Following the Wind

**Read:** Acts 27:1-14

**Text:** Judges 17:6 “In those days *there was* no king in Israel, *but* every

man did *that which was* right in his own eyes.”

**Introduction:** The ships’ owner and master and the centurion that were in charge of Paul and the other prisoners were united in their opinion that they should sail to Rome on a particular ship at a particular time. Paul stood up and disagreed. He said that God said not to go. But then there was the wind…it was soft and gentle and blowing in the exact right direction.

Paul and God…who cares what an old preacher says anyway?

I want to talk about three ways the wind is blowing in these last days.

**I.The Wind of Same Sex Marriage:** This past week we traveled to Philadelphia with a husband and wife from a Lutheran church in Cumberland, Maryland. They were upset with their denomination for selling out and allowing gay marriage. Their pastor said: “after all it is the law, you know.” They are just following the wind. It sure seems that the wind is blowing in that direction and pastor; who are we to stand against the wind?

A baker and his wife in Oregon stood up to that wind and lost their business and every court case since. Few are the families who are not affected by this issue. Take a Biblical stand and risk ridicule as well as loss of income, position, and great fines.

There is a county clerk in Rowan County Kentucky who is refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples. She is standing up for the Bible and will soon, no doubt, be fired and, possibly, jailed. She is aware of this and has chosen not to resign but to stay in the fight as long as she can. Pray for Kim Davis; she’s following the Word and not the wind.

**II. The Wind of the Transgendered:** When I was a child I heard a fairy tale about an emperor who was duped into wearing a magical suit of clothes that no one could see unless they were of supreme intelligence. The weavers toiled for weeks while dining on the kings food and living in the castle. Finally the day arrived for the king to don his new clothes. He couldn’t see the clothes but thought that he didn’t want to appear to be unintelligent so he pretended to see the clothes and put them on. It took a kid to say: “The Emperor has no clothes.”

We live in a world where Bruce calls himself Cait and no one is allowed to disagree or they are trashed by society and called bigoted. One look in the mirror should be enough to tell him that he is a male but he identifies as a woman and don’t you dare disagree. We have a white woman who calls herself black and God help you if you are dumb enough to point out that she is a Caucasian. Whoopie Goldberg says that if she identifies as black then who are we to disagree?

Pastor; “what is wrong with someone who wants to change their sex

or color?” Perhaps it is that God made us who we were for a reason. I

wonder where one gets the courage to look God in the eye and say that

He is wrong. God made Bruce a man but Bruce thinks that God is

wrong so he decides to alter his looks to resemble a woman. I found an

interesting scripture in Romans 9:20 “Nay but, O man, who art thou

that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that form-

ed *it,* Why hast thou made me thus?” Are you going to follow the wind

or the Word?

**III. The Wind of Planned Parenthood:** How it has become okay to use tax dollars to kill over 300,000 babies a year? Supporters, like Donald Trump, will tell you that that is only a small part of what they do. We found out what else they do by an undercover sting operation. I have not seen the videos but I have heard some of them. Can you imagine an America where the selling of body parts is revealed the Justice Department begins investigating the ones who did the under-cover work. For years, we have been told that the fetus is just a glob of tissue but now we learn that even Planned Parenthood knows that this is a baby with body parts to sell.

In Jeremiah 1:5 God said: “Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee…” It’s time for the church to follow the Word and not the wind.

**Conclude:** Another wind is coming and it is not good. The 14th verse of our scripture tells us: “But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind…” I hope that I’m wrong but if I am not I believe that you will see churches cave like a row of dominos. In an effort to appear loving and inclusive (and to save their tax exempt status) they will allow sin to go unchecked. *Christians will be prepared for the playground but unfit for the battleground*. How about you? Are you following the Word or are you going to go with the wind?