

Unpopular Bible Doctrines #9: God Condemns Sex by Same Sex & with Animals

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Unpopular Bible Doctrines

By Larry Wessels

Bible Text: 1 Kings 15:11-12; Matthew 12:3,5

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Larry Wessels: Greetings and welcome to Christian Answers. I'm Larry Wessels, Director of Christian Answers and thank you for being with us today. Today we're doing a very special series of programs on Bible doctrines that are deemed to be unpopular. Now, joining me in this Unpopular Bible Doctrines series is my very special guest and Director of Pilgrim Publications, Bob L. Ross. Bob, great to have you, brother.

Bob L. Ross: Thank you, Larry.

Larry: Bob L. Ross is one of the world's leading publishers of the works of Charles Haddon Spurgeon, the famous Prince of Preachers from the 19th century. Now, Bob, for our audience, could you tell us a little bit about Charles Haddon Spurgeon and some of the works you have there with you.

Bob: Well Larry, probably most of the people listening to this program may be acquainted with Spurgeon because they would have an interest in Christian things and Spurgeon has been around a long time but our interest in Spurgeon, of course, is in his sermons and works that were published in the 1800s, reprinting those and making them available. They are on the internet now more and more. They are being added to the internet even many of his books and, of course, they're on cd rom and in many ways they are getting used in the world and one of the ways is this book here that we just recently did not too long ago, anyway. It's Spanish sermons. Spurgeon in Spanish and there is a website now, a gentleman in Mexico City, a good friend of ours, is translating and putting Spurgeon sermons on the internet in Spanish and this is one of the first books that has been done, "36 Sermons by Spurgeon on the Gospel," and this is the Spanish language edition of it. So we're trying to get Spurgeon known not only to the English speaking world of our generation but to other languages and in the United States where we have a great population of Spanish speaking people, we think this book would make a great contribution to helping to spread the Gospel.

Then we have another book and this is an unusual book. A gentleman read through the entire 3,563 sermons, I think, of Spurgeon's sermons. It took him about seven years to do it and he collected these quotations, over 5,000 illustrations and quotations from

Spurgeon on a variety of subjects. A lot of times people say, "I wonder what Spurgeon thought of that? I wonder what his idea was about this particular thing?" Well, you can go in here and he's got it indexed. He's got all the quotations referenced. Sometimes you pick up a book of quotations from Spurgeon and they're not referenced. You don't know where it came from. It could have come from John Doe and you'd never know but this man has it all referenced where you can find it in the context of the sermons themselves and trace it down if you want to read it in context to see if that indeed was what it sounded like when you read the excerpt. So it's called "Exploring the Mind and Heart of the Prince of Preachers: C. H. Spurgeon," put together by Kerry J. Allen, a Baptist pastor from up in Illinois and this is one of our latest publications here that we are helping. We didn't actually publish this one but we're helping to distribute this book. So that's a little bit of information about Spurgeon.

Larry: Alright Bob, and for our audience, anyone that is interested in more on this subject, particularly the works and sermons of Charles Haddon Spurgeon, just call or write our ministry. You'll see those phone numbers and our address will be popping up at the end of the program so feel free to call or write. Also, if you'd like to get on our free newsletter mailing list, you can call or write to our ministry, Christian Answers, and you will receive a free subscription to the Christian Answers newsletter whenever it comes out. So that is yours for the asking, basically.

Well, with that, we'll begin our program, that would be Unpopular Doctrine. Now, in this day and age, this is really unpopular and getting even more unpopular. Bob, we might get thrown in jail some day for this one but that's life. Unpopular Doctrine #43: Homosexuality, Lesbianism and Bestiality are condemned by God. Now, as the people can see this at home on their chart, I'm going to run through some Scripture references and here we go.

Deuteronomy 22:5. No cross dressing allowed. In other words, men are not supposed to wear women's clothes and women are not supposed to wear men's clothes so that's forbidden by God according to the law of Moses.

1 Kings 15:11-12. King Asa removed all the Sodomites and was commended by God for that.

1 Corinthians 6:9. Abusers of themselves with mankind or listed in the category of sins against God.

Romans 1:24-32. Homosexuals and lesbians are condemned there in that reference. In fact, I was speaking at the UT campus one day and this guy was asking about whether the Bible condemned homosexuality and all I did was read that passage, Romans 1:24-32. I just read it, I didn't give any interpretation or anything else and he got so mad that he just stomped off so he got the meaning of that passage and he didn't like it.

2 Kings 23:7. Josiah breaks down houses of the Sodomites and was commended by God.

1 Kings 22:46. Asa took Sodomites out of the land.

Deuteronomy 23:17. No Sodomites are allowed of the sons of Israel.

Leviticus 18:22. Do not lie with mankind, no homosexuality allowed.

Leviticus 20:13. Homosexuals are to be put to death under the Mosaic law.

Leviticus 18:23. No sex with animals. Now, it's interesting there if the viewers have seen these verses, you'll notice I just mentioned Leviticus 18:22 which talks about no homosexuality, the very next verse in Leviticus 18, the very next verse after no homosexuality is no sex with animals so bestiality is condemned right after homosexuality.

Exodus 22:19. Death for those having sex with animals.

Leviticus 20:15. The man and animal are both to be killed.

Deuteronomy 27:21. Cursed are they that lie with animals.

1 Timothy 1:8-10. Homosexuals are called ungodly and sinners.

Then, of course, we can't forget about what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19, particularly when the Sodomites were trying to break into Lot's house and get after those angels. It's pretty obvious what was happening there.

Deuteronomy 22:5. The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

Romans 1:24-32. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Leviticus 20:13. If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

Exodus 22:19. Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

Larry: Okay Bob, I just went over these very unpopular doctrines. In our day and age, we have metropolitan churches which are homosexual churches, people say, "God is too loving to, you know, these are antiquated and outdated ideas." We kind of touched on this kind of stuff before when we dealt with women pastors but people are now saying that you should have homosexual marriages, it should be ordained by law, they should get health insurance for this. All this homosexuality, lesbianism and, of course, the bestiality that we have in there, it all seems to be the politically correct thing to go with today. What are your comments on this?

Bob: Well, you know, this thing that we have today that is in the area of politics and some of the churches even and various categories of society, there is just nothing good that we can foresee coming from this particular practice and certainly how anyone could try to justify this kind of behavior from the word of God is inexplicable because over and over again we are warned. You know, it just seems to me that common sense would dictate to these folks that what they are doing leads to death because just look at all the massive consequences, at least what appears to be consequences, of practicing this particular lifestyle.

I baptized a gentleman years ago in a northern state and he was a professed Christian, married, had a family, I recall maybe at least 2 young daughters and maybe a son and, well, something along the way, I don't know when it happened or what triggered it but he got involved in the early stages of the, what was that movement up in New York, that night club that was popular with the gays and lesbian people up there?

Larry: I think I know what you're talking about. Some famous discotheque or something like that. Studio 54.

Bob: Yeah, I think that was it. I can't remember the name of it but it was very famous and being a musician, he almost had, you might say, a ticket into that situation. He was very good as a musician and he got involved in that. That was when it was the most rampant forms of sexual misconduct or sexual aberrations or sexual abnormalities or whatever you want to call it, irregular sex practices of those days and they didn't know what AIDS was then. They didn't know.

Well, of course, he got AIDS and he died. Eventually he died. This was right when the AIDS epidemic was starting and one of his daughters went on to be an accomplished, successful actress to some degree and the other daughter wrote a book talking about her father, telling about these things and the mother is a devoted Christian. But it's just a very sad thing for me as an individual being close to this family like I was at one time, at least,

close enough that we stayed in their home and I baptized him. It's just a sad, sad thing and to me, when you talk about this kind of sexual behavior, that's what I think about: the sadness; the death; the families that are destroyed; the children that are affected by all this. Why they can't see that that's the ultimate result of it and have that work on them to repent of their sin and trust in Christ is just beyond me, Larry.

Larry: That just shows the point of the matter that men when they get away from the laws of God, a personal relationship with God through the Lord Jesus Christ because Jesus said, "If a man loves me, he will keep my commandments and my Father will love him," Jesus said. But the problem is people start getting into idolatry which in this case can be sex, perverted sex of one thing or another, and they're putting God out of their minds and pursuing this form of idolatry to bring themselves to where they're really more lovers of pleasures rather than lovers of God. This just another problem that we have with people who put other things ahead of God and, of course, God says that you are to have no other Gods before him, one of the first commandments in the Ten Commandments, the first commandment. So when they think more about having perverted sex or whatever kind of sex or even adultery or whatever else is going on, you see, they are putting something else as more important in their lives than God himself and God is going to judge that because we are each morally culpable to the God who made us and that's what's happening here and this is why God condemns this type of behavior.

It also goes back to the consequences that Bob was bringing up where it affects children, you know, the man died of AIDS. I know several homosexual people that have died of AIDS over the years myself so there are consequences and Paul even brought this out in Romans 1, towards the end of the chapter there where he says, "they will receive in their bodies the just recompense for their error." So there are consequences to violating the ways and laws of God. God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve. I know it's an old saying but it's still true. There is a natural order of things. I was not made to be a woman and be in child-bearing. I was made a man. Women are made a certain way and God made them that way to perform certain natural functions and homosexuality, lesbianism and bestiality are definitely unnatural and not the way God created people to be. It's not in his natural order of things and this is another reason why God condemns it big time in the Scriptures.

Alright, our next unpopular doctrine is Unpopular Bible Doctrine #44. As you can see on the chart at home: God commands people to study his word. Now, this is very unpopular because not that many people study his word. When I talk about studying his word, I'm not talking about looking at it a little during a 10 minute sermon on a Sunday morning and that's the only time you look at your Bible. We're talking about actually sitting down and studying it from day to day, listening to it on Bible cds, listening to it on audio cassette while you're at work or whatever. Really getting into the word of God. Going to extra Bible studies. Participating in this, not just thinking you're studying the Bible because you went to a 10 minute sermon on a Sunday morning at some church and heard some wishy-washy sermon perhaps.

Anyway, as you see on the chart, 2 Timothy 2:15. It says to study to show thyself approved. A workman needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Matthew 12:3, 5 and also Matthew 19:4, Matthew 21:16 and 42, give you more references where Jesus is basically saying, "Have you not studied? Do you not know? Haven't you looked?" And, of course, that's the same with Matthew 22:31, Mark 2:25, Mark 12:10, 26, Luke 6:3. Jesus was constantly questioning people about their Bible study. "Have you not read?" He was almost surprised that these guys didn't know the word of God and why didn't they know the word of God? You're supposed to be studying it.

Revelation 1:3. Blessings are promised to the reader of the book.

Acts 17:11. The Bereans were more noble because they examined the Scriptures daily and Bob brought this out earlier in the show.

Matthew 4:4. Man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God and you only find that through the Scriptures, the Bible.

Luke 16:29-31 where Jesus gets the parable of the rich man and Lazarus and he talks about how Moses is talking to the rich man and there you have Abraham talking to the rich man and he says, "Look, they are not going to be believing anything, even if someone were to raise from the dead. They have Moses and the prophets." Of course, as you remember from that teaching that Jesus gave there that the rich man didn't think Moses and the prophets were going to do it for his brothers but, hey, you know, if you don't believe the word of God, someone that rises from the dead is not going to do you any good, basically is what you get there in Luke 16.

Psalms 119. The importance of the word of God. You have 176 verses on the subject in Psalm 119 on how important the word of God is.

2 Chronicles 34:14-30. They find the lost book of the law, King Josiah has it read to the people. It's kind of been stuck away for a long time and then they realize, "Uh-oh, we've got to get on the stick. We've got to study this word. We've got to learn it and follow what it says."

Amos 8:11-14. This is a big time curse in my opinion. The Bible is full of curses that God puts on people but here's one that really takes people for a loop and in Amos 8, God curses people by sending a famine of the word of God. In other words, they won't get it and that's a curse of God when you are not provided with the words God has to tell you that lead to life.

Acts 17:11. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Matthew 4:4. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Amos 8:11-14. Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it. In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst. They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, Thy god, O Dan, liveth; and, The manner of Beersheba liveth; even they shall fall, and never rise up again.

Larry: Okay, Bob, we've talked about this some in the past but now we're going into it in a little more detail. It seems fairly obvious that people are to study the word of God which you have there in your hands. Why is it that the Scripture makes it so clear that we are to study this and very few people actually do it?

Bob: The Scripture says in Isaiah 8:20, "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Years ago when I worked with a religious paper that we published weekly that was our theme Scripture, Isaiah 8:20, "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them," which simply means that we get all the light on religious teaching from the word of God. That's where it comes from and it's not something that you can take like a capsule so to a lot of people it's too much work since they can't just take a tablet, swallow it down and expect them to be influxed with religious truth out of the Bible. They don't want the job of going to the Bible and studying it and they don't want the job of researching meanings of words. You know, you would really be surprised just how many people there are in the churches that are just basically ignorant of Bible terminology.

Larry: That's right.

Bob: I mean, Bible words that are significant doctrines, not the doctrines themselves but just the words. They couldn't give you a definition of the word, much less the doctrine. Why is this? Because they don't study. They don't take time to read. Now, I'm not talking about everyone, of course, but I'm just talking about the general population of the church as it seems because there is so much prevalent ignorance and obvious ignorance.

You say, "Well, how do you know all this?" Because I run a Christian bookstore and the ones that come into my store are bad enough, not mentioning those that don't come into my store. When you hear some of the prattle that comes out of the mouths of some of these people that come into my store and they do read more of the Bible, they do read more books but even they are very pitiful sometimes when it comes to Bible teaching.

So it's just a natural thing with people that the spiritual life, they don't necessarily like. Now, if it was a Harry Potter book, oh boy, they'd be interested in that, wouldn't they? All imaginary fairy stories, fairytale type stuff, all that, that's great.

Larry: They'll read the newspaper. They'll read a magazine. Sports section.

Bob: Yeah, some great story of some sort out there, fiction, like Stephen King or Collins or some other outstanding writer, well known popular writer of the day. "Oh, this is great," but to read the Bible, "Oh, that's over my head. I can't understand that. Blah, blah, blah, blah."

Larry: So almost anything but the Bible.

Bob: Right. But if you want life, if you want spiritual life, to the law, to the testimony. That means to this book right here.

Larry: That's it. That's it. Now, one thing I've noticed, I just wanted to tell our viewers this at home that it's so easy to study the Bible. A lot of people think, "Oh, that's going to be so boring and so dull. I can't handle it. I don't understand it." Well, that's why you have teachers and preachers and people that can help and assist you in learning what this word says but this is life. This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is how you get saved. Life is short. We're not going to be around here very long and then we'll be dead...

Bob: Hallelujah.

Larry: ...and then it's all over and it's over before you know it. You know, it seems to me it wasn't that long ago I graduated from the University of Texas but now I look at the time we're taping this, man, that's already 24 years ago. It doesn't seem that long ago but almost a quarter of a century has blown by without me almost noticing that it went by. My kids are all grown up and I'm amazed and it's the same with you out there. You're going to watch, I mean, you may be young right now, you may be carefree or whatever but you'll be amazed how time is going to blow by and the next thing you know, you're looking at the Grim Reaper right in the eye and you're going to wonder where your life went and where you're going. Here's the Bible and you wasted all your time reading magazines, watching tv, going out to watch silly movies and things like that.

Now, I'm not saying you can't do some of this but why do you do all that and exclude total study and Bible reading? I mean, it's fine to do some of that but then you should put some time into Bible study. This is the life. This is where life can be found. I'm saying it's not as difficult as you think. I've been able right now through people at work and other people I've come across, to get, I don't know, I guess I can count it on one hand. I've got a friend that uses that one hand accounting but, anyway, on one hand I think at work, I've been able to get five people to start listening to the Bible on cd. So you're tired, you want to read all this writing, you know, you don't want to sit there and read all this stuff. You can't understand it. Well, this is the 21st century, just get the Bible on cd. Get the Bible on cd and when you're driving in your car instead of listening to talk radio, listening to old rock-n-roll music that they've been playing for 30 years again and again and again, why don't you just pop one of those little cds of the Bible on cd into your cd player in your car when you're driving to work, driving out to get some bread at the grocery store, driving

wherever. You can hear the word of God while you're driving without any extra effort. So instead of listening to the radio or listening to music or whatever, listen to the word of God.

You can do the same thing at my place of employment. You can listen to a Walkman tape player. You can listen to a cd player and I've been able to get five different people at this point in time to listen to the Bible in their cars and trucks and also while they're at work. They are listening to the Bible on cd and they're not having to do any kind of extra effort to hear the word of God. I quoted Scripture earlier about King Josiah after they found the lost book of the law, he went out and read it in the hearing of the people. Why not do something as easy in this 21st century? You can just listen to it, you don't even have to sit there and read it.

I say, look, there are cds everywhere. There are audio cassettes. There are things of this nature where it would be easy for you to do Bible study in that manner. Like we've said before, you will be judged by God for what you did in this life and when you have the word of God just on cd and you're standing before God and saying, "Well, I never had time to listen to the word of God. I never had time to read it or study it. I was too busy trying to raise my kids. I was too busy going to work. I was too busy taking care of all these other things." But the whole time you were all that busy, you were riding around in your car and you were listening to talk radio, listening to sports radio, listening to music and when the whole time you could have been listening to the word of God without any extra effort. You'll have no excuse. There will be no excuse on the last day and it will be here before you know it.

Every time I look in the mirror now when I get up in the morning, I've got more gray hair and it's just a fact of life. We're getting old. We're going to drop dead some day and we're going to stand before a righteous and holy God and we're going to have to give an account for our lives. God says to study his word, to learn his word, to live by his word. Jesus said, "Man does not live by bread alone." It's not what you eat, "but you live by every word that comes from the mouth of God." If you truly out there believe the Bible is the word of God, then don't you think you ought to be studying it? Don't you think you should be learning it?

If there are things you can't understand, you can go to your Christian bookstore, you can go to the religious section of like, let's say, a Barnes & Noble or something of that nature, and get books that may help you understand what you're having trouble understanding yourself. There are teachers and preachers out there to help you learn this word. But remember what I said: life is short, it will be over before you know it and tomorrow is not guaranteed. There may be a bumper out there on the highway that's got your name on it and you don't know it right now so you may be gone tomorrow. The key is: get into God's word, learn it and live it because this whole show that we're in will be over before you know it.

Okay, with that said, let's go to our next Unpopular Bible Doctrine #45 and you see it on your chart there: Making judgments about people based on God's word is commanded by

God. As we look at our Scripture references and, of course, what makes this unpopular, before I get into the Scripture references is that, you know, one of the few verses that, let's say, a drunk or some unbeliever would know of the Bible is, "Judge not lest you also be judged." Almost every drunk in the world knows that verse. So everybody is always telling you you can't judge anybody. "Don't judge." But right here we see that this unpopular doctrine goes against the grain of what most drunks would have you believe.

Let's take a look at these verses here: Matthew 7:15-20 and also verse 6. Jesus said, "You will know them by their fruits." And he also references to the fact that one thing you can know about people is that they are dogs or swines.

Titus 1:15-16. But by their deeds they are reprobate so you can watch their actions and you can actually tell if they are reprobate towards God.

1 Corinthians 2:15-16. The spiritual man judges all things.

Acts 13:8-12. Paul calls Elymas a "son of the devil," so apparently Paul is making a judgment concerning this magician, Elymas. He calls him the son of the devil.

Here in Acts 8:18-24 we have Peter tells Simon to perish along with his money when he tries to buy the Holy Spirit with some money.

2 Timothy 2:17-18. Paul says, Hymenaeus and Philetus have gone astray concerning the truth. So here Paul makes a judgment concerning these two individuals about their ability to tell the truth.

1 Corinthians 5:1-13. Paul says to judge the immoral man who is with his father's wife by turning them over to Satan, that's in verse 5, so that his flesh will be destroyed but his spirit will be saved. So he's telling this Corinthian church to judge this immoral man who is having sex with his father's wife.

Here in Proverbs, the whole book deals with discerning between the wise and the foolish so you're able to tell a foolish man from a wise man and the whole book of Proverbs is telling you how to make those kinds of judgments.

Revelation 2:1-2. Jesus commends the church at Ephesus for not enduring evil men and finding them as false apostles.

2 Peter 2:1-22 says, here we have a reference where Peter gives the signs to judge false prophets.

Matthew 23:1-36. Jesus who is our example, judges some of the most religious men on the planet, the scribes and the Pharisees, and when you read his statements there in the whole chapter of Matthew 23 where he's calling the scribes and the Pharisees, "Woe unto you hypocrites. You white-washed sepulchers," and all these things, you find that Jesus, who is our example, is making quite a few judgments on these religious individuals.

Acts 23:3. Paul denounces the priest there as a white-washed wall.

2 Timothy 4:14. Paul prays for retribution against Alexander the copper smith who has caused him much harm. And we could go on with these judgments that are found in the Scriptures.

Matthew 7:6 and 15-20. Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. You shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Titus 1:15-16. Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

1 Corinthians 2:15-16. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Larry: Well Bob, you know the old saying that people say, "Judge not and you're not to go around judging people. Pull out the plank in your own eye first before you go around saying anything bad about someone else." They imply by that that you're not allowed to make any judgments and, I guess, you could almost, if you're not allowed to make judgments, you could almost carry that down to being a father of a child and little Johnny steals his sister's toy, you're not allowed to make a judgment on that and rebuke him for stealing his sister's toy. What do you have to say about these guys and particularly the drunks that say you can't judge anybody?

Bob: Well, most of the things that we do in life involve judgment, at least I hope so. I don't know hardly anything that you don't have to make some kind of a judgment about. You go grocery shopping or any other kind of shopping, you've got to make a judgment on whether or not what you're buying is worth it, whether or not what you're buying is good quality merchandise for the price they're asking for it. You go buy a house and you look it over and what you're doing is making a judgment about that house, whether or not it's big enough, whether or not it's got all the facilities you want and whether or not it's in the section of town you'd like to live in and all kinds of considerations. You're making a judgment. You get up in the morning and put on your clothes, you make a judgment whether or not that particular suit of clothes or whatever you put on is suitable for you that day. Everything you do, you're making some determination, some kind of judgment.

Now, when it comes to judging like Jesus said, "Judge not that you be not judged," actually most of your Bible commentators and, I think, most of the students of Scripture, know that what Jesus meant was that you are not to make a rash, unreasonable judgment about anything. There are a lot of times we rush to judgment, as the saying is. So what Jesus is actually saying, "Don't rush into judgment about anything." But rather, the true approach to judgment Jesus taught in another text over here in John 7, he says in verse 24, "Judge not according to the appearance," that would be a rash judgment, "but judge righteous judgment." Judge righteous judgment. Sometime you might see someone and by their appearance, just look at me for example, you might see me and you see an old, gray-headed man and paunchy and all this and you might say, "Well, boy, that guy there, he must be a millionaire. He's got gray hair and he's wearing a suit of clothes and he's well fed and all that. He must have a million dollars or something." And they would make a rash judgment about a millionaire or something. But, you know, appearances can deceive, as they say. Appearances can deceive and so someone can make a practice of presenting themselves in such a context that they do deceive, deliberately deceive and mislead people. I saw a story on tv the other day about this fellow who had married all these widows, 3-4 widows and killed them all and got their money and he was very deceptive in his appearance to them and everything.

So, "judge righteous judgment," Jesus said. Judge not that you be not judged. He's saying, "Don't make a rash judgment. Don't make an unrighteous judgment." What is that text in Matthew, by the way on judge not that you be not judged?

Larry: That's Matthew 7, starting in verse 1. He goes on to talk about making hypocritical judgments, you know, "take the plank out of your own eye."

Bob: "For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." In other words, if you make an unrighteous judgment, chances are somebody is going to unrighteously judge you and if you use a false meter or standard, chances are that's going to happen to you. And here it is, "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?" Now, here's another thing about judging: we oftentimes assume that we are capable of judging when in reality we're not capable of judging and this shows it here. Here's a man with a big beam in his eye, that's almost blinding, isn't it? And the other man has a mote which is a little bitty small piece of dust or something. He has a mote in his eye and here's a man with a beam in his, now which one would you want to be your judge?

"Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye." So there is this imbalanced attitude that people take. They will judge before giving a hearing on something. They will judge just based on what they've heard. They will judge based on just what they have seen, the appearance of things. And they will make all kinds of unrighteous, irrational judgments, rash judgments. That's what Jesus forbids.

We should not be making those kind of judgments of people but we are to exercise judgment and do it in a, as Jesus said, a righteous way. We do it all the time. I mean, we're faced with making judgments all the time whether we do it rightly or not.

Larry: And that would include, which is what is so unpopular with a lot of people, that would include rebuking someone for doing wrong but like you find Paul and Peter doing in the Scripture, accusing them of this, that or the other, you might say.

Bob: Well, you know, when it comes to that kind of judgment, discipline, actually there's an order told in Scripture for it. If you, for example, think there is something wrong with your brother, what are you to do? First of all, take another couple of Christians with you.

Larry: That's Matthew 18.

Bob: Go and talk to them. Get their opinion. Have them to talk. Then if he won't hear the three of you, what's the next step? Tell it to the church.

Larry: That's right.

Bob: Let the church hear it. So you don't have to become an independent single judge in any given situation. You've got your brothers, you've got the church and you can get the whole collective mind of the church about a matter when it comes to that kind of a situation with a Christian brother.

Larry: Exactly. Also, when people get upset with people like us, you know, I've been doing counter cult religion for 24 years now at the time of this taping. Some people get mad at me when I say, "Oh, you're bashing that religion." I might say some things about Jehovah's Witnesses or I might say something about the Reverend Moon's Unification Church, or Mary Baker Eddy's Christian Science organization.

Bob: L. Ron Hubbard.

Larry: Yeah, L. Ron Hubbard's Scientology, Islam, Hinduism, whatever it might be. I as a Christian have to make those judgments. I have to judge an individual. You know, I had my hair cut to do these television shows and the person that gave me my haircut is a member of the Baha'i World Faith and so I'm sitting there getting my hair cut and we're talking religion and fortunately she didn't get upset with me, that's why I still have my head on. But the thing is, I have to make a judgment that, well, since she's believing in the Bab and the Bahu Allah and that Jesus was good for way back then but he's been replaced first by Mohammed and now the Bab and then the Bahu Allah, you know, I as Christian have to say, "No. No, that's not the case. Jesus is Lord and he is God, the second person of the Trinity, and he is the one we have to answer to and he's the one that said in John 14:6, 'I am the way, the truth and the life no one comes to the Father except by me.' That wasn't for back then only," as the Baha'i person is saying. That's for all time.

I have to make a judgment on that person's religion. I don't have to be mean and cruel and all that kind of stuff but I can dialogue with them, make a judgment that she's got misunderstandings about who Jesus is, about the nature of God, about the Gospel of God. I have to make judgments about all that and then determine from that that this person needs some more biblical light otherwise they're going to be lost because they are believing a false Gospel. This is just a requirement of Christians that we have to make judgments for this. So when I'm dealing with Jehovah's Witnesses who deny almost every cardinal Christian doctrine, the Mormons who think they're going to become gods of their own planets but I know perfectly well that in Isaiah 43, Isaiah 44 and Isaiah 45 in the Old Testament that there is only one God and God doesn't even know of any other gods and the Mormon says there are millions of gods and he's going to be one of them on a planet, I have to judge that. I have to say, "No, Mr. Mormon. You're wrong. Isaiah says there is only one God. Jesus says there is only one God."

So basically, Bob, I bring all this into play that judgment is like you say, whether the suits we pick out or what we pick out at the grocery store, it goes all the way down to knowing what the word of God says and then when someone says something that's contradictory to that, we have to judge that contradictory statement in the light of God's word and make our decisions on what to do next from that.

Bob: And in fact, Larry, I would go so far to say that the person who jumps up and says, "Judge not that you be not judged," is a person making a rash judgment.

Larry: Exactly. They are violating. That's a violation of the laws of logic and they defeat their own argument.

Bob: They are not evaluating what we are actually saying and so they are making a rash judgment.

Larry: Exactly. They certainly are and that reminds me too of these people that say, "You're not supposed to go around saying all these bad things about these people in these different religions." I don't know how many times in the 20+ years I've doing television that people have called me up on my answering machine and they are yelling through the answering machine saying, "You shouldn't be saying bad things about other people. You shouldn't be talking bad about these other religions. Blah, blah, blah. You're crummy. You're a lousy person. You're not good!"

Bob: That just makes your day, doesn't it? They are judging you.

Larry: Exactly. You see, that has happened and it will keep happening, I'm sure. You see, it's another violation of God's logic but they are judging me for judging others. In other words, it's alright for them to call me crummy and mean and nasty and bashing people like they say and say all these bad things about me but I'm not allowed in a biblical way to judge others based on God's word. So this is something that happens all the time and I wouldn't doubt that someone is going to call and leave a message on my

answering machine judging us for some of the things that we've been saying in this Unpopular Bible Doctrine series.

Anyway, I think we've made the point.

Bob: We might have to promote you to prophet.

Larry: Well, the only thing I want to prophesy is God's word here. Now, let's go to Unpopular Bible Doctrine #46: The man who never hears of the Christian Gospel or even hears about Jesus is still condemned by God to the lake of fire for all eternity. I don't know how many times I've heard this over the years, you know, that a guy in the darkest part of the Congo in Africa who has never heard of Jesus, he's never heard the Gospel and because he's never heard the Gospel or heard of Jesus, how can he be condemned by God? He never had a chance to hear the Gospel of Christ so it would be cruel and mean for God to send a person like that to hell.

We'll look at our Scriptures here to justify this statement that the man who never hears of the Christian Gospel or even hears about Jesus is still condemned by God to the lake of fire for all eternity, we see in Romans 1:18-32 that they are still liable to God because of the creation. Creation itself testifies that there is a God and so that man, whether he never heard the Gospel or not, he still knows there's a God out there, his own conscience testifies of the righteousness of this God so God will still hold him accountable.

Ezekiel 33:1-20, particularly 8 and 9 in this passage, about the watchman, how the watchman is supposed to warn people in case trouble is coming and if they get killed and the watchman doesn't warn him, then their blood will be on that watchman's head. So, let's say they never heard but they still get killed, well, the watchman is supposed to warn them and if they don't listen to him and they get killed, well, then their blood is not on him but the point of the matter here is, what if they have never heard? The consequences are they still get killed but the fault would lie at the foot of the watchman who is supposed to warn them. But the consequences are that they still got killed even if they didn't hear.

Luke 12:47-18. The one who did not know his master's will will still get stripes, so there are these two guys, one knows his master's will and the other one doesn't, one gets more stripes than the other but still the one that didn't know was still held responsible for what he didn't do even though he didn't know.

Psalms 96:5. The gods of the nations are idols so we have all these people that never heard of the Gospel, let's say, and they have all these religions, all these pagan religions and idols but that's still not going to do them any good. They're still going to be held accountable to God's standard, particularly as you find in the Ten Commandments.

Psalms 9:17. Nations that forget God are turned into hell. Of course, a lot of these polytheistic, animistic religions that are out there in these nations that have forgotten God, forgotten what his Scripture says and I can think of the Egyptians, for instance, at

the time of the Jews. They didn't know the true God of the Israelites but they're still held accountable just the same and judged just the same.

We look here in John 4:22, Jesus says that heathen worship, "Ye know not what," but salvation is elsewhere. Jesus himself tells the woman at the well that, "Look, you're out here worshipping something, you don't even know what you're worshipping. You don't even have it right." But salvation is found elsewhere.

Acts 4:12. Salvation is in no other name than that name of Jesus.

Psalm 2. Salvation only in the Son, but as you read in Psalm 2, the nations are against God and his anointed. You're supposed to kiss the Son lest he be angry and you perish in a moment.

So basically, Bob, we have and I'll let you continue the discussion of this because this seems to be the big question. I've been doing live television, live university campus dialogues for 15-20 years now and this question comes up more often than any other question: what about, let's say, the aborigine that never heard of Jesus? Why would he still go to hell? Now, I brought up these Scriptures but I'd like you if you were on that campus or you're doing that live tv show with us and this question comes up, what would you say to that person?

Bob: All I can say is that the Bible talks about general revelation of God like you quoted here in Romans and what can be known of God through what we call natural revelation and then we have the law which was given to the Jews in the Old Testament, the written law, the Ten Commandment law, as well as the ceremonial law and then in the New Testament we have the expansion of that revelation to the Gentiles. Basically we have four lights, I like to think of them that way. We have the light of conscience. There are some flickerings in the conscience of even the most depraved.

Larry: It's because man is made in God's image so that conscience reflects on that image of God.

Bob: When we say man is totally depraved, we don't mean he's totally out of light. He's not out of light because he's got some light in his conscience.

Larry: We'll see you next time and remember, Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father except by me," Jesus said. So through Jesus Christ is the way of salvation unto the eternal God. Thank you so much. God bless you all.