



# The Voice Of Truth

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### *Having Pleasure in Ungodliness*

By Jimmy Pettigrew

Ending the longest catalogue of sins listed in the New Testament (**Romans 1:28-31**), Paul concludes, "*Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them,*" **Romans 1:32**. The sins were those committed by Gentiles after they rejected the knowledge of God. God decreed that Adam (and all of his posterity) was worthy of death (natural death), because of one sin. How much more then are these Gentiles worthy of death who habitually practiced these vile crimes? These most reprehensible sins were not only practiced by them, but were also condoned and sanctioned in others around them.

Not merely this passage, but others in God's word, tells us God's people must "*Abstain from all appearance of evil.*" **1 Thessalonians 5:22**. "*Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity,*" **2 Timothy 2:19**. "*Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in*

*the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away,*" **Proverbs 4:14-15**. "*Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good,*" **Romans 12:9**. Read again: "*Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners,*" **1 Cor. 15:33**. You can't play in soot and remain lily white. One of the greatest weaknesses in the church today is our toleration of sinfulness that surrounds us! We seemingly condone every evil sensual practice by not crying out against it! We watch programs on our TV that promote immodesty, adultery; homosexuality is funny, cursing and all manner of foul language is cool, we sit and watch other people dancing and it doesn't bother us, and on and on we go! Our society has become inured to "sexual freedom," "choice of lifestyle," and "sexual revolution" that few things are openly challenged, much less condemned.

**"WHO NOT ONLY DO THE SAME, BUT HAVE PLEASURE IN THEM THAT DO THEM!"** God's people must always "stand up and be counted for righteousness."

## **"IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD"**

Jimmy Pettigrew

James wrote, "*Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up,*" **James 4:10**. This verse tells us that one is always in the sight of the Lord. "*For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil,*" **1 Peter 3:12**. We are prone to accept only that which is visible; and since we cannot see God watching, we are unmindful of His constant surveillance! So, it is difficult for any of us to remember always that there is an all seeing eye watching our every act at all times. Yet, we're told, "*The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth,*" **Psalms 33:13-14**. God sees and knows all that takes place in the world. "*The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good,*" **Proverbs 15:3**. There is no possible way to escape this all seeing eye of God! "*For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings,*" **Job 34:21**.

Since God knows all our goings, we should be aware of this, and live accordingly! We should have the same conviction as Hagar in saying, "*Thou God seest me,*" **Genesis 16:13**. Are we conscious of this as we plan and proceed in our daily affairs? God sees and reads us constantly! Should we marvel that He watches and knows of our thoughts and deeds? "*Hell and destruction are before the Lord: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?*" **Proverbs 15:11**.

Man becomes utterly foolish in thinking that he can fool God and hide his sinful behavior! "*Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?*" **Isaiah 29:15**. "*Be sure you sin will find you out,*" **Numbers 32:23**. "*The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart,*" **1 Samuel 16:7**. Are we conscious throughout every day that God is very near, regardless of where we may be, and that He is silently observing our deeds and hearing our speech? Man cannot escape from Him! When the saints of God realize they are never alone, but are forever in the presence of God (**Hebrews 4:13**), they will act more like children of God!