

Hedonism

Judges 21:25: In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

As an ethical hedonist, the 18th-19th-century English utilitarian philosopher and proto-bleeding-heart-liberal Jeremy Bentham, believed that right and wrong could be determined by weighing the “pleasures” and “pains” of any given action, with an action that produced more pleasure than pain being morally right. Jeremy would have enjoyed living in the moral quagmire that characterizes the age in which we now exist. How anyone can believe that we are an evolving species remains an enigma to me.

In the 1960's the watchword was: “If it feels good, do it”. As a generation uninhibited by moral constraint they sought to break down every barrier to satiate their unbridled lusts with riotous living. Sexual mores were cast to the wind along with any vestige of respect for traditional authority. We rapidly descended into the rabbit hole of degradation.

Without God's law to anchor us we would have to depend on an inner moral compass to establish societal law and order. Considering the resident, depraved nature of man without God, one can easily see how rapid the collapse of moral order would devolve.

For centuries the moral relativists have been espousing the notion that there is no absolute truth. Even Pontius Pilate was affected by the prevailing notion that truth was an elusive, abstract concept when he uttered his rhetorical question : “What is Truth?”. After which he delivered the Son of God to the capricious multitude to do to Him what they thought was “right in their own eyes”.

The age will end when the “man of sin” takes center stage and God and His laws are jettisoned. It is then that “God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness”. Thinking themselves to be free thinkers they will be put in bondage “While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”

Believers serve the King of kings and possess an unswerving certitude in regards to what is right and what is wrong. Accompanying the gift of eternal life, the Lord has endowed His children with the “mind of Christ” that can “judge all things”. No longer must we trust our deceived hearts to adjudicate the rectitude of any issue for God has spoken and “the scripture cannot be broken”.

Have a blessed day,

Pastor