



EXODUS INTERNATIONAL

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Dear Friend of Exodus:

The minister had made up his mind. There would be no changing it—not by his supervisor, not by scripture and certainly not by his oath to his own denomination...

It was a late summer day as the pastor scurried to make last minute preparations for the special ceremony. Thirty people gathered to celebrate the momentous occasion—the joining of a loving couple. After all, isn't love what Christianity is all about? Isn't that what Christ taught His disciples?

The vows of love and fidelity were read. Communion was celebrated...God's blessing prayed upon them...rings exchanged...the Lord's Prayer sung...and scripture read.

"It was a very moving, intimate, simple, beautiful, and holy occasion, a true celebration of love," said the pastor. But in presiding over this ceremony, he violated his sacred duties. In doing so, he said, "I believe I acted faithfully as a witness to the grace of Jesus Christ... I acted out of loyalty to the United Methodist Church. I am devoted to it."

But Pastor Jimmy Creech's actions last September in Omaha betrayed his faith, his position, his office, and his Savior. He acted in defiance of his own denomination's clear guidelines by performing a "covenanting ceremony" that celebrated the union between two women.

A Celebration of Faith or Unholy Alliance?

The same denomination Creech claims he is committed to and loves, he also calls "unjust," "wrong" and "discriminatory." His spiritual schizophrenia is fueled by false ideas—ideas that Exodus believes need to be dismantled.

The false notion that people cannot change is an insult to the cross of Christ. We read, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." (Philippines 4:13) But doesn't this scriptural truth apply to our moral lives, too?

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