

died..., and the dogs licked up his blood where the harlots bathed according to the word of the Lord which he had spoken" (1 Kings 22:34-38).

How can you protect yourself? Repent! Repentance is very simple. When you repent you change your mind about your present lifestyle. You see your present lifestyle for what it is: sinful, wicked, evil, debauched, vain, carnal, futile, and worthless. You see that your life has been wasted serving your own lusts and pleasures rather than serving Jesus Christ. You see that your lifestyle is one that leads to death and hell, rather than eternal life with Jesus Christ and His people. If your change of mind is real, if it is sincere, then you will forsake your wicked lifestyle. "He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy" (Prov. 28:13). You must turn away from your sin and put your trust in Jesus Christ. If you believe in Jesus Christ, then your old life is put to death with Him on the cross. Then you are raised with Christ unto a new life of hope and obedience to God's Word. "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9).

This repentance also involves a change of mind regarding Jesus Christ—who He is, why He came to earth, and what He accomplished. Jesus can no longer be seen as merely a great teacher, or a moral example, but as the unique Divine-human Person, the Son of God, the Second Person in the Trinity. Jesus did not come to the earth only to teach ethics, or to help people have self-esteem or self-actualization. Jesus Christ provides a substitutionary atonement for His people (the elect). Jesus Christ, as a high priest, offered Himself on the cross as a blood sacrifice for sin. Remember God's holy, righteous nature demands that sins against Him be punished. Because of God's ethical perfection, no one with a sinful record can stand in His presence. Every sin carries with it the eternal death penalty. That is why God could not just overlook peoples' sins and let them go to heaven. A sacrificial death is required in order to cleanse and cover sins. Jesus Christ was the only one in existence who could provide the perfect sacrifice for sin. Why? Because, first, God would only accept a sinless

human sacrifice for sin. Jesus Christ is fully human, yet the *only* human without sin. Jesus Christ is a Lamb without spot, without blemish. Jesus Christ is also fully God, therefore His death is of infinite value to the Father. That is how the death of the One, Jesus Christ, could save so many (the elect). So, if you believe in Jesus Christ, your sins (past, present and future) are "laid upon" or imputed to Jesus Christ. The punishment that you justly deserved was transferred to Christ. "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree')" (Gal. 3:13). "For He made Him who knew no sin as sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5:21). Therefore, on the Day of Judgment you are clothed with Christ's righteousness and counted worthy of eternal life on account of Christ's merits (HIS blood and His life). We cannot earn heaven because even our best works are tainted with sin. But what we cannot accomplish, Jesus Christ accomplished. "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having been justified by His blood, we shall be saved by His life (cf. Rom. 8:5-10). If you do not believe that Jesus Christ is God, if you do not believe He lived a sinless, perfect life, if you do not believe that He was crucified and that He literally arose from a tomb after three days of being in a state of death, then you are lost. You have no hope. Your eternal damnation is sure. But if you believe then you have true forgiveness, true peace. You have been adopted into the very family of God. Welcome!

If you have any questions, or are interested in attending a Bible study or Church service, please contact:

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# HOW TO STOP THE AIDS EPIDEMIC.

by  
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America has partaken of the sexual revolution and now America is engulfed in what could be the worst plague ever—the AIDS epidemic. This epidemic is truly unique in our modern history. There is no cure for AIDS. It brings a virtually certain, agonizing death. Above all, the AIDS virus is spread almost exclusively through intimate sexual contact and intravenous drug abuse. The number of people contracting the infection from blood transfusions is virtually nil since the antibody test was introduced. What does this mean? It means that if Americans repented of their sinful, wicked behavior—illicit sex and drug abuse—the AIDS epidemic would be stopped dead in its tracks.

God is sovereign. He is in absolute control of all events. Why did God send such a devastating epidemic to strike this nation? One reason is this country's approval of, embracing of, and obsession with sexual immorality, or fornication. Fornication is used two ways in the Bible. It can mean sexual intercourse between unmarried people (cf. 1 Cor. 7:1-2); but it is also used more broadly to describe sexual sins in general (cf. Acts 15:20; Gal. 5:19). Today, people struggle to convince themselves that their illicit sexual behavior has no consequences; yet, the vast majority of aborted [re: murdered] babies have proved the contrary. They have been sacrificed (at the rate of one and a half million per year) on the altar of sexual perversion. "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (Jas. 1:15). Before America can repent, she must first see sexual sins as God sees them: wicked, unclean, destructive, abominable, sinning against one's own body. "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body" (1 Cor. 6:18). Instead of making heroes out of homosexuals, sodomites, and wicked, fornicating, whoremongering basketball stars, we must face the truth—God's truth.

In order to understand God's view of sexuality, we must focus on His infallible Word, the Bible. The following is a partial list describing how God feels about common sexual sins practised in our land. HOMOSEXUALITY is considered an abomination before God (cf. Gen. 19:4-11;

Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1:26-27; Jude 6-7). BESTIALITY, or having sex with animals, is wicked (cf. Lev. 18:23; 20:15-16). ADULTERY is a sin against the family and is to be punished by death (cf. Lev. 19:10; 20:11; Ex. 20:14; Deut. 5:18; 22:22-25). Jesus Christ taught that even to lust, in your heart, after another man's wife, merits hell (cf. Matt. 5:27-32). INCEST, in all its forms, is strictly forbidden (cf. Lev. 18:6-18; 20:12,14,17,19,21; Deut. 22:30; 1 Cor. 5:1-5). PROSTITUTION, male and female, is condemned in all its forms, ritualistic or otherwise (cf. Deut. 23:17-18; Prov. 7:6-27; 1 Cor. 6:15). In Revelation 17:5, prostitution is representative of rebellion and wickedness. If a man SEDUCED an unmarried or unengaged woman, he would have to pay her bride price (equal to three year's wages) and he would have to marry her, unless her father forbid it. In the latter case, he would still pay the bride price (cf. Ex. 22:16-17; Deut. 22:28-29). TRANSVESTITES and crossdressers are an abomination to God (cf. Deut. 22:5). RAPISTS (men who physically force women to have sex) are condemned to death (cf. Deut. 22:25-27). PORNOGRAPHY in every form is explicitly condemned (cf. Rom. 1:32).

Take note that although our society views premarital sex, living together without marriage, homosexuality, and adultery as normal behavior, God does not! God will not be mocked. Are you terrified by AIDS? Hell is much worse. According to God's Word, every sexual sin listed above, except lust and premarital sex, were punishable by death. (Hard core pornography is a form of prostitution.) God does not take sexual sin lightly. Premarital sex, widely accepted and practiced in our day, was viewed with such hatred by God that even after only one offense, the couple would be forced to marry and the man to pay a huge sum of money. God has spoken. Fornicators will not enter into His kingdom. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate [i.e. catamites; young boys kept for pederastic purposes], nor abusers of themselves with mankind [i.e. homosexuals or sodomites], nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards,

nor revilers, nor extortioners shall inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Cor. 6:9-10). "The fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8).

As in Israel of old, America is full of false prophets (the media, liberal ministers, government spokesmen and health officials), wicked priests (those ministers who have abandoned God's Word for secular humanism), and wicked, power-hungry princes (e.g. senators, congressmen, and government officials on the local, state, and national levels). And the people love to have it so (cf. Jer. 5:30-31). Why? Because the people don't want the truth. They love their sin instead of God. The false prophets and wicked leaders today do not command people to believe in Jesus Christ and submit to His authority as expressed in His law. They fail to warn people to repent of their sinful activities and put on the righteousness of Jesus Christ. Their message is, "Safe sex—put on a condom. Make sure you have your protection." But the TRUTH is, **God will judge this wicked nation for its rampant sexual immorality.**

Learn the lesson of King Ahab of Israel. Ahab was a wicked man. He forsook God's commandment and followed false gods (cf. 1 Kings 18:18). He failed to execute a wicked man, that God had condemned to death (cf. 1 Kings 20:42). And he was guilty of theft and murder (cf. 1 Kings 21:16). God proclaimed judgment and disaster against Ahab (cf. 1 Kings 21:19; 22:23). Ahab would be killed and dogs would lick up his blood. What did Ahab do? Ahab put on a phony, temporary repentance (cf. 1 Kings 21:27) and resumed his evil ways (cf. 1 Kings 22:26-27). Ahab loved sin. He loved power. He did not really want to repent. So, Ahab put on a phony repentance and put on body armor when he went into battle. Ahab disguised himself (cf. 1 Kings 22:30) and trusted in his armor—his prophylactic,—rather than in God and His Word. But God will not be mocked. God wants a real lasting repentance (cf. 2 Cor. 7:10), not a disguise. "Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of his armor. So the king