

**The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, **we** will be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that **our** toil is not in vain in the Lord.**

*I Corinthians 15:57-58*



A lighthouse stands on a small, rocky island in the middle of a turbulent sea. The sky is filled with dark, dramatic clouds, and the water is a deep, churning blue. The lighthouse is white with a dark top section, and its light is visible. The overall scene is one of resilience and steadfastness.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

**BE STEADFAST, IMMOVABLE,  
ALWAYS ABOUNDING  
IN THE WORK OF THE LORD**

# Times, they are a changin'



# LGBTQ Community

## Attitudes by decades

Alienation  
(1980's)

Keep them at arm's length  
Onset of AIDS

Toleration  
(1990's)

“Live and let live”  
“Don't ask, don't tell”

Affirmation  
(2000s)

“This is okay – this is good”  
“Brokeback Mountain”

Celebration  
(2010s)

Gay Pride  
Rainbow flag

Participation  
(2020s)

21% Gen Z identify as gay  
Pressure to participate

And of the children of Issachar, **men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do**, the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment.

I Chronicles 12:32 (ASV)

Then the king said to the wise men,  
who knew the times (for so was the  
king's manner toward all that knew  
law and judgment;

Esther 1:13

# Being **Properly** Steadfast and Immovable

- Some things are just changes
  - Read from an electronic device instead of a paper Bible
  - Liberties surrendered seeking the good of others, Acts 16:1-3; I Corinthians 7:17-24; I Corinthians 8:13
  - Time granted for learning, Acts 15:13-29

# Being **Properly** Steadfast and Immovable

- Some things are worth a **line in the sand from which we will not be moved**
  - Requirements **cannot** be added, Acts 15:4-5
  - Those who so argue cannot be tolerated, Galatians 2:1-5



# Isabel Vaughan-Spruce

Arrested December 30, 2022, in Birmingham, UK on charges of “protesting and engaging in an act that is intimidating to service users” for standing still and praying silently outside an abortion facility. Asked by police if she was praying, she answered “I might be praying in my head.”



# Matthew Meinecke

Arrested on charges of being a risk to public safety for reading his Bible aloud in a public park near an LGBTQ pride event in Seattle.





**The U.K. government argued that John Dunn, a 55-year-old British army special forces veteran, was guilty of hate speech. Dunn's case has since been tossed out.**

**(Christian Concern)**

# Responding when You are Vilified

- We will suffer the same fate as Jesus, Matthew 5:10-12
- Pray as Jesus prayed
  - From the cross, Luke 23:33-39
  - As personified in David's prayer, Psalms 69

## Psalms 69:13-15



But I pray to you, LORD,  
in the time of your favour;  
in your great love, O God,  
answer me with your sure salvation.  
Rescue me from the mire,  
do not let me sink;  
deliver me from those who hate me,  
from the deep waters.  
Do not let the floodwaters engulf me  
or the depths swallow me up  
or the pit close its mouth over me.

For even Christ did  
not please Himself;  
but as it is written,  
*"the reproaches of  
those who reproached  
You fell on Me."*

Romans 15:3

**ZEAL** for  
Your house has  
consumed me,  
and the reproaches of  
those who reproach  
You have fallen on me.

PSALM 69:9

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[https://renew.org/understanding-the-pressures-of-the-lgbtq-movement-in-five-decade-centered-shifts/?mc\\_cid=d979fc2eb7&mc\\_eid=5e6ec5bef1](https://renew.org/understanding-the-pressures-of-the-lgbtq-movement-in-five-decade-centered-shifts/?mc_cid=d979fc2eb7&mc_eid=5e6ec5bef1)



- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lighthouse\\_and\\_naval\\_vessel\\_urban\\_legend](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lighthouse_and_naval_vessel_urban_legend)

- <https://www.christianpost.com/news/seattle-police-arrest-street-preacher-reading-the-bible.html>
- <https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2022/july/i-forgive-them-police-reportedly-arrest-street-preacher-as-he-shares-gospel-during-pride-event>
- <https://www.foxnews.com/world/case-tossed-christian-street-preacher-arrested-alleged-homophobia>
- <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253187/woman-arrested-while-praying-silently-outside-abortion-clinic-charged-with-intimidation>