

# Behold the Lamb

## HOW WE LOST AMERICA

With the Supreme Court decision on June 26, 2015, two things became evident. The first is that the United States of America has been fundamentally changed forever. The second is that the church has lost the nation that God had given us to keep. Jesus told his disciples "Ye are the salt of the earth." He continued to say, "but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be

salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." We will understand the words of Jesus better in the months and years to come as the process of "casting out" a savorless church and "treading it under foot" begins. This can only happen when the church, like the salt that "loses its savor," has lost the presence of God and the reality that the gospel of Jesus Christ brings. Many will say that God is going to judge America because of gay marriage. The truth is, however, that God has already judged America, and gay marriage is only a confirmation that we have been judged.

As Israel did three thousand years ago, the American church has committed two sins that have brought two distinct judgments from God. The first is a wrong image of God, and the second is a wrong view of the gospel. The children of Israel turned away from the invisible God to worship a "golden calf," and God's righteous judgment was that He "gave them up to uncleanness...to dishonor their own bodies between themselves" (Romans 1:24). Many in this generation of the church have "changed the glory of Jesus Christ" into the "image of a corruptible man." Instead of "Christ the creator," the "Lord from heaven" who came to "take away the sin of the world," the new image of Jesus is that of a "natural man that could have sinned and had sinful desires just like every one of us and therefore understands when we sin." Because of this wrong and twisted image of Christ that has issued from America's pulpits, our nation has long ago been given up by God to uncleanness.

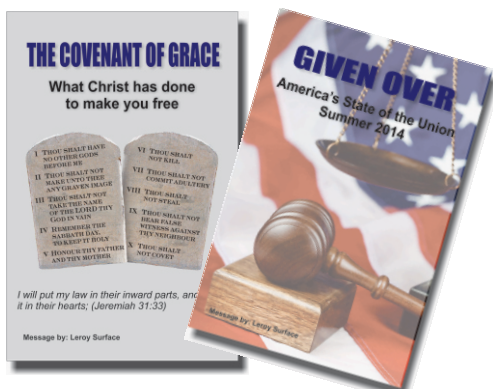
The second sin of the church, the wrong view of the gospel, is the one that has brought America to the June 26th decree by the Supreme Court. Because the church, like Old Testament Israel before, "changed the truth of God into a lie," God's judgment was that he "...gave them up to vile affections" (Romans 1:25-26). Jude warned that false teachers had succeeded in "turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness." The modern doctrine that "we are all sinners and must sin everyday" is not "grace;" it is "lasciviousness," a license to continue in sin. It has "changed the truth of God into a lie" and filled the churches with those who continue in sin because they have never been "born again." Why did Christ leave eternity to become a man? What did He come into the world to do? The correct answer to this question is "the truth" that Jesus said "will make you free" from sin. Did Christ come to "take away our sin," or did He come to "take the penalty for our sin? One is the truth of the gospel. The other is the "lie" that has caused God to give our nation up to "vile affections," which is where we are in America today. Gay marriage is not our "national sin;" it is the judgment of God because of a church that has "lost its savor," and thus, has "lost our nation."

Our free offer this month is two books by Leroy Surface: "**The Covenant of Grace**," which defines what "grace" truly is, and "**Given Over**," which explains why the modern church has lost its influence in America.

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