

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM

Speaker, Robert Emerson

Study Sunday 10:00 AM

Worship Sunday 11:00 AM

Worship Sunday 5:00 PM

Singing every 2nd Sunday evening

Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

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We would love to
study God's word
with you!

**Servants during February:****Songleader:** Stanley (3); Larry (10); David (17), Chandler (24), Dwight (3/3),**Reading:** Stanley; Mike (March)**Announcements:** Marty; Stanley (March)**Communion:** Mike, Lakin, Robert, Chandler; Buddy, David, Marty, Larry (March)**Wednesday Lesson:** Larry (6), Stanley (13), Kris (20), Mike (27)**Lawn Mowing (week starting):**

On winter vacation...

Singing: The Vilander's (24)**Area Meetings:** Pepper Road (23-27); Jackson Drive (Mondays 3/11-5/13)**Hays Mill church of Christ**

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The Bible . Examiner

"Examine everything carefully..." - 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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Two Dads Are Just Fine?

By Mark Stinnett

The statement was displayed on a 'digital' marquee in front of a local church building. I had to slow down and look again wondering if I had read it correctly at first. (You might want to sit down for this one.) The digital message came across in two parts:

Jesus had two dads...

And He turned out fine.

What were they thinking!? What were they trying to say!? Were they implying that Jesus was brought up in the environment of a same-sex marriage!?

I paused and wondered if I had overreacted or misunderstood at first. I began thinking of plausible explanations for making such a statement.

There were none.

The fact that we are currently living in a social and religious climate of tolerance toward homosexuality and same-sex marriage cannot be overlooked. Had the message been posted at another time, perhaps it would have suggested something else, but that is not the case.

So, I wondered whether or not the person posting the message intended for it to be understood in the context of same-sex marriage, or if perhaps he/she was simply trying to wake people up, initiate dialogue, or use sarcasm. Though trying to give the author the benefit of the doubt, I could not think of any reason that a person would post such a message. My conclusion was that the author was, at best, naïve or, at worst, foolish or insensitive.

Why Hell?

I checked in with my teenage daughters: “What!? That’s terrible!” and “Are you kidding me!?” were their replies. My wife made a similar reply; so also a couple of friends. They all, like me, understood the message to promote tolerance for same-sex marriage.

Without a broader context the statement is sure to be understood in light of the current social and religious climate of tolerance. So, within this context, what does the ‘two dads’ statement imply?

1. Jesus grew up in a home with ‘two dads.’
2. ‘Two dads’ implies a same-sex marriage.
3. Growing up in a home with ‘two dads’ has no adverse effect on kids. So, same-sex marriage is OK.
4. Kids brought up in a home with a same-sex marriage might even turn out like Jesus.

Do you see the gross errors in the conclusion of the original statement? Even those who are tolerant of same-sex marriages should see the idiocy in the lack of reasoning. Consider:

Remember in Prayer

Shane’s father, Mickey Bates, faces serious continuing kidney and heart issues; please remember the Leopard family. Carolyn was tested for a Crohns related complication; the results were favorable—for which we thank God!


I forgot to mention Wednesday

1. God and Joseph, the implied ‘two dads,’ were not married.
2. God and Joseph were not even of the same nature. (God is spirit; Joseph humanity.)
3. Joseph was married to a woman, Mary.
4. God was not married.
5. Children who have ‘turned out fine’ do not indicate ‘fine parents.’ Some ‘turn out fine’ in spite of circumstances.

Christians, there are many statements being written and spoken on the issue of same-sex marriage and homosexual relationships. Guard yourself from foolish statements like this one that pervert the truth and pull God down to the level of sinful man. Do not be naïve about gross misapplications of biblical truth by words that are cleverly pieced together in order to suggest contrived conclusions. The ‘two dads’ statement is misleading, to say the least. Not only do such statements fly in the face of common sense, they can draw you away from Jesus.

—via *Ron Halbrook’s newsletter*, 12/31/18 

that Larry was travelling for work, but should be back by today...

As always, remember those that would like to but cannot meet with us, like Lois Adams, Ruth Black, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, Polly McNatt, and Hazel Teeple. 

I was asked some time ago, “...if God is an all giving God of love and mercy, why would he allow evil other than maybe Satan and His fallen angels to have eternal torment?”

The question is a good one, and in fact, not unusual. There have been many that have asked how a good and loving God could punish anyone eternally. What’s more, some have wondered whether God even exists, asking why He would even allow evil in the first place. Their line of reasoning is something like this:

- If God were truly good, he would not want evil, pain, and suffering in the world.
- If He was really all-powerful, he could do something about it.
- Since there is obviously evil pain and suffering in the world, either God is not truly good, or He is not really all-powerful; but either way, He is not God—at least, certainly not the God of the Bible.

The answer, though, is that not only is God truly good and all-powerful—He is also truly loving. Scripture reveals Him as the epitome of love, 1 Jn 4:8,16; and love allows freedom of choice; it doesn’t force service. And it is wrong choices that ultimately cause evil, pain, and suffering—from death itself (Adam and Eve’s sin caused us to not have access to the tree of life, so we die), to innocent people suffering for our sins (a drunk driving over a child). God loves us

so much that He is willing to allow us to choose for ourselves whether we will serve Him or not; and He demonstrated that love, both allowing the sacrifice of His son to reconcile us to Himself, Rom 5:6-10, and in His patient waiting until the time is right for judgment, 2 Pet 3:9.

Even so, if God is a God of love, why would he punish eternally, instead of simply annihilating the wicked at death? The answer to that is simply that He is also a God of justice (Deut 32:4). While He wants desperately for all men to turn away from their wickedness, and to do what is right and good—He has always wanted men to choose life, Deut 30:19—not everyone is going to do that. He has done all that He can do; what more can he offer than His own son in our place? Now it is up to us. If we choose to do wickedly, justice demands punishment; and while we are never to take vengeance, a truly just God will repay, 2 Thess 1:6-8; Heb 10:26-31.

God is also a God of truth, Jn 17:17, and we can trust that what He has said will come to pass. He has warned us of the judgment to come, 2 Cor 5:10, and also of the consequences, Mt 25:41; 13:42,50. We should praise God that those who are allowed into His rest will remain for all eternity; but we must also recognize that those who are punished in Hell will be there for eternity as well, Mt 25:46.

—Kris Vilander 