



Key Notes

*I*f I was Satan and my goal was to destroy civilization and create social chaos, I think I would begin with the dictionary. If I could change the meaning of words I could change the way people think. Ah yes, that would open the floodgates of hell itself and make possible the attainment of my nefarious purposes.

My dictionary would define gambling as “gaming” and adultery as an “affair.” Drunkenness would be described as a “disease” and the killing of unborn children would be redefined as “choice.” But perhaps my greatest efforts would focus on a redefinition of marriage. My new dictionary would look like this.

Marriage. The legal union of a man and a woman, a man and a man, or a woman and a woman.

On April 27, Governor Eliot Spitzer introduced a bill that would redefine the institution of marriage in New York to include homosexual partnerships. With all due respect, he has served the devil’s purposes well! Some will say this is a political issue and the church should not get involved. I could not disagree more. The issue is profoundly moral and if God’s people do not speak up, who will?

For thousands of years western civilization has been almost unanimous in its definition of marriage as the joining together of one woman and one man in a lifelong, exclusive relationship of mutual care, support and intimacy. Tampering with this definition is tantamount to undermining the very foundations on which our civilization is built.

The Bible defines God’s intention for marriage in Genesis 1-2. If we remain silent while special interest groups change the definition of words, we will be complicit in the downward spiral of our civilization. The city of Sodom disappeared from history when she legitimized gender confusion and failed to protect the traditional family. I fear the same fate awaits all those civilizations who tamper with God’s definition of words!

In Psalm 11 David asks a pertinent question: *When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do? (v. 3)*. Let me humbly suggest some things God’s people *can* do, and *should* do, in such a time as this:

- **Repent.** Ask God to have mercy on our culture’s willful rebellion against Him and His ways.
- **Love.** If your responses to this issue are motivated by hate or fear... then you will be part of the problem and not part of the answer. Hate sin. Love sinners.
- **Then, act.** Contact the governor’s office and your state legislators and let them know what you think about this issue.

Pastor Stan