

It is very telling that the enemy (the devil) never ceases his incremental push to bring sin into a human heart and into the heart of a nation. He always works incrementally. Witness his first assault on God's children in the garden, "**Did God really say?**" He begins by bringing God's Word into question. He then moves by directly contradicting God's Word, "**you surely will not die.**" Finally, he calls the very character and motive of God into question, "**For God knows that when you eat of it (the tree of the knowledge of good and evil) your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God...**"

The devil wants us to doubt God's love and care for us. He wants us to believe that God is withholding things from us because He is afraid we will become like Him – He doesn't want the competition. Yes, the devil, who has come to lead the whole world astray (**Revelation 12:7-12**), always works incrementally to obfuscate truth. Slowly but surely, lie by lie, day after day, he creates doubt which leads to unbelief, which leads to disobedience, which leads to curse.

### Who Is Most Susceptible to the Devil's Lie?

Those struggling with their sexual identity and homosexual tendencies are particularly vulnerable in this battle. Most didn't choose how their sinful nature would manifest itself. They simply knew they were different. They didn't choose to be attracted to the same sex – they just were. The devil is very aware of this and begins whispering into their ear, "**Did God really say?**"

The conflict and struggle over what God says, and the unbridled passions of the flesh become almost too much to bare. The mind begins to justify all that the wicked heart conceives. The devil is right there, "**You surely will not die.**" Over time, the mind begins to accept the lie (I was born this way) and outright contradicts God's Word. This brings with it disobedience and death! "**...all who hate me love death.**" **Proverbs 8:36.**

### Nations Are Also Susceptible

The heart of America has been incrementally turned over to the devil's lie. Sexual "freedom," abortion, homosexuality, euthanasia, false religions are all the rage. While God's Word and His Ten Commandments are being shoved into a closet. The prophet Isaiah condemned his adulterous nation Israel: "**So justice is driven back and righteousness stands at a distance, truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. Truth is nowhere to be found... The Lord looked and was displeased that there was no justice.**" **Isaiah 59:14-15.** When the truth of God's Holy Word is removed from the battle, all hell is free to rob, kill, and destroy.

### Incrementalism is the Devil's Way

This is the devil's modus-operandi. It is called incrementalism. He has led many hearts and many nations away from God with this calculated treachery. Witness the whole *Creation vs. Evolution* controversy in America:

*Charles Darwin wrote the "Origin of the Species" in 1859 – a lie birthed in the pit of hell. Most saw it for the lie that it was but, as time passed, many intellectuals found it a convenient tool to remove God and His Word from man and his origin. Incrementalism at its finest.*

*In 1927, the infamous Scopes Trial in Dayton, Tennessee placed God on trial and found Him irrelevant to man's creation and purpose. Evolution and Creation were now to be taught side by side in our nation's schools. Both were considered equally valid. But it was never the devil's intention that Evolution and Creation remain in this pluralistic state. Pluralism is never an end state - it is that middle ground moving from one god and rule of law, to another. It wasn't long before Evolution alone was considered the only truly scientific explanation of creation and therefore was the*

*only theory allowed to be taught. Creation was considered a mere fairy tale, and that is where we find ourselves today.*

### Incrementalism Is Not God's Way

Some say, "if incrementalism works for the devil maybe we ought to employ the same method to overcome him." This is a huge error! Witness the way we, in the pro-life movement, have attempted to overcome the lie of *Roe v. Wade*. Rather than fighting the battle with the truth of God's Word, we have busied ourselves by incrementally trying to overcome the lie of abortion with compromising pieces of legislation: Parental Notification, Parental Consent, Partial Birth Abortion Ban, ad nauseam.

It won't work! God's blessing will not be upon it. Oh, incremental legislation may stop some abortions, but it will never end ABORTION! The devil know this.

Working toward justice, however, is not being just. To be just one must wield the sharp double edged Sword of the Spirit—the Word of God, and let the chips fall where they may.

Let me explain. During slavery in the antebellum South, many did not believe slaves to be human beings – a lie from the devil himself. As a matter of fact, the Dredd Scott Decision in 1857, legally rendered our black brothers and sisters as "property" of slave masters. The problem with this was that property can't vote. This did not bode well in the South, so it came up with a piece of legislation that made slaves 3/5's of a person for voting purposes.

Seems like progress doesn't it? Instead of being mere "property" the slave was now considered 3/5's of a man. Of course this wasn't the truth, but it was nevertheless progress right? Wrong!

The devil laughs when we incrementally try to overcome him by our own political machinations.

He knows it prevents us from wielding the sharp double edged Sword of the Spirit—the one weapon he cannot withstand. The Truth of God’s Word will always put an end to the lie! The one offensive weapon we have to tear down the strongholds of the devil is the Word of God. It is the very thing Jesus used when He was tempted by the devil. It behooves us to do the same.

### **God’s Way is Standing Upon His Word**

We must never attempt to incrementally work toward justice. We are simply commanded by God to act justly: *“He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8.*

In God’s eyes, slaves were never 3/5’s of a person, they were 5/5’s of a person created in the very image of God. The only just thing to do at a time like this is to stand on the Word of God and declare our black brothers and sisters fully human.

If we are to crush the head of satan and his lies, we must unsheathe the Sword of the Spirit. We must stand uncompromisingly on the Word of God! The reason? It puts an end to the lies of the devil.

The Word of God tells the truth about our wretched estate, just as it did when Isaiah saw the Lord (**Isaiah 6:1-8**). He realized that he was a man of unclean lips and needed the mercy of Almighty God to make him right! Justice had to do its awful work before God’s mercy could flow. This same thing is true for our brothers and sisters lost in the sin of homosexuality.

If God’s mercy is ever to be poured out and the power of God released in their lives, it will be because the lie they believed was crushed by the truth of God’s Word.

This is what the homosexual community needs—the powerful, judgmental, and absolutely

righteous Word of God. Not some watered down, bridge-building, *relationship evangelism* that tries to meet the homosexual half-way.

Those lost in homosexual bondage and lust need the unadulterated Word of God. It silences the devil and his wiles. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. We must never doubt the efficacy of God's Word. If we love our brothers and sisters lost in the sin of homosexuality, we must bring the TRUTH that will set them free.

We have to stop trying to build bridges to incrementally overcome the enemy’s lies, and start storming the gates of hell with the truth of God's Word. It will dispel the lie. No more namby-pamby, milk-toasty, worrying about what others may think. Just standing absolutely on God's holy writ! This is what Jesus did!

When He was tempted by the devil, He didn't sit down and try to reason with him, and make a deal so that there could be some compromise drawn. He wasn't looking for some “common ground” between Him and the devil.

He declared war on all the enemy's offers by standing firmly upon the Word of God. Perhaps we ought to do the same. *“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:32.*

This is called storming the gates of hell. They cannot prevail against the Church of Jesus Christ!

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