

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the word of God (Romans 10:14-17; 1:16,17; John 17:17; Acts 11:14).

Believe in Jesus Christ (John 3:16; Acts 16:30,31; Romans 10:9,10; Ephesians 2:8,9; I John 5:1; Galatians 3:26).

Repent of past sins and turn to God (Luke 13:5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 26:20; II Timothy 2:19).

Confess Jesus before men (Matthew 10:32,33; Romans 10:9,10; I John 4:15; Hebrews 10:23).

Be Baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Romans 6:1-6; Galatians 3:26,27; I Peter 3:21).

Abide in the word of God (John 8:31; 15:6,7; I Corinthians 15:1,2; Revelation 2:10; I John 1:9,10; Hebrews 10:24,25; John 4:24).

Faithful Sayings Issue 13.40 October 2, 2011

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Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

13.40

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

October 2
2011

Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM
Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Steve Dixon
Pat Goguen
Jack Langley
Neil Ledbetter
Brady McAlister
Walker McAnear
Lance Purcell
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Jason Garcia



“Perverted Persons” in the Temple

By Kyle Pope

Deuteronomy 23:17 commanded the Israelites: “There shall be no ritual harlot of the daughters of Israel, or a perverted one of the sons of Israel” (NKJV). The word translated “perverted one” in this text is the Hebrew word *qedesh* (קִדְשׁ) meaning “temple-prostitute (man)” (BDB, p. 873). The old King James and American Standard versions translated this term “sodomite” because of the fact that *qedeshim* (in the plural) were usually ones “practicing sodomy and prostitution in religious rituals” (footnote from NKJV).



In much of the ancient world homosexual temple prostitution was quite common. Most in ancient Canaan saw it as something good. When God revealed the prohibition above to Moses he was condemning something that the world of Moses' day would have seen as an act of



Olsen Park church of Christ

religious piety. Ironically, this very word comes from the root *qdsh* (קִדְּשׁ) which means “separated, or holy” (BDB, p. 871). Such a person was (as their world saw it) a “sacred person, temple prostitute” (Koehler & Baumgartner, 1958 ed. p. 826). It is God who told the Israelites that this was not *holy*, but instead, an abomination to him (see Deuteronomy 23:18).

In spite of this prohibition, the Israelites on a number of occasions allowed this very practice to occur. When Rehoboam, Solomon's son, reigned the Bible tells us: **“And there were also perverted persons (*qedeshim*) in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel”** (1 Kings 14:24). In fact, the Israelites even corrupted their own religious practices to allow this practice in their false worship. This is evident from what the Bible tells us about the reforms of Josiah, whom it says: **“...tore down the ritual booths of the perverted persons (*qedeshim*) that were in the house of the LORD...”** (2 Kings 23:7). As difficult as it is to even consider, God's chosen people had become so wicked that they had come to the point that they committed homosexual acts with

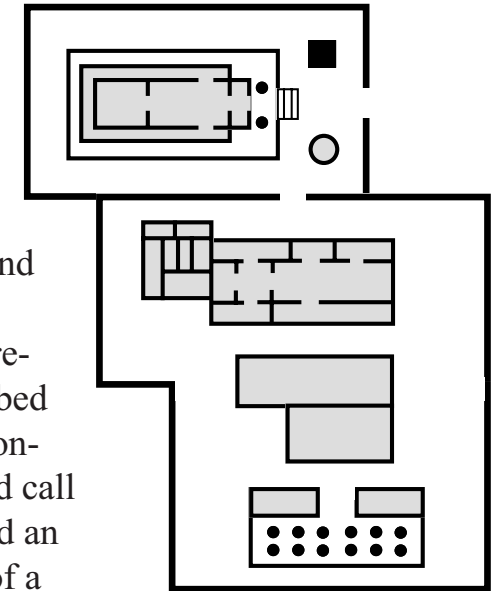
male prostitutes in the temple courts itself and imagined that it was *holy*!

In August of 2003, the denomination known as the Episcopal Church appointed their first openly practicing homosexual as a bishop. The Episcopal Church, long ago abandoned any pretense of following and respecting Biblical authority. In their teachings and practice they in no way resemble the Lord's church that is described in the New Testament. Even so, they continue to appeal to the name of Jesus and call themselves “Christians.”¹ When I heard an Episcopalian bishop standing in front of a building called “St. Paul's Church,”² defend this appointment by saying it is only people's “interpretation” that the Bible condemns homosexuality, I was reminded of the Israelites. Our world may not yet have come to the point that the Israelites did, but with events such as this occurring and “religious” leaders

¹ “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity” (2 Timothy 2:19).

² Paul's teachings on homosexuality (Romans 1:26,27; 1 Corinthians 6:9,10; 1 Timothy 1:8-11).

Solomon's Temple Complex



twisting and ignoring Scripture to defend it, I wonder, how long will it be before our world does come to that point?

