

## On Penknives and the Bible – No. 4

Dub McClish

After the fashion of Jehoiakim, the ungodly 6<sup>th</sup> century BC king of Judah, many today do in essence the same thing he actually did – take their “penknives” to portions of the Bible they find objectionable and cast them into the “fire” (Jer. 36:20–25). Consider:

- **“For this cause, God gave them up unto vile passions: for their women changed the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another, men with men working unseemliness, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was due”** (Rom. 1:26–27; cf. 1 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:10; Jude 7). As the pressure of “political correctness” (i.e., “censorship” or “thought/speech control”) has increased in our nation, outcries against evil have correspondingly become fewer and weaker. Homosexual behavior is a prime example of this fact. Only a few years ago various state laws forbade sodomy, but the Supreme Court struck those down.

Not surprisingly, an ever-growing humanism and secularism (promoted in public education for decades) has only contempt for the Book our Founding Fathers unblushingly read and revered. Secularists and humanists don’t bother with penknives; they toss the Bible *in toto* into the fire. They are therefore among the staunchest advocates of and/or sympathizers with behavior that is an abomination to their Creator.

Political correctness has made its mark on religious leaders – those generally considered a nation’s “conscience.” It has been startling to observe the alacrity with which various denominational leaders have virtually snipped from Sacred Writ God’s consistent condemnation (in both Testaments) of homosexual behavior. Not only are many of them now silent; some of them have become vocal apologists of that which God finds malodorous. In abandoning the Bible’s moral absolutes, they, too, have become secularists – all the while continuing their façade of hollow religiosity.

- **“Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment”** (John 7:24). The “politically correct” crowd revels in a statement from Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount: “Judge not, that ye be not judged” (Mat. 7:1). They misapply this proscription as forbidding one’s disapproval of even the most debased forms of human conduct. They then take their penknives to His words in John 7:24, in which Jesus acknowledges the necessity of judging others, but requiring us to use truth and righteousness as our standard.

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