

life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand (Eze. 3:18).

But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in (Mat. 23:13).

But whoso shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it is profitable for him that a great millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be sunk in the depth of the sea (Mat. 18:6).

These three passages serve as warnings to anyone who would encourage another to sin, or who would allow another to remain in sin. Truly, "once saved, always saved" is a hideous doctrine of demons.

¹Jamie Dean, "Alan Astray?" *WORLD Magazine*, August 11 2012, 13.

— Lee Moses
Union City, TN

THAT YOU MAY KNOW...

Let us pray for...

Alice Haddon — fighting cancer (Sheri's friend)

Ann Henderson — fighting cancer (Sheri's aunt)

Lester Kamp — fighting prostate cancer

Mike Mallett — fighting leukemia (brother in Evant, TX)

Judy Reid — continued recovery auto accident (sister in MS, planning to move here)

Llewelyn Reid — Judy's husband (that he will be restored)

Jeffrey Reid — Judy's son, with whom Dub hopes to be studying

Brian Ritter — fighting rare autoimmune disease (son of Rick Ritter, Gospel preacher)

Don Smith — faithful brother in Ohio prison who is teaching fellow inmates daily

Joshua Aidoo — Gospel preacher in Ghana we support

Samuel Bagsangi — Gospel preacher in Philippines we support

Records you helped make last week...

Bible Classes	20
Sunday AM Worship	20
Sunday PM Worship	20
Wednesday PM Bible Class/Worship	11
Contribution	\$1,382.00
Contribution average (2015)	\$939.48

Internet Sermon broadcasts...

Both sermons each Sunday are broadcast, beginning at approximately 10:45–10:50 a.m. and 1:12–1:15 p.m., via Internet through our Website, www.northpointcoc.com.

Preacher, *The Lighthouse* editor

Dub McClish

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Sunday
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Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 1:00 PM
Wednesday
B.C./Worship 7:00 PM



The Northpoint Lighthouse

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When Abnormal Becomes Normal

A "norm" is a standard, a rule, a pattern. That which is "normal" is that which conforms to the recognized standard. Departure from the rule or standard is "abnormal." When a nation becomes so corrupt that it elevates abnormal behavior to the level of "normalcy," it is in serious trouble. We are in serious trouble.

Seven centuries before Christ, the nation of Judah so behaved, and Isaiah cried out against its recklessness:

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! (Isa. 5:20).

She paid for her folly with defeat, and eventual captivity. Unfortunately, men continue in their self-destructive attempts to redefine good and evil, right and wrong, normalcy and abnormalcy. Redefining sin hardly alters the reality of its existence or its consequences. Consider the following instances of such attempts:

- Until 1980, the American Psychiatric Association defined homosexual behavior as "deviant," at which time it ceased to list it as such in its *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*. Significantly, this move was not prompted by results of research, but by political pressure and intimidation by homosexuals who staged raucous demonstrations at APA conferences and by efforts of leftist psychiatrists. In 2003 the Supreme Court struck down the Texas law forbidding sodomy, sweeping away all such state statutes. Such laws had been part of our history since the Virginia Colony in 1624. This abnormal behavior, for which Jehovah destroyed Sodom, was now *de jure*, if not *de facto*, "normal." God's norm regarding this abomination remains the same as always (Rom. 1:26–28; 1 Cor. 6:9–11).
- "No-fault" divorce laws began appearing in the US in 1969 and by 1985 all but one state had adopted them. Previously, the relative difficulty of getting a divorce doubtless preserved many marriages. Marriage was the norm, and divorce was correctly stigmatized as abnormal. Divorce has now almost become

the norm, and God-ordained marriage is becoming increasingly “abnormal” as many reason, “Why bother?” God’s norm for marriage and divorce has not changed (Mat. 19:9).

- Pre-marital sexual behavior was still considered sinful, shameful, and abnormal by most Americans until the effects of the 1960s’ “sexual revolution” began to emerge. The coupling of rank strangers in “one-night stands” is now “normal” to many. Also, the national psyche now seems to count it “normal” for men and women to cohabit apart from marriage and to produce children from such unions. Those who yet “judge” such behavior as “abnormal” are deemed “abnormal,” intolerant, narrow-minded bigots. Sexual engagement outside of God’s definition of marriage is still fornication, which will keep its engagers out of Heaven. God’s norm is unchanged (Mat. 19:5; 1 Cor. 6:9–11; Gal. 5:19–21).
- Marriage has ever been a union only between a man and a woman—the universal norm God established in the beginning (Gen. 2:24–25). In their relentless push to “normalize” the abnormal, homosexuals and their liberal sympathizers were determined to create the aura of normalcy for same-sex “marriage.” The 2003 Supreme Court ruling paved the way for this worst anomaly yet, as the Court ruling of June 26, 2015, stamped *normal* upon this wicked abnormality. God’s norm has not changed regarding the eligible candidates for marriage (Mat. 19:4–5).

These are but a few of the national suicidal reversals of God-given moral norms for which men and nations must sooner or later give account.

—Dub McClish
Denton, TX

OUR PLEA TO ALL

The plea we make: We beg you to leave the creeds, the doctrines, the commandments of men, and the organizations founded by man, and take the Bible and find out what God had to say. Every man, woman, boy, and girl...can find the church of which Jesus said, “I will build.” You can take this Book, and before the sun comes up on the morrow you can read the history of the New Testament church as found in the book of Acts. You can find the identifying marks of the church, and you can see how Christians worshipped in that distant day. You can see the way men became members of the body of Christ.

Hear me! When you have read the Bible you have read all that God ever said about the church. The Book of God contains all that God ever said about the way to worship. When you take the Bible—the Old Testament and the New Testament—you have the **complete** will of God. From the very dawn of time until this very day, there is not a line that has been written by inspiration that the Bible does not contain. The Bible contains all that God ever said about heaven, about hell, about how to become a Christian and how to worship. So, neighbors and friends, the plea that we make, the plea that you ought to make, and the plea that

you ought to be glad somebody makes, is that you take the Word of God only as your guide in religion. In the Bible you yourselves can read and find out the wish and the will of God.

Instead of criticizing me, all ought to be glad that I ask men to go by the Book of God. Someone said to me, “I do not like for you to reflect on other people.” We are not casting reflection on anybody. When we talk about the doctrines and commandments of men, that is not a reflection upon a **man**; that is a reflection upon a **principle**. But, neighbor, when I...plead for nothing but the Bible and for nothing but the will of Christ, the world ought to stand up and cheer. Men ought to be glad that there is somebody in the midst of this crooked and perverse generation, in the midst of all this religious confusion that exists in the world, who is willing to lift his voice and beg people to take only that which God has said.

—G.K. Wallace
Deceased

FRUIT of “OSAS”

For 36 years, Exodus International (EI) has striven to help homosexuals leave their sinful addiction. While Christians can certainly appreciate their intent, their theology in many respects leaves much to be desired—they generally align themselves with common “evangelical Protestant” beliefs. And these beliefs have led to a twist at Exodus International.

In January, EI president Alan Chambers said to a group of homosexuals who claim to be Christian, “We’re Christians, all of us...we all love Jesus.” This is clearly false, since one who loves Jesus will keep His commandments (John 14:15), and His commandments include abstaining from homosexual practices (1 Cor. 6:9–11). Chambers knows this, and continues to acknowledge freely that homosexuality is a sin. But he adds, “While behavior matters, those things don’t interrupt someone’s relationship with Christ.”

How could Mr. Chambers say such a thing? “He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (1 John 2:4). Someone who fails to keep Christ’s commandments has no relationship with Him whatsoever, and certainly does not have Heaven as his reward (Mat. 7:21–23).

As one writer observed, Chambers’ central argument is that if a person is saved, he cannot lose his salvation.¹ This is the doctrine of “once saved, always saved” (OSAS), also known as “perseverance of the saints” or “the impossibility of apostasy.” And here is a clear example of this doctrine’s compelling people to remain in their sins instead of repenting. And if something does not compel them to change their minds, they will die in their sins with no hope of eternal life:

When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his