THE WURE WORD By Jonnie Hutchison

PROUD OF SIN

Among the sins that would characterize the "perilous times" of the "last days" are that "Men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud...without natural affection...despisers of that which is good...and lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God" (2 Timothy 3:1-4). No one can successfully deny that the sins in this list are prevalent in the world today. Sadly, many who involve themselves in the practice of sin actually express openly that they are proud to be involved in its practice. However, anyone who understands the nature and consequences of sin will not be proud but ashamed of their participation in it. The bible teaches that "the wages of sin is death..." - spiritual separation from God (Romans 6:23).

One of the sins in which some are participating and openly expressing their pride in doing so is the sin of homosexuality. Yes, the Bible clearly teaches that this practice is sinful. The Bible tells us in Romans 1:26-27, "For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due." Note the descriptive words "vile passions", "that which is against nature", and "committing what is shameful." These descriptive phrases show clearly God's view of the sin of homosexuality.

God loves every sinner regardless of what their sin is. He wants all to turn away from the practice of sin for He is "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). Participating in sin is a personal choice. Each one has within them the ability to say no to the practice of sin. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 reads, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. **And such were some of you**. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God." These sinners chose to say no to the sins they had been practicing and to receive the forgiveness of their sins through the blood of Jesus. Dear friend, regardless of your sin, you can cease your participation in it and through obedience to the Lord's commands, receive His forgiveness.