

NEWS AND VIEWS
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*“Southern Baptists with the Full
Gospel for the Whole World”*

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At the time of this writing it sounds like the public outcry through the media outlets is the result of someone ruffling some feathers. Sorry for that cliché. But I follow with no small amount of interest the recent cultural warfare being waged concerning the interview of the *Duck Dynasty* patriarch by *GQ* magazine. In response to some questions about what a man believes about sin, Phil Robertson, star of the hugely popular TV series and first generation duck call entrepreneur, has lit the match to a firestorm about the insanity of sin. With some vividly expressive anatomical descriptions of human body parts, he compares male same sex attraction with men to the non-attraction to women and puzzles over it all. It makes no sense to him. It seems unnatural to him, against some instinctive and grand design. He's not the first, nor will he be the last, to proclaim that the Lord God Almighty has a plan for men and women to be together in every way, but specifically sexually. And it's written down so no one can say they did not know. Phil sounds like Paul. Romans 1 says that truth suppression is different from truth denial.

I have heard it said that marriage is the only scenario where two sinners can legitimately live together. And the Lord God Almighty has declared that it be between one man and one woman. This is by design. Seems like this was what Phil was getting at. God's plan. I am not the least bit surprised at the loud voices in our culture declaring that traditional marriage and family is an antiquated institutional principle. Sin seeks to justify the life of the sinner. But what I am most troubled about is the Christian response. I watched a television interview last night of two religious experts. Both of them were professing Christians attempting to make a distinction between the sin of homosexuality, and the nature of it. They were trying to justify the cultural argument that homosexuals are born with these desires and hold to their doctrine that it only becomes sin when they act upon it. How do they know this? Has some scientific expert proven the existence of a homosexual gene? I would argue the point that all sin is desire disordered, and a lustful heart is condemned by Someone with the only legitimate authority to do so. It is written. These two clergymen scoffed at the unqualified opinion of a man who builds duck calls to speak about theology. I found this most offensive. Born again men have always collided with religious men. Religious does not mean regenerate. I seem to have read about this attitude before...

Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus. (Acts 4:13)

Now I do have an opinion about *immoral* homosexuality and heterosexual sexual activity. A sexual encounter outside of the boundaries of marriage is sin. It is desire that is out of order. And it doesn't matter what my opinion is as much as what God has said. *It is written*. So now I get to the big idea. The time in history is upon us. Our culture of degeneration is bearing fruit. People in general get their information as to what is important from the popular culture and a news media that seeks to suppress the truth of God. Wouldn't it be just like the Lord God Almighty to raise up a most unlikely candidate to speak truth from what is written...even in a blunt and coarse manner from a platform that everyone can hear? God's prophets have declared throughout salvation history from God's word...*thus says the Lord...it is written...*

We are living in a day when the *Cultural Christian* is being deceived...and to keep from being deceived, the Christian must become a *Biblical Christian*. To know what God has said, we must read what God has said. Christian...come out of all sin you are practicing and thinking God is ok with it...*repent*...God is not mocked...be not deceived...know what you believe about Jesus...from what the Bible declares. And don't be surprised if it ruffles a few feathers!

Blessings to you,
Pastor Sam