

Great Commission News

大使命家訊

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Homosexual Disaster

Thomas Wang

"Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable." — Leviticus 18:22

"I am bringing disaster on this people, the fruit of their schemes, because they have not listened to my words and have rejected my law."

— Jeremiah 6:19

"It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." — Hebrews 10:31

The entire Bible talks about God's love and God's righteousness. Love without righteousness is spoiling, and righteousness without love makes salvation impossible. Only when love is coupled with righteousness may sinful mankind be forgiven and given eternal life through faith in Jesus.

God's love toward mankind is unlimited. Yet when human beings persist in evil behavior and disobedient without repentance, God's judgment will come upon them sooner or later, like parents' discipline upon their disobedient children.

Among the many ways in which God disciplines sinners is allowing disasters happen. The disasters may be natural (flood, drought, storm, earthquake, tsunami, etc.) or man-made (hot or cold war, political, economic, racial or religious turmoils). Since the beginning of the 20th century, disasters have increased greatly in number. In this newsletter, we concentrate on one of them, the homosexual disaster.

The homosexual movement has changed somewhat in recent years. Today's activists have long-term strategies, detailed plans, many talents (scholars and lawyers, etc.), and plenty of money. By using beautiful slogans, such as freedom,

equality, human right, and anti-discrimination, and by exploiting the society's ignorance, people's foolishness, politicians' seeking of support, news media's trendiness, they have gradually and skillfully made significant progress (in people's worldview and behavior).

An overview of the societies in the East and the West shows that the homosexual movement has developed into a pandemic disaster, especially in Europe. Homosexual marriage has been legalized in Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, England, and the Scandinavian countries. In north America, Canada has passed a similar law in July, 2005, and the United States appears to be following.

Statistically, only about 2% of Americans are homosexuals, but they are amazingly vocal. Also they are not satisfied with mere legal recognition, but want to make every nation, and even the whole world, homosexual ultimately. On the surface, they are engaged in a lifestyle revolution, but in reality it is a rebellion against God, God's creation, God's ordinance, indeed against God Himself.

In order to achieve their ultimate goal, they have set short-term objectives to be reached step by step, including:

- 1. Legalization of prostitution;
- 2. Lowering, or even abolishing, legal age of sexual activity;
- 3. Legalization of sexual behavior between adults and children;
 - 4. Legalization of polygamy;
 - 5. Legalization of group marriage;
 - 6. Legalization of incest;
 - 7. Rewriting textbooks to instill homosexual

ideas to children, starting from kindergarten;

- 8. Through news media and textbooks, describing homosexuals as victims to seek sympathy;
- 9. Through news media and legislation, labeling those who do not agree with homosexual behavior as homophobia, their speeches as hate speech, their publications as hate literature. As a result, the Bible which condemns homosexual behavior may one day be considered as hate literature and be banned.

Regrettably, unaware of the seriousness of this problem, many upright and conservative people in the society remain silent in order to avoid trouble. However, as Edmund Burke of England said, "What is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good man to do nothing."

Sadly, today's church (leaders, theologians, ministers, and believers) also remain silent when facing this spiritual decadence. It seems that we can talk about being "the light, the salt" only on the pulpit or in the church; whereas in the real battlefield when facing the social reality, the church shows timidness, cowardice, hypocrisy, compromise, and drifting with the world. What a pity!

This situation sadly reminds us of a post-me-dieval theological thought --- "the dichotomy of the sacred and the secular" in things of the world. The former includes matters inside the church, while the latter embraces all things in the society which are considered "worldly". A Christian was supposed to do "sacred" things, not to touch "secular" matters. This thought has damaged the church as well as the society, causing the church to withdraw behind the four walls of the church, and leaving the world and the society outside to the devil. They even interpret this retreating attitude as being "pure" and "spiritual". This thought still permeates today in many churches, especially Chinese churches.

When I was young, I was taught this way also. But after serving the Lord for many years, and observed the real world, I began to understand how broad and comprehensive a responsibility God had entrusted to us. It includes both an "Evangelistic mandate" and a "Cultural mandate". We are responsible not only for evangelism, church planting, and global mission, but also for the transfor-

mation of society, "Christianization" of culture, and "Scripturalization" of education.

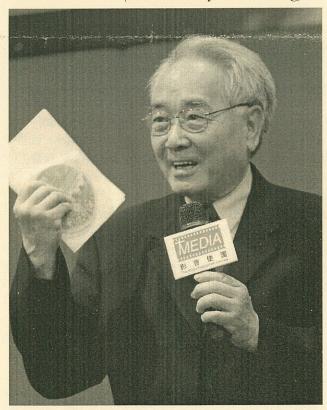
Sodom, Gomorrah, Pompeii, and the latter days of the Roman Empire are warning examples for the world today! God's unchanging words said:

"Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchange natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion."—Romans 1:26-27

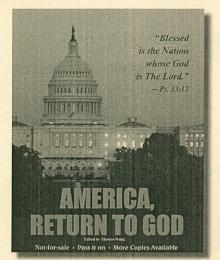
"For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God." —1 Peter 4:17

May the church of the 21st century, including the Chinese church, courageously standing up and shine, daring to pay the price, seeking only God's will, and uplifting the truth in this dark generation, until the Lord comes!

(Translated by Chi-Yu King)



Rev. Thomas Wang was invited to share his viewpoint on how the movie "Brokeback Mountain" victimizes marriage and society in a recent Christian gathering in Hong Kong.



America, Return To God! Will Come out of the Press by the end of April

"The production of the *America, Return To God* will be on schedule. 500,000 copies will come out of the press in the fourth week of April and will be sent free to all influential leaders from all professions, such as politics, business, education, humanity, science, religion, media and entertainment", said Rev. Thomas Wang, president of GCCI and the editor of the book.

The purpose of this book, according to Wang, is to remind America of her Christian origin and the recent decline of her faith and morality. The book also calls America to repentance and return to God. He said, "How can God bless America if her people forsake God? American churches are sending more missionaries than any other country to the unreached peoples around the world. If the decline continues, how can American churches keep up their global missionary outreaches?"

A press conference on the publication of this book was held during Wang's recent visit to Hong Kong on March 25. It was hosted by Rev. Sek-Wai Lo, Board Chairman of GCCI (HK). Rev. Wang gave a brief introduction on the 128-page book, which includes 25 articles by renowned evangelicals, such as James Dobson, James Kennedy, Tim LaHaye, Vernon McLellan, Gary DeMar, David Barton etc. Rev. Wang also has contributed 3 articles in the book.

Rev. Lo described the publication as one of the biggest and the most influential work in the history of Chinese Church and urged the Christians in Hong Kong to support this project. He said, "We are privileged to be citizens of an international city, Hong Kong Christians are not only concerned with the happenings in our own city but the international scene. We should support this significant project whole-heartedly."

This project is still in need of about US\$900,000, according to the publisher. Your prayerful support is much appreciated. Donation could be sent to GCCI, 848 Stewart Drive, Suite 200, Sunnyvale, CA 94089. Tax-deductible receipt will be issued.



(From left to right) Miss Gloria Lui, Mrs. Rachel Wang, Dr. Titus Loong, Rev. Thomas Wang, Rev. Sek-Wai Lo, and Dr. Sharon Chan dedicating the book to God at the Hong Kong Press Conference.



Rev. Sek-Wai Lo (right) hosted the Press Conference and urged the Hong Kong Christians to support "America, Return to God" Book project.



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Renewed Perspectives on the Back To Jerusalem Movement

2006 BJM International Consultation General Report (Excerpt)

In the 1940's God revealed a powerful vision to some leaders of the church in China to continue the spread of the Gospel westward through Asia all the way back to Jerusalem. Their work was hindered because of various reasons but their prayers were heard. In recent years God has rekindled this vision amongst some house church leaders in China. In July 2004, as a result, mainland Chinese, overseas Chinese, and church leaders from other countries gathered in San Francisco to reaffirm the vision. A second Consultation was called bringing an even more representative group of leaders in March 2006 to renew cooperation and gain perspective on how the vision might be fulfilled.

Our first act was to humble ourselves before the Lord, seeking Him in prayer and petitioning Him to give us humility of spirit, singleness of purpose and unity of mind. By His grace we found that we were renewed in our calling, our cooperation, and our commitment. One of the primary goals of this Consultation was to explore many of the practicalities of Chinese churches sending effective workers cross-culturally. The point was not to design a perfect plan or a comprehensive strategy to be enacted by everyone. Instead, the goal was to explore practical matters to be considered, challenges to be anticipated, and opportunities to be recognized in order to offer suggestions and recommendations. The consultation process was framed by four essential elements for fruitful and effective strategy development, i.e. recruitment and mobilization, training, sending and midway stations.

In pursuing the BJM vision and its completion, we anticipate great suffering and even greater sacrifice. We also expect to encounter escalating spiritual conflict. Even though the gospel will be opposed as never before; Christ will be praised and loved by millions of new worshipers from China to Jerusalem.