

BACK TO BAAL!

TEXT: 1 Kings 18:21

INTRO.: A. The two prime sins of Israel which brought about God's wrath and judgment and their ultimate world-wide dispersion were **the sacrifice of their babies and children to the false god Baal, and their practice of sex perversion**. These sins were labeled an "**abomination**" meaning they were *repugnant, detestable, loathsome, unclean or filthy* from God's viewpoint.

B. The children of Israel offered their babies and small children to the image of Baal. God warned them again and again against this vile practice. The false god Baal was considered a god of fertility guaranteeing his worshippers rain, sunshine and thus good crops. In spite of 40 years in the desert where the true God provided all their needs, the Israelites were led into the Promised Land, **a land flowing with milk and honey**, implying the blessings of Jehovah. But they wouldn't trust Jehovah and turned to **the false god Baal**. Baal was also considered the god of human fertility (sex-perversion) and in his temples there were **male and female prostitutes and homosexuals (men and women), and no doubt, transvestites, who were a part of Baal "worship"**.

C. Because Israel refused to heed God's warnings against idolatry (involving both of these heinous sins) again and again God finally brought down His gavel and declared them **guilty** and sentenced them to world-wide dispersion. **The Lord had no alternative but to judge the nation**. They continue in dispersion now, centuries later.

TRANS.: America is repeating these two **abominable (an immoral perversion of God's created order)** sins today and the result will again be God's judgment! Whether that judgment will manifest itself as removing America as a world power or leading to socialism and a dictatorship or perhaps even the Tribulation...only time will tell. But judgment is inevitable. God will have no choice without national repentance.

I. ISRAEL'S HISTORY:

A. God's Promised Land:

1. God called Abraham and promise him and his posterity a special piece of geography.
2. He said He would make him a great nation with untold blessings in store.

3Gen 12:1-2 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: Ge 12:1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

- a. Though Abraham was obedient in some areas he and his 12 sons failed God.
- b. God had to judge and punish them by sending them into Egypt and the nation experienced centuries of harsh treatment under the taskmasters there.

B. God's Deliverance:

1. God miraculously delivered them until they once again failed Him and they ended up wandering in the wilderness for 40 loooong years. The longest funeral procession on record. **Judgment!**
2. Next came the command to conquer the land with victory guaranteed by God if they would just obey Him and rout the Canaanites and the giants. (Another message)

C. Israel's Failures:

1. They failed under Moses and Joshua and ended up with a period where **"every man did that which was right in his own eyes.."**
2. They finally asked to have a King like other nations instead of Judges and **God gave them the desires of their heart (again) but sent leanness to their souls!**
 - a. God split the Kingdom into the North and South with 19 bad kings and no good Kings in the Northern Kingdom of Israel and only 8 out of 20 good kings in the Southern Kingdom of Judah spanning a period covering about 400 years!
 - b. Again and again in these years they continued in idolatry and Baal worship.
 - c. God's gavel pounded his judgment bench again and His final judgment was **captivity and dispersion**.
 - d. Their two crowning sins were **the spilling of innocent blood** on the altar of Baal (and Molech...and the failure to deal with **sex perversion**, especially Homosexuality (**Sodomy** – punishable by death by stoning!).

NOTE: America has now accepted **homosexuality, lesbianism, same sex marriage**, and will soon accept the most gross of her sins...**transgenderism**. Not only has our once great nation, founded on the **King James Bible**, followed in Israel's footsteps, but it

has gone beyond in making any negative statements about either labeled "**hate speech**"! The day is just around the corner when preachers will be totally muzzled and even jailed if they violate this law. (*Many preachers have already bailed out on God and His Word and refuse to mention these sins.*) Bible believers have become a part of the "**Cancel Culture**" they seek to rid our nation of.

3. Again and again God judged the nation for allowing homosexuality instead of basmiishing it for good – a good king would banish it and a bad king would encourage it.
4. Again and again God judged Israel for offering their children on Baal's or Molech's altars.

II. AMERICA'S HISTORY:

A. Our Great Beginnings:

1. In all of her freedom documents the Founding Fathers of America quoted from God's Word or used its principles for the beginning of our once great nation.
 - a. God has blessed America due to its foundation again and again.
 - b. We began a downward trend in the 60's & 70's with the "sexual revolution".
 - c. Then in January 1973, the Supreme Court issued a 7–2 decision ruling that the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides a "**right to privacy**" that protects a pregnant woman's right to choose whether or not to have an abortion.
 - d. Simply stated women can now **murder their unborn or almost born babies** under the Guise of "women's rights" – **nothing is mentioned about the baby's rights!**
 - e. We have now even gone so far in some jurisdictions as to allow **partial-birth abortions**.
 - f. From 1973 to 2011 we have murdered **over 50 million infants!!!!**
 - g. If you don't think God has noticed...think again!

Pr 15:3 *The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.*

NOTE: We haven't yet started a national Baal religious cult in America where homosexual activity is a part of our worship or where we offer our babies on an altar during our church services (although there are "**LGBTQ churches**") and burn them alive, we instead simply kill them before or close to their birth where unbelieving Drs, nurses & would-be parents cooperate.

2. We have a consistent God who judged Israel and almost annihilated her again and again until finally banishing her from her Promised Land.
 - a. Will God have to apologize to Sodom & Gomorrah and to Israel if He fails to finally and fatally judge America?!
 - b. Is judgment on God's calendar of events for our once great nation?
 - c. The answer is an emphatic **YES!** The only question is **WHEN?**

CONCL.: This message is not simply a "DOOM AND GLOOM" sermon to alarm believers, but rather a warning that the only hope for America is God & His Word.

God warned Israel again and again before pronouncing His final judgment by sending prophets, preachers and disasters. He has been warning America with "acts of God" - an increase in wild fires, hurricanes, etc. and now a worldwide Pandemic, along with warnings from men of God. **The question is - IS AMERICA (or anyone) LISTENING?**

The answer lies with believers selling out to God, witnessing to and winning lost souls, being faithful in Bible study, church services and rededication.