Destroyed Foundations

"If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:3). This is a great question asked by the psalmist of old. What are the righteous to do when all that is important around them seems to be falling apart? Read Psalm 11.

We live in troubled times today just like the psalmist did in Psalm II. The "foundations" are the principles that hold a people together: law, order, justice, right, good, truth, etc. What can the righteous do when these "foundations" are destroyed by ungodly people? Should the righteous flee or should they have faith?

The foundation of the home is being destroyed in this country (Genesis 2:18-24). The foundation of our society is being destroyed when God is removed from every aspect of our life (Proverbs 14:34). The foundation of religion is being destroyed when the one, true, New Testament church is ignored (Ephesians 4:4-6).

So, what can the righteous do? Well, look at Psalm II again. They can trust in the Lord (Psalm II:I). They can patiently wait for the Lord who still sits in judgment upon the ungodly (Psalm II:4-6). The righteous can continue living upright and moral lives themselves (Psalm II:7). They can rebuild the foundations that have been destroyed by man through the teaching of God's word. What can the righteous do? The righteous can have a faith that fights and does not flee! - Chris Reeves

News & Notes

Please mark your calendar with the following important dates...

April 28: Ladies' Bible class, 11 am, church building

June 4-8: VBS

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ 290 Warfield Blvd. Clarksville, TN 37043

Website WBCOC.org

Assembly Times Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome! For More Information Call (931) 647-1324

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THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

What is a euphemism? A euphemism by definition is: "a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing". For example, we say "pass away" instead of "died"; we say "let go" instead of "fired"; we say "downsize" instead of "cut"; etc. When it comes to foul language, a euphemism would be something like "heck" for "hell"; "darn" for "damn"; "golly" or "gosh" for "God"; etc.

Many people today will do the same thing with sin. They will euphemize sin. They will speak of a sinful act in a way that attempts to make the sinful act not that bad. They do this in order to excuse the sinful behavior in themselves or others.

People often try to deny, conceal, or ignore sin. Others downplay or "whitewash" sin in order to justify living in their own sin. What do they do? They euphemize sin; they rename and redefine sin in such a way that their sin is not so bad.

The practice of euphemizing sin is not new. Isaiah condemned the people of his day for "calling evil good" (Isaiah 5:20).

Let's face it. Much of sin today is not viewed the same way as it was in Bible times. Today, people popularize sin – an increasing number of people do it. They legalize sin – politicians are encouraged to vote in favor of it. They normalize sin –

more people can now do it legally, so it becomes commonplace. And of course, they euphemize sin – people speak in such a way as to downplay it. Sin is no longer a vice, but a virtue. Many today are not guilty of sin; they are just "sick" with a "disease" or "illness"; they are a "victim" of society.

So, how would sin today be described by someone who is euphemizing it? Here are a few examples:

Lying is just "telling a story", "a fib", "a little white lie", or "misspoke". Homosexuality is just "an alternative lifestyle" or a "different sexual orientation". Abortion is just "pro choice", "terminating a pregnancy", or "selective reduction". Fraud (theft, bribery, deceit) is just "getting one up on the competition". Profanity is just having a "potty mouth" or "freedom of speech". Covetous is just "getting ahead in life". Gossiping and being a busybody is just "staying informed". Disobedient to authority is just being "free spirited".

Consider Paul's sinful works of the flesh in Galatians 5:19-21. How would these sins be euphemized today? It would look something like this. Adultery - "a fling", "an affair", or "an open marriage". Fornication - "fooling around", "sleeping around," "sexually active", "making love", "significant other", or "living together". Uncleanness - "man of the world" or "experienced". Lasciviousness – "sexy", "hot", "stylish", "freedom of expression", or "artistic expression". Idolatry – "finding your own way to God" or being "creative". Sor-

cery / witchcraft – "new age", "experimenting", or "channeling".

Enmity / hatred – "hard feelings" or "discrimination". Strife – "not seeing eyeto-eye". Jealousies – "looking to my needs", "spread the wealth", or "I want a piece of the action". Wrath / anger – "losing your cool", "blowing off steam", "expressing frustration", "venting", or "road rage". Faction / strife – "personality clash", "just don't get alone with others well", or "socially challenged". Divisions – "open minded" or "different perspective" Parties / heresies – "free thinker" or "innovative ideas". Envyings – "keeping up with the Jones", "upwardly mobile", or "living the American dream".

Murders – "he got what was coming to him". Drunkenness – "high", "feeling good", "unwinding", "had a little too much", or "trouble with his drink". Revellings – "having a good time", "spring break", "partying", "living the high life", or being a "playboy".

What are we to do when sin is not "in"; when sin is not popular? Remember, a "woe" is pronounced against anyone who would call evil good (Isaiah 5:20); be it parents, politicians, preachers, or you and me. Why not just call sin what it is and label it as the Bible labels it! Why not just abhor what is evil and cleave to what is good (Romans 12:9)! - Chris Reeves