We are a group of spiritual leaders who humbly recognize those in authority. We honor, obey, and pray diligently for those placed in political offices. You are no exception and our approach to you is done in respect and godly fear. We firmly believe that homosexuals should be treated respectfully as every other citizen and every other religious persuasion because “all men are created equal” and in the image of God. Furthermore, they work, pay taxes, and vote. However, to address personal sexual preference in a special gesture of receptability goes against our consciences and the Biblical references following.

Several passages come to mind. First, of course, is God’s judgment of the homosexual behavior at Sodom and Gomorrah. His swift judgment was only delayed by the removal of Lot and then fell with the homosexual behavior at Sodom and Gomorrah. His swift goes against our consciences and the Biblical references following.

Prejudice is wrong. God hates it, we hate it, and it must be eradicated from our minds and lives. We are in total agreement that those who are born with certain inherent distinctions (race, gender, handicap) are Divinely protected in Scripture. We are told to respect and honor them as we are created in the image of God. Our difficulty, Mayor and Council Members, is jumping from those innate characteristics given to us by God to behavior God marks in Scripture as one way of falling short of God’s design for human sexuality. How can we as pastors stand by in the face of this Biblical truth and see the exaltation of this lifestyle on its own special “day” and the “recognition” of it as an inherent characteristic beyond human control? Surely God knows what is outside of our control and would never label it “sin” if it were not within our control.

Nothing will change our conviction and the conviction of many Baton Rouge citizens deeply concerned about the direction you are moving our city in this regard. We realize that even pastors hold differing persuasions. Some have quoted John 8 where Christ said, “Neither do I condemn you” to the woman caught in adultery. In John 8, the rest of the verse continues, “Go and sin no more.” His words were not about “RESPERCTABILITY” but “REDEMPTION” from sin.

This is our point: homosexuals deserve love and forgiveness but not special recognition in something the Scripture is clear about being sin. We believe you are being encouraged to press an agenda that has long-range implications. We plead with you to drop this agenda. It will divide good-hearted citizens whose consciences are offended by a resolution that is wholly unnecessary.

WILL THIS REALLY CREATE “ONE BATON ROUGE” OR TWO?

Yours for our city,

Members Of The Faith Community of East Baton Rouge Parish