

A Body In Motion (2012)

Two Principles Impacting on Us
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From the BBC website:

The British government has begun what they term a consultation with its public on the issue of same-sex marriage. The consultation is a seeking by the government of counsel from the citizenry on what they think of it in terms of being national policy.

The person in charge of conducting the inquiry is Equalities Minister Lynne Featherstone, and she has stated, "We are not looking at changing religious marriage, even for those who might wish to do it." In other words, the government is looking into making all marriages equally legal, regardless of gender or the sexual orientation of the two who are marrying.

As in the United States, the citizenry is divided regarding legalizing same-sex marriage. A fairly substantial number want to leave things the way they are, and among these are the two largest religious denominations, the Anglican Church and the Roman Catholic Church. They are claiming, I think rightly, that any change would reduce the significance of marriage.

It's interesting that Spain, Canada, Argentina, the Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, and Belgium already officially—by national law—allow same-sex marriages. One of the main fears of the church leaders is that if this is passed, it will not be long before churches will be forced by the state to perform same-sex religious marriages within the church.

The very next day—that was yesterday, Friday—the British newspaper *The Telegraph* stated in an email titled, "Church Powerless to Stop Same Sex Marriage, Even if Hundreds of Thousands Object Through the Consultation"—I'm going to quote what they said following that: "While the government questionnaire has posed the question in principle, the subject is a matter of *how* not *whether* the change is introduced."

In other words, the newspaper is claiming that the consultation is a sham; the government has already decided what it will do. *The Telegraph* also warned that the government will take into account the various points raised in the consultation, *but* the number of responses will not be counted. The consultation could be overwhelmingly against same-sex marriage, but still be made into law. The wording of the consultation itself gives the impression the government's authorities' minds are already made up.

For some reason, while reading *The Telegraph* article, a couple of thoughts came to my mind. I do not know whether you've ever heard this principle, but "a body in motion tends to stay in motion unless acted upon by an outside force." Now, a simple illustration: If you rolled a basketball down a hill, it would continue to roll in the direction you began it unless it hit a rock or a tree. The outside force of the rock or the tree would then change its direction.

This principle was explored philosophically—not as a scientific law—by Sir Isaac Newton and others. The principle deals with human habits. That is, habits of thinking and conduct rarely change—the ball's rolling—through life once begun in childhood.

And then, almost immediately, I thought of the second law of thermodynamics. This one's a little deeper, but it's at work. The essential nature of this law appears in the Bible in simple form in several different places. My *Reader's Digest Great Encyclopedic Dictionary* provides us with a brief definition under the term "entropy." Why "entropy"? Because this term describes this law's processes.

Here is what the dictionary said: "Entropy is the irreversible tendency of a system, including the entire universe, toward increasing disorder and inertness; also the final state predictable from this tendency."

The body in motion concept states that people will not change thinking and conduct unless some outside force impacts on a person's mind so strongly that the person is virtually forced to make change that otherwise one would never do.

The Second Law of Thermodynamics is also working constantly. Right now, it's working on you. The Second Law of Thermodynamics states the general direction of nature that, if left alone, moves toward disorder. This provides a good explanation as to why God commanded Adam to dress and keep the garden. Without dressing and keeping, the garden absolutely would not retain its beauty.

Hebrews 1:10-12 say,

Hebrews 1:10-12 And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish [they are not up there forever. They will perish.], but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail."

That is a simple stating of the Second Law of Thermodynamics at work. God is constant, but the entire physical creation tends toward changing to aging, disorder, and degeneration.

I've been leading up to this. What do these principles have to do with what is going on in England? Both of these principles are at work. Like the staff of *The Telegraph* newspaper said, this is a done deal. You see, they can read the tea leaves, as the saying goes, and the change to even more widespread and intense immorality is coming. That's what they are saying. The change to even more widespread and intense immorality is coming. The ball is rolling downhill, and there is nothing in its path that will turn it in a different direction. Pretty wise people. The commonly accepted godly concept of marriage as being of one man and one woman for life is moving down to greater disorder and deterioration—the Second Law of Thermodynamics.

But there is an even more timely stating of the Second Law of Thermodynamics that pertains specifically to the days that we are now approaching. The apostle Paul said in I Corinthians 5:6 to the church (and that includes us), "Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?" Leaven is a naturally occurring change agent. It enters other materials, including life, and changes things. In things like grapes and bread dough, it interacts with the sugars, breaks them down, and changes their direction to produce something else. Leaven is used by God to symbolize sin that is naturally occurring in human nature and is deadly in its results to life.

The warning from Paul is that it not only changes the perpetrator's life for the worse, it also tends to spread from person to person until it infects and it kills an entire family or congregation or culture with destructive habits of thinking and conduct.

Sin degenerates people into nothing useful. It illustrates the Second Law of Thermodynamics, following the natural course in life. That is, the path will continue until each person individually takes measures to stop its course. Each person must become the rock or the tree that, in cooperation with God and by faith, repents, changing life's course.