

"Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles." Isaiah 40:31

June 30, 2013

## The Future of Marriage

As the bulwarks defending traditional marriage continue to erode, it's easy to become discouraged. But viewed from the standpoint of history, there is much about which we can remain optimistic.

"Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge" (Heb. 13:4).

As Christians in America, we have been terribly spoiled over the last couple of hundred years by a tradition of unfettered religious freedom based on a shared foundation of Judeo-Christian morality. But that era is rapidly coming to a close. We are now entering a neopagan era in which morality is untethered from any objective standard. The Supreme Court's decision this week to strike down the Defense of Marriage Act is another step in that direction.

However this legal battle continues to play out among the states in coming years, we can expect a couple of developments in the near-term. First, expect a renewed surge of support for the legalization of polygamy and polyandry. If gay marriage is constitutionally protected solely by virtue of people loving each other, then what is so sacred about the number "two"? Why can't a man have four wives? Or why can't three men and five women form a "marriage," as long as they all love each other? This is not idle speculation; activists are already openly pushing for this.

Second, expect increasing legal pressure against ministers and churches who continue to cling to the traditional definition of marriage and refuse to sanction or perform gay marriages. Politicians have been quick to reassure us that they will continue to respect the tradition of religious freedom in this country. But you can bet that as gay marriage opponents are further marginalized as bigots and hate mongerers-similar to racists and anti-Semites in earlier generations-it is only a matter of time before laws will be passed that prohibit "homophobia" as a hate crime subject to criminal penalties (including loss of tax exemptions). Trust me, there are people eagerly working right now to make that threat a reality.

Yet for all the doom and gloom that hangs over this issue for Christians, I remain optimistic about the long-term prospects for traditional marriage.

First, whatever the reasons for the increase in the number of people who

identify themselves as gay or lesbian, they are still a small minority — and are likely to remain so. The overwhelming majority of people are perfectly straight, and quite comfortable with forming relationships with members of the opposite sex. No matter how much propaganda the gay community may churn out, most people prefer a traditional male/ female relationship for themselves. I predict that will never change.

Second, like most forms of evil, the homosexual lifestyle carries within itself the seeds of its own destruction. Sooner or later, a society that promotes, glamorizes, and institutionalizes this misuse of human sexuality will implode or be destroyed from without. The take-down will be ugly, and innocent people will be hurt. But that's the inevitable end of a society that deliberately undermines the very foundation of its existence.

For in the end, this entire issue is about only one thing: the sanctity of the traditional family as the bedrock of civilization. Thousands of years of human experience will not be overthrown by a passing fad, no matter who supports it. - David King

