does **Gilgal** ring a bell from our Joshua study? It was the first place the Israelites stopped when they crossed the Jordan and they demonstrated faith and obedience. Gilgal had its memorial stones marking Israel’s initial entrance into the land (Joshua 4)

The people were still gathering to worship, brought sacrifices, tithed, and gave offerings. They thought they could be right with God because of their religiousity. This relates to churches today who have homosexual or lesbian pastors, churches that teach and practice penance, and legalistic churches that emphasize rituals but have no teaching of B.D.

You’ve heard it said that going to church does not make you spiritual any more than going into a garage makes you a car. The point is, the act of going to church or going through the motions of worship is not what God desires of us. He wants us to seek Him with all our heart.

***Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.***

If you are humble and truly seeking truth, God will direct you to a Bible communicator that will help you grow to spiritual maturity.

The people’s religious activities were carried out to impress others, not to fellowship with God. The local church is primarily a classroom to learn and grow, not a glorified country club to visit with friends.

**Verses 6-11** tells us what God did to humble His people so that they would return to Him, but they did not. The things mentioned in these verses are also found in ***Leviticus 26*** and ***Deuteronomy 28-29.***

***Amos 4:12 "Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel."***

God told them that He would do something to them “thus” but didn’t tell them what it would be. No doubt, God intended the suspense of not knowing what He would do to bring them to repentance.

The judgment Amos was announcing would not be to discipline Israel but to destroy them because of their stubborn refusal to return to the Lord.

**PP *Prepare to meet your God…*** How does one do this? Call upon Him with a changed heart that is humble and seeking his grace and forgiveness.

It appears that if the people in our beloved country do not return to the Lord and do it soon, the only thing left for them is to ***prepare to meet their God*** as their Judge rather than their Savior.

***Amos 4:13 For behold, He who forms mountains and creates the wind and declares to man what are His thoughts, He who makes dawn into darkness and treads on the high places of the earth, the LORD God of hosts is His name.***

After the warning given in verse 12, Amos now enforces his threats by declaring God’s power and omniscience. Who is able to stand against the Lord?

*“Harry A. Ironside passed through the California earthquake of April 18, 1906, and was an eye-witness of its horrors. Not the least solemn thing noticed was the persistent efforts of the preachers of all denominations to quiet the fears of the populace by assuring them that God had no part in the calamitous events that had taken place. Natural causes explained everything! This the Christless were only too ready to believe; and thus were their partially awakened conscien-ces lulled to rest and their ears dosed against the voice of Him who through Amos said, ‘I have overthrown some of you!’*

 AMOS 5, pg. 41

*“From verse 11 and 12 of this chapter, it was my solemn opportunity to press the truth upon many at that time, and not altogether, I trust, without fruit; but ‘the day’ will declare it.”*

**AMOS LESSON 25-26 (07-10-16)**

**AMOS CHAPTER 5**

Harry A. Ironside called Amos chapter 5 “A LAMENTATION FOR ISRAEL”

Sad and solemn are the dirge-like measures of the prophet’s lamentation over the fallen nation that he loved so well. They had utterly broken down as a people in their allegiance and fidelity to God, and on the ground of responsibility could claim no blessing whatever. If God take them up at all [showed them any compassion], it must be in pure grace; otherwise naught but judgment could be their portion.

This is the third time Amos has called the people to **Hear God’s Word**:

***Amos 3:1 Hear this word which the LORD has spoken against you***

***Amos 4:1 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan***

***Amos 5:1-2 Hear this word which I take up for you as a dirge, O house of Israel: 2) She has fallen, she will not rise again-- The virgin Israel. She lies neglected on her land; there is none to raise her up.***

The word “Hear” is the qal imperative of SHAMA. Same as in ***Deut. 6:4***

**Out attitude toward God’s Word is our attitude towards God.**

**The way we treat God’s Word is the way we treat God.**

**The first step in returning to the Lord is to hear what God has to say to us from His Word.**

What is a dirge?

**DIRGE**: 1 : a song or hymn of grief or lamentation; especially : one intended to accompany funeral or memorial rites

 2 : a slow, solemn, and mournful piece of music

3 : something (as a poem) that has the qualities of a dirge

 *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition*

Though Israel was at the height of prosperity under Jeroboam II, her judgment was so certain that Amos lamented her fall as though it had already happened. The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1, 1438.

The people were shocked and couldn’t believe what he was saying. They were still prosperous and they were going through the motions of “worshiping” by offering sacrifices, tithing, and making freewill offerings so how could this calamity come upon them?

*“The listeners must have wondered why Amos was wailing a funeral dirge when nobody in his family or circle of acquaintances had died. They were perplexed as to why he was grieving over the death of his nation when the nation seemed to be prosperous and religious*. ***But the prosperity and ‘reviva’ were only cosmetics to make the sick and dying nation look healthier.***”

*Warren W. Wiersbe, Be Concerned, “Be” Commentary Series, p. 43–44.*

We seem to have prosperity and we have religiosity which makes our nation look healthier, but they are only cosmetic because we, too, have a sick and dying nation. Christians who know God’s Word and apply it to their circumstances by standing firm for truth, freedom, and righteousness are being ostracized, fined, and imprisoned. The left hates Christians and are at war with them according to David Kuplian of WND. He wrote ***The Marketing of Evil***. Below is part of an article he wrote entitled, *“The Left’s War on Christians*”.

 AMOS 5, pg. 42

***Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,***

How could anyone be so diluted as to think that the Lord is the God of America?

***Amos 5:2******She has fallen*** means they had fallen by the sword violently.

***She will not rise again*** means this would be a death blow, the Northern Kingdom would be no more. After the Assyrian invasion, the kingdom of Israel ceased to exist and has never been restored.

***The virgin Israel*** does not mean that Israel had been pure and faithful to God, but that she had not been conquered.

***She lies neglected on her land; there is none to raise her up.***

***Romans 8:31 If God is for us, who is against us?***

Another way of putting this is, “If God is for us, it doesn’t matter who is against us.”

However, If God is against us, it doesn’t matter who is for us. When the Lord abandons you, who can help like HE can? Will you seek the help of man?

***Jeremiah 17:5 Thus says the LORD, "Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind and makes flesh his strength, And whose heart turns away from the LORD.***

***Psalm 118:8-9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD Than to trust in man. 9) It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.***

***Psalm 146:3 Do not trust in princes, in mortal man, in whom there is no salvation.***

***Amos 5:3 For thus says the Lord GOD, "The city which goes forth a thousand strong Will have a hundred left, And the one which goes forth a hundred strong Will have ten left to the house of Israel*." [**90% casualties, no nation can survive]

The city or town that had detached a military unit of a thousand or a hundred saw only 10 percent return from war. No nation can continue to exist when it its military sustains 90% casualties. There can be no victory if the Lord has abandoned you to your fate because you have abandoned Him.

***Amos 5:4 For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel, "SEEK ME that you may live*** [eternally, but here, it probably means experientially. They are believers.***.***

***SEEK ME*** is found eighteen times in Scripture.

***SEEK THE LORD*** is found more than thirty time.

Look at all the times in this chapter it says, ***“…yet you have not returned to ME…”,*** thus, the prophet sings this funeral dirge. With NO HUMILITY, they are as dead. God can no longer help them. So they had better, wake up fast, get humble and get up out of the casket of carnality.

This urgent warning may have been addressed to Israel in ancient days, but it still applies just as emphatically to God’s children today. Even if Israel or the church doesn’t respond to the message and return to the Lord, a remnant can return and receive the Lord’s help and blessing. It’s time to start cracking, to get into the Word, and to get your SPOUDAZO on [insatiable desire to study the Word] and to enjoy all the fun and prosperity from putting it into practice.

**AMOS LESSON 27 (07-17-16)**

***Amos 5:4 For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel, "Seek Me that you may live.+***

***Seek Me*** is found **eighteen times** in Scripture.

***Seek the Lord*** is found **more than thirty times**.

This phrase applied to Israel in ancient days and it applies to us today. Even if the whole nation or church doesn’t respond to the message and return to the Lord, a remnant can return and receive the Lord’s help and blessing.

 AMOS 5, pg. 43

***Seek,*** Qal, Imperative of the Hebrew word “DARASH”: to seek, search, enquire, investigate.

What does it mean to “seek the Lord?” READ ***Isa. 55***

There is great benefit in seeking the Lord:

***Psalm 34:10 The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; but they who seek the LORD shall not be in want of any good thing.***

***Matthew 6:31-34 Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' 32) "For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33) "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34) "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.***

**Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.** Only those who seek the Lord delight themselves in the Lord.

**2 Chronicles 31:21 *Every work which he*** (Hezekiah) ***began in the service of the house of God in law and in commandment, seeking his God, he did with all his heart and prospered.***

***1 Chronicles 16:9-11 Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; Speak of all His wonders. 10) Glory in His holy name; Let the heart of those who seek the LORD be glad. 11) Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face continually.***

What did Jehoshaphat do when he was afraid?

***2 Chronicles 20:3 Jehoshaphat was afraid and turned his attention to seek the LORD…***

***Proverbs 28:4-5 Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, But those who keep the law strive with them. 5) Evil men do not understand justice, but those who seek the LORD understand all things.***

If laws are to be respected, they must be respectable. When leaders don’t respect biblical and constitutional law, the people don’t either.

The Apostle Paul addressed the Athenians on Mars Hill, called the Areopagus, (Mars – Ares) about them seeking God. READ: ***Acts 17:22-28***

How does a person seek the Lord? One way is by studying His Word through audio or written biblical exposition:

***2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.***

So, are you a seeker of the Lord? If you are, you will live!

***That you may live.*** This phrase is used also in ***Amos 15:6* *& 14****,* What does it mean? Does it refer to deliverance from physical death or eternal death (the 2nd death)?

If your answer is eternal death, you are right. If your answer is physical death you are right. You see, if you are seeking the Lord for eternal salvation, you will receive eternal life. If you are a believer seeking the Lord for physical deliverance, you will find that His grace is sufficient.

***Amos 5:5 But do not resort to Bethel and do not come to Gilgal, Nor cross over to Beersheba; for Gilgal will certainly go into captivity and Bethel will come to trouble.***

Amos was telling them to seek the Lord but not to seek Him in Bethel or Gilgal because they had become centers of idolatry and false worship. They would not be spared when the wrath of God hit the Northern Kingdom.

*“Bethel, the ‘house of God,’ was to become ‘Beth Aven’ (Heb.), a ‘house of nothing’. In Hebrew, the last part of the city’s name, ‘El,’ meaning ‘God,’ was changed by Amos to ‘Aven’ meaning ‘nothing, empty, having no existence’ (cf. Hosea 4:15; 5:8; 10:5).*

 AMOS 5, pg. 44

*“A word often used to describe the powerless spirits of wickedness (cf. Isa. 41:22-24, 28-29.*

***The Bible Knowledge Commentary:*** *1439*

**AMOS LESSON 28 (07-24-16)**

***Amos 5:6-7 "Seek the LORD that you may live, Or He will break forth like a fire, O house of Joseph, and it will consume with none to quench it for Bethel, 7) For those who turn justice into wormwood*** (bitterness) ***and cast righteousness down to the earth."***

***Seek the LORD that you may live”*** is used again to make a point. No one would be exempt from the wrath of God who did nothing. Doing nothing does not mean the people must do some good work to pacify God, but that they did not seek the Lord. They would not recognize that they were hopeless sinners on the way to hell apart from seeking God’s grace. Realizing that is a great motivator to seek the Lord.

***Isaiah 45:22 Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.***

***Ezekiel 33:11 Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'***

The rulers and the wealthy tried to cover their oppression of the poor and less fortunate by carrying on a superficial form of worship. They were just going through the motions; their heart was not in it. They were making hypocritical attempts to worship the Lord through formal, ritualistic means which of course was unacceptable to Him.

Rather than listening to the Lord’s word through His prophets and relying on His guidance and protection, Israel rejected the prophets and trusted in her own schemes and strength.

 *“In rejecting hypocritical formalism and stressing the importance of faithfulness in one’s relationships to both God and man, the prophets articulate a theological principle that permeates the entire Bible:*

*“No vital relationship with God is possible if one is unfaithful to the responsibilities arising out of his God-given relationships with his fellow men. All kinds of* *God-directed religious and devotional exercises, including sacrifice and prayer, are futile apart from this relational foundation…”*

Roy B. Zuck, *A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament*

***1 John 4:20-21 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.***

*“Jesus reminded the Pharisees that justice was more important than tithes (Matt. 23:23) and taught that reconciliation with a brother took priority over a religious offering* **PP***(5:23–24). He warned that one’s willingness to forgive others was foundational to experiencing God’s forgiveness* **PP** *(6:14–15). Peter reminded husbands that improper treatment of their wives could hinder their prayers (1 Pet. 3:7).’*

Roy B. Zuck, *A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament,* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1991), 403.

***Verse 7*** is a denunciation of the **judges** in the Northern Kingdom.

***Deuteronomy 16:18-20 You shall appoint for yourself judges and officers in all your towns which the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. 19) "You shall not distort justice; you shall not be partial, and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. 20) "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, that you may live and possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you.***

 AMOS 5, pg. 45

***Micah 7:3-4 Concerning evil, both hands do it well. The prince asks, also the judge, for a bribe, and a great man speaks the desire of his soul; So they weave it together. 4) The best of them is like a briar, the most upright like a thorn hedge.***

***Deuteronomy 1:16-17 Then I charged your judges at that time, saying, 'Hear the cases between your fellow countrymen, and judge righteously between a man and his fellow countryman, or the alien who is with him. 17) 'You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not fear man, for the judgment is God's.***

We would say today that there should be no double standard, one for the rich and well connected and one for the common man**.** Lady Justice **PP**

**The American Appeasers: Gowdy, Issa and Chaffetz; The Show Goes On**

*Bradlee Dean, July 22, 2016*

 *“Soft Judges create hardened criminals.” ~Bradlee Dean~*

You would think with all the corruption found within the career politicians in America that it would be fairly simple to bring forth indictments and justice. Yet, Americans are conditioned through appeasers (American prosecutors) through hearing after hearing, investigation after investigation, and, in the end, no resolve when it comes to justice, only talk (**Isaiah 59**).

Appease is defined as, “to bring to a state of peace, quiet, ease, calm, or contentment; pacify; soothe: to appease anger.”

Instead of prosecuting the criminals, they simply put on a show (WWF at its very worst) to appease only to say through their inactions, “Just go to sleep Americans. We have got this.”

**AMOS LESSON 29 (07-31-16)**

***Amos 5:7 For those who turn justice into wormwood and cast righteousness down to the earth."***

**Soft judges create hardened criminals** and that is what the American politicians have become… hardened criminals toward the American institution of our Constitutional Republic (Article 4, Sections 4 of The United States Constitution). **What kind of justice is gained from government investigating itself? !!!** For instance, the FBI investigating Hillary or any other federal department? No punishable wrong will ever be found because **they work FOR HER !.**

From “**Fast and Furious**” to “**Benghazi**,” The **IRS Scandal** up to the **Clinton email scandals**, the killings at **Ruby Ridge**, the 82 men, women, and children killed in the **Waco massacre**, and what about **Sanctuary Cities**? The list of appeasement towards crime goes on and on. How many have been prosecuted? How many indictments were delivered by the American people to those who have committed crimes against them? But the show goes on, all talk and no action.

Congress has an 11% approval rating. Therefore, it is not like the American people do not know something is seriously wrong with the servants of “We the people” rather than they themselves and special interest groups. They know!

***Jeremiah 5:21-22 Now hear this, O foolish and senseless people, Who have eyes but do not see; Who have ears but do not hear. 22) 'Do you not fear Me?' declares the LORD.***

Over and over, these criminal politicians remain in office regardless of what they do, only to commit another crime on another day. This is because justice is overlooked. So I ask, what is the difference between those who are committing the crimes and those who fail to prosecute them? The evidence shows that there is none. It seems the fox is guarding the chicken coop.

It seems like these criminals have someone standing in the gap protecting their every move and their every crime. If it were not so, then where are the indictments and where are the convictions? There are none, even when the crimes committed are clearly evident.

 AMOS 5, pg. 46

The end result is that these appeasers help create the pacifists, and Americans simply go back to sleep and wonder later why their country is in this wicked and dangerous tyranny.

***Ephesians 5:11-12 & 14-16 Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; 12) for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret… 14) For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." 15) Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, 16) making the most of your time, because the days are evil.***

READ: **PP** ***Jer. 22:13-17*** (it too deals with unjust and unrighteous leaders)

Jehoiachim was a cruel and despotic ruler who used the privilege of his position for private gain. So many office holders today are guilty of this. This is one way that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

***Psalm 10:2-4 In pride the wicked hotly pursue the afflicted; Let them be caught in the plots which they have devised. 3) For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire, and the greedy man curses and spurns the LORD. 4) The wicked, in the haughtiness of his countenance, does not seek Him. All his thoughts are, "There is no God."***

***Proverbs 11:23-24 The desire of the righteous ends only in good; the expectation of the wicked in wrath. 24) One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.***

***Ecclesiastes 5:10 He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is vanity.***

***2 Timothy 3:1-2 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. 2) For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,***

***Proverbs 28:6 Better is the poor who walks in his integrity Than he who is crooked though he be rich.***

There is nothing wrong with remodeling a home or building a new one as long as you pay the workers on time. Notice the emphasis put on dealing with others according to just and righteous standards. God denounced unrighteousness and injustice (vs. 13) and commends justice and righteousness (vs. 15).

***Jeremiah 22:15 Do you become a king because you are competing in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink and do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him.***

What a rebuking question! Does building luxurious palaces from ill-gotten gain make you a great king? Just like most politicians, Jehoikim forgot that he was a servant of God and was responsible to treat the people in a just and righteous way.

***Jeremiah 22:16 He pled the cause of the afflicted and needy; Then it was well. Is not that what it means to know Me?" Declares the LORD.***

Jehoiachim tried to be a big shot king by flaunting his wealth and ignoring the needs of his people where his father Josiah, was a great king because he saw to the needs of the poor and the orphans.

In a very practical way, Josiah demonstrated that he knew the Lord because the actions were just and righteous. It is how you treat other people that shows whether you really know the Lord or not.

***Jeremiah 22:17 But your eyes and your heart Are intent only upon your own dishonest gain, and on shedding innocent blood And on practicing oppression and extortion."***

 AMOS 5, pg. 47 Jehoiachim would be dragged out of Jerusalem, to die unlamented because he failed to follow his father’s example. He would be buried like a donkey was, tossed in a ditch.

**AMOS LESSON 30 (08-7-16)**

***Amos 5:8 He who made the Pleiades and Orion and changes deep darkness into morning, Who also darkens day into night, Who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out on the surface of the earth, The LORD is His name. 9) It is He who flashes forth with destruction upon the strong*** [powerful, greedy]***, so that destruction comes upon the fortress.*** [See the Pleiades and Orion **Power Point** in Visuals under Stars]

These verses are reminders of God’s awesome ability to carry-out what- ever He says He will do. They are warnings to those who would be so foolish as to ignore what God has said.

***10) They hate him who reproves in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks with integrity.***

It was at the city gate where cases of law were decided. The city gate was essentially their courtroom. Wicked people hate those who have integrity and will stand for what is right.

President Reagan’s nominee, Robert Bork, is a good example. He would have made an excellent Supreme Court justice but 29 years ago he was rejected by a despicable element of a corrupt Congress. It started a trend that continues today of Supreme Court Justices being chosen for political reasons rather than for who is most qualified and who will obey the Constitution.

Those who hate us for standing for justice and righteousness hate God also, for He is perfect justice and righteousness.

***John 15:18-19 "If*** *(1st)* ***the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19) "If*** *(2ndt)*  ***you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world but I chose you out of the world, because of this, the world hates you.***

Jesus was explaining to His disciples why the world hated them. It was because they were no longer functioning in the world system because He chose them out of the world system to be His disciples.

***John 15:20 "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.***

When we are obedient to God’s Word by standing for truth and righteousness and resisting evil, we should expect to suffer persecution. Christians are already being persecuted in America for refusing to accept degeneracy. Example: Kim Davis

In Pew Research Center polling in 2001, Americans opposed same-sex marriage by a margin of 57% to 35%.

Since then, support for same-sex marriage has steadily grown. Based on polling in 2016, a majority of Americans (55%) support same-sex marriage, compared with 37% who oppose it.

It doesn’t matter what the masses are doing, we should have integrity and do what is right. God demands it.

***Exodus 23:2 You shall not follow the masses in doing evil, nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after a multitude in order to pervert justice; 3) nor shall you be partial to a poor man in his dispute.***

***Isaiah 10:1 Woe to those who enact evil statutes and to those who constantly record unjust decisions…***

Those who abhor those who speak with integrity seem to have the upper hand now, but there will come a time when God will deal with them and it won’t be pretty.

 AMOS 5, pg. 48

***Deuteronomy 7:9-10 "Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His loving-kindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments; 10) but repays those who hate Him to their faces, to destroy them; He will not delay with him who hates Him, He will repay him to his face.***

***Isaiah 29:20-21 For the ruthless will come to an end and the scorner will be finished, Indeed all who are intent on doing evil will be cut off; 21) Who cause a person to be indicted by a word, and ensnare him who adjudicates at the gate, and defraud the one in the right with meaningless arguments.***

The evil things mentioned in these verses will come to an end when the millennium, Christ’s kingdom is ushered in at the 2nd Advent.

Courts will become so unjust and unrighteous that one will be indicted for speaking one word, a politically incorrect word no doubt.

People who are in the right will be defrauded and convicted by those who use meaningless arguments. Isn’t that happening already?

***Verses 11-12*** continue to give the facts that condemn these selfish self-serving rulers.

***Amos 5:13 Therefore at such a time the prudent person keeps silent, for it is an evil time.***

This is a difficult verse. Amos certainly was not remaining silent nor were those who spoke with integrity in ***verse 10***. This verse does not recommend keeping silent during evil times. Neither Jesus nor his disciples remained silent.

The point could be that the times were such that wise men, who in better times would be consulted for their wisdom, were silent because no one would listen.

*“The verb translated “keeps silent,” yiddōm, may even refer to the silence of death and be translated “will perish”,1 Sam 2:9; Ps 31:17; Jer 8:14; 25:37; 48:9; 49:26; 50:30; Zeph 1:11). Perhaps the prudent will perish “because the times will be so bad that goodness will not be tolerated.”*

*Billy K. Smith and Franklin S. Page, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, vol.19B, The New American Commentary (Nash-ville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), 105.*

*“Since the root of “prudent” hammaśkîl (śākal) can mean “to be clever” or “to prosper,” the meaning of the noun here that best fits the context is “the prosperous.” This would make the word refer to the very people Amos had been describing who used their position, power, and wealth to oppress the poor (v. 11). Therefore, the prosperous will be silent at that time* [a future time when they’ll be dead]*, for it will be a disastrous time.” This silence he takes either as the silence of grief or of death. Whatever details of interpretation are adopted, it seems clear that the verse is a prediction of judgment.” ibid*

Whichever is the most accurate translation, the idea is not to remain silent during evil times. How can one be a good watchman on the wall if he refuses to sound the trumpet to warn the people?

We need to be sounding the alarm to everyone. Judgment is coming and God will not be ignored.

***Ezek. 3:17-21***, ***33:1-7***

***Proverbs 31:8-9 Open your mouth*** [every one of us do this] ***for the mute, for the rights of all the unfortunate. 9) Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.*** [God will hold us accountable for NOT speaking up! We are not to remain silent and comply.]

***Proverbs 31:8-9 Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all the unfortunate. 9) Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.***

 AMOS 5, pg. 49

We are the light and need to shine by means of Rebound, F/HS, and application of the Word of God.

***Amos 5:14-15 Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and thus may the LORD God of hosts be with you, just as you have said! 15) Hate evil, love good, and establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the LORD God of hosts may be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.***

***Seek*** [qal. imp.] ***good and not evil, that you may live…***  By giving this command, God was still giving wicked people in the Northern Kingdom a chance to be delivered. It was still possible for individuals to separate themselves from their evil rulers and those who were following them.

If there ever was a time that we Americans can relate to this, it’s now. Our government is corrupt, our society is decadent, and most of our churches and pastors are in a coma, too afraid or too politically correct to oppose the evil that is destroying our beloved country.

But we don’t have to go along with it. We don’t have to obey unjust, immoral, and unconstitutional so called laws and directives! That’s what people do who seek good and hate evil. And according to our verse, the Lord God of the armies is with them! He is not with those who are on the sidelines who refuse to separate from evil much less oppose it.

The good news is, the grace available to those in the Northern Kingdom is available to us as well. God has graciously given us a period of time to **seek good and live**, at least for now. We still have time to denounce evil, the question is, “Will we?”

What is good and what is bad couldn’t be clearer, how could anyone not recognize the difference. All that is needed is to hold issues up to the light of the Word of God and what is good and what is evil becomes evident.

***Hebrews 5:12-14 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, 13) for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. 14) But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.***

The Bible addresses this issue in several other verses:

***Psalm 34:14 Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.***

***Psalm 37:27 Depart from evil! Do what is right! Then you will enjoy lasting security.***

***Proverbs 11:27 Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor, but evil comes to him who searches for it.***

***Proverbs 14:19 The evil will bow down before the good, And the wicked at the gates of the righteous.***

***Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, watching the evil and the good.***

***Proverbs 17:20 He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, and he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil.***

***Isaiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil who put darkness for light, and light for darkness…***

Those who say that same-sex “marriage” is legitimate are calling evil, good.

Those who say that Christians who refuse to participate in same-sex weddings are guilty of discrimination and should be punished are calling righteous people evil in an attempt to make evil good.

Those who advocate for gun control are calling an evil, good. But anything infringing on our God-given right to protect ourselves is EVIL !

Those who say that capital punishment is immoral and call it cruel and unjust punishment are calling something that is good evil.

 AMOS 5, pg. 50

***Jeremiah 4:22 For My people are foolish, They have not known Me. They are silly children, and they have no understanding. They are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge."***

Remember ***Amos 3:10***? ***“they don’t know how to do right*** [to do good]**…”**

***Luke 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.***

***John 5:28-29 Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice 29) and come out, those who have done*** [the] ***good*** [believed in Christ] ***to the resurrection of life, and those who have done*** [the] ***evil*** [rejected Christ] ***to the resurrection of judgment.***

Seek good and live, or Seek evil and die.

These choices are before us every day. Does this mean a believer will die if seeks evil in a weak moment? No, but the danger is that seeking evil can become a bad habit that is hard to break. Such believers continue to live and breathe but they behave and thinks like a spiritually dead unbeliever. They will lose opportunities to glorify the Lord as well as rewards forever.

A question arises, “Why would someone seek evil?” A few reasons come to mind: money lust, power lust, and sexual lust.

We are not only forbidden to seek evil, we are commanded to hate it and to love good.

***Hate*** [qal. imp.] ***evil, love*** [qal. imp.] ***good, and establish*** [hif’il. imp.] ***justice in the gate!***

God does not allow us to be neutral when it comes to evil, we are to hate it, abhor it, despise it!

***Romans 12:9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.***

***1 Thessalonians 5:19 Do not*** [v. pam] ***quench the Spirit. 20) Do not*** [v. pam] ***despise prophecies. 21) Test*** [v. pam] ***all things; hold fast*** [v. pam] ***what is good. 22) Abstain*** [v. pmm] ***from every form of evil.***

***Psalm 97:10 O you who love the LORD, hate evil*** [qal. imp.] ***! He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.***

***Psalm 119:103-104 How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! 104) Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.***

I don’t know about you, but I HATE the un-Constitutional and immoral decision of the arrogant, misguided, progressive justices of the US Supreme Court regarding **same-sex marriage**.

I feel the same way about their decision on **ObamaCare**.

I HATE the unconstitutional, immoral, detestable, ungodly directive by our president to all school boards across the country concerning **his transgender policy**.

I also HATE the un-Constitutional, imbecilic, freedom-destroying, **gun control laws** that our corrupt Congress pass.

I HATE the un-Constitutional, dangerous, and nation-destroying executive order issued by our president concerning **amnesty for illegal aliens**.

Why is it not wrong for me to hate these? Because they are all EVIL!

You should hate them too! I’m not saying that we should hate the people responsible for these things, we are commanded to love them with impersonal/unconditional love. By the way, that doesn’t mean we have to like them, but we are required to have an attitude toward them free of any mental attitude sins [MAS]. Clarification note: Having righteousness indignation towards someone for what they have done, is not a MAS.

***Establish*** [hif’il. imp.] ***justice in the gate!***