



# Issachar Comments Papers

Expounding biblical concepts on the world scene today

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## DESTROYING THE FAMILY

It is as though some invisible force is driving our nation to destruction. Like lemmings heading for the cliff edge we are being carried, whether we like it or not, into an abyss of social destruction. We have a Prime Minister who is beyond reason on a central issue affecting the health, well-being and stability of the nation, with half of his MPs opposing him; yet he will not listen!

### Cameron the Gravedigger

This is the situation with the Same-Sex Marriage issue that David Cameron is trying to force through Parliament. It is reported that he is even going to put a three-line-whip on a Timetable Motion to limit discussion on the Bill to redefine marriage. For a nation that boasts the oldest parliamentary democracy in the world this defies belief! Not only is he determined to do something that is directly opposed to the word of God in the Bible but he is doing something that is sociological suicide: that will inevitably lead to destroying traditional family life - and possibly also to the disintegration of the Conservative Party; if they cannot even conserve family values what are they conserving? Cameron is digging the grave of his own Party.

### Family: Foundation of Society

"The family is the building block of society" so said the Right Hon Jack Straw MP (Labour) when he was Home Secretary in July 1998 at a meeting in Parliament. He was receiving a report on family life in Britain which I and a team of eight academics had prepared. Significantly the meeting was in the Moses Room in the House of Lords decorated with massive wall murals of Moses receiving the 10 Commandments! These used to be the foundation stones of our Parliament! Jack Straw said that the health of society and its children depend upon the strength and stability of family life.

Sociologically this is true. When family life is weakened children are the first to suffer. They depend upon the love, support, encouragement and guidance that they draw from parents and siblings within the family home. This is why children suffer depression and mental health problems when their parents divorce, or there are constant scenes of violence in the home. The family is the place where the character of infants is formed and where children learn the difference between right and wrong; the basics of morality. It is where they learn what is acceptable in personal relationships and the boundaries of social behaviour. When the family breaks down it is not just a few individuals who are affected, but the whole of society is impacted.

### Redfining Marriage

By redefining marriage we are going against God's act of creation where he said that he created male and female in his own image and he defined marriage as the coming together of one man and one woman in a faithful relationship of love and mutual caring, and for the procreation, bonding and support of children. Same-sex marriage cannot deliver this! It is not only directly against the word of God in the Old Testament but it is also roundly condemned in the New Testament. Paul says, in a forthright

statement in 1 Corinthians 6.9, *"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders... will inherit the kingdom of God."*

## Complications

If same-sex marriage becomes legal there are huge complications. What defines the 'consummation' of such a sham 'marriage' between two men or two women? How will adultery be defined? What will be the grounds of divorce for a same-sex marriage?

Once you start meddling with marriage the whole gamut of moral values in personal relationships is disturbed. Everything will have to be redefined. Mothers and fathers will disappear. (The Fatherhood of God will be unknown and unknowable) There will be no clear definition of morality to undergird the stability of society. The **sociological** consequences of redefining marriage are mind-boggling.

## Spiritual Complications

Of even greater consequence are the spiritual implications of what our political masters are doing to the nation. Isaiah says **"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight."** This is a good description of our present Government who have the temerity to think that they know more than God! They have no idea of the harm they are going to do to the nation and the judgement they are going to bring upon themselves for their spiritual arrogance and refusal to take wise counsel even from their own God-fearing backbenchers!

## When Leaders Won't Listen...

In ancient Israel when the leaders of the nation refused to listen to the word of God they brought judgement upon themselves and upon the nation. This was the situation in Jeremiah's day when the King and the Government refused to listen to the warnings sent by God. Jeremiah was told by the Lord, *"Therefore say to them, 'This is the nation that has not obeyed the Lord its God or responded to correction. Truth has perished; it has vanished from their lips.... The Lord has rejected and abandoned this generation that is under his wrath!'"* (Jeremiah 7.28)

## Looking into the Future

This is the word of the Lord to Britain today. Many years ago the Lord spoke to me saying that as a nation we had chosen the way we wanted to go and he would allow us to go that way until we recognised the mess that we had brought upon ourselves. At that time there would be a new openness to hearing the word of the Lord. That is what I expect to happen.

Things are going to get considerably worse in our nation: in the economy, in social unrest, in lawlessness, in immorality and in broken relationships. These things will be a consequence of the godless leadership of our politicians and the weakness of the institutional church and the failure of the church to declare the word of the Lord to the people. But the day will come when people will begin to cry out, "Oh God, what's gone wrong?" When that time comes there will be a huge opportunity for the people of God who know the Bible and the teaching of Jesus to bring the word of the Lord to the nation. The wish of Moses will be fulfilled, ***"I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!"*** (Numbers 11.29).

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