
Subject: Unapologetically Christian, Unapologetically Lesbian

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NEEDED - SUPPORT FOR MALAWI

On May 20, 2010, two men in Malawi were sentenced to a maximum prison term of 14 years of hard labour for announcing their engagement to each other. (Later news reports have identified Tiwonge as a transgender woman). A coalition of faith leaders who signed the "**Uganda Declaration**," condemned the prison sentences in Malawi and called on political and religious leaders to stop all state-sponsored attacks on the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

A Presidential pardon was granted against the sentence for sodomy after their symbolic wedding, however they are still being penalized and have been separated from each other and sent to their respective family villages.

Malawi needs full decriminalization based on sexual identity!

*Please go to the **Gay News** page and join me in signing the **Uganda Declaration**. <http://christiangays.com/news.shtml>*

NEW - PERSONAL STORY - "UNAPOLOGETICALLY CHRISTIAN, UNAPOLOGETICALLY LESBIAN"

Some of you may be familiar with **Sisterfriends Together**, a website that used to be **ChristianLesbians.com**. The creator of that website is Anita Cadonau-Huseby, and we go back many, many years together.

I have always loved Anita's writings. She has an incredible sense of humour, and her articles are always thought-provoking. I'm on her mailing list and have permission to reprint any of her posts.

She recently sent out a re-post of an old article called "Unapologetically Christian, Unapologetically Lesbian". I have added it to the **Personal Stories** section of the website as well as to the **Articles** because I believe it's an article that most (if not all) Christian lesbians will relate to.

Guys, I'm sure it will resonate with you as well if you wish to read it and just substitute "gay man" for "lesbian".

You'll find it at <http://christiangays.com/stories/anita.shtml>

NEW – PERSONAL STORY – "NELSON'S STORY" - COMING TO TERMS WITH BEING GAY

Excerpt:

This may be an overly simple answer, but God's actions cannot contradict His character. I am a former Baptist pastor, seminary instructor and teacher. I taught in Bible College in Moscow, Russia, worked with youth gangs, the Mafia and syndicate. I have always felt safe and welcomed into their homes and hoods - anytime, day or night. In the late 50's onward, while I was in high school, I was involved in the Civil Rights Movement. I well remember pastors using the Bible to justify their reasons for supporting segregation, some saying integration was a communist plot to destroy America, etc.

Read Nelson's story at <http://christiangays.com/stories/nelson.shtml>

NEW – PERSONAL STORY - "CALL ME TROY – Part 1" - TROY PERRY, FOUNDER OF MCC

This is a video about Troy Perry and the beginning of the first Christian Denomination for Gay and Lesbian Christians.

(Thanks Pastor Charles!)

<http://www.freespeech.org/video/call-me-troy-part-1>

LESSON – PHARISEES AND SADDUCEES

The Pharisees were a religious and political party that had its origin in the second century before Christ. They so esteemed the "letter" of the law of Moses (more so than the "spirit" of the law), and so esteemed the oral traditions that were said to have sprung from the law, that they developed strict applications of the law for everyday life. The Apostle Paul was a Pharisee. (Phil. 3:5).

The Sadducees were, like the Pharisees, a political and religious party in Jewish culture. By Jesus' day, they were the ruling party in Jewish cultural life. They were generally wealthy men; and they generally tried to get along with the Roman government.

The Sadducees were distinct from the Pharisees in several ways.

The Sadducees, rejected the oral traditions that the Pharisees held to. The Sadducees believed that only the five books of Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) were authoritative.

The Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the dead, and in angels and spirits; while the Sadducees rejected such beliefs (Acts 23:6-10).

A perhaps-overly generalized way to think about the differences between the Pharisees and the Sadducees in the times of Jesus was to see the **Pharisees as Scripturally liberal** (because they added oral traditions to its commands), but **conservative in politics** (because they opposed the

Romans); and the **Sadducees as Scripturally conservative** (because they rejected oral tradition), but **liberal in politics** (because they sought to fit in with the Romans).

Both groups fought against each other for influence over the population; and both groups were in conflict with Jesus (Matthew 22:15-33; and especially verse 34 and following).

They are both symbolic of religious pride and arrogance in the New Testament.

A bad joke to remember the difference between the two groups:

*The Pharisees believed that they were righteous because of their good works - and thus were "Phar" [fair] "you see?"
And because the Sadducees didn't believe in angels or spirits or in the resurrection, they were "Sad ... you see?"*

(edited content taken from "Ask The Pastor" <http://www.bethanybible.org/askpastor/pharsad.htm>)

NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS, June 1 - 30

June 2: Revolutionary libertine the **Marquis de Sade**, 1740; activist and pastor **Brent Hawkes**, 1950; folksinger and pioneer of women's music **Ferron**, 1952; activist **Candace Gingrich**, 1966

June 3: Poet **Allen Ginsberg**, 1926; Canadian activist **George Hislop**, 1927

June 5: Financial advisor **Suze Orman**, 1951

June 6: Playwright and actor **Harvey Fierstein**, 1954; actor and comic **Sandra Bernhard**, 1955

June 8: Writer and priest **Malcolm Boyd**, 1923

June 9: Songwriter **Cole Porter**, 1891

June 10: Singer, actress, icon **Judy Garland**, 1922

June 13: Comic actor **Paul Lynde**, 1926; illusionist and animal trainer **Siegfried Fischbacher**, 1939

June 14: British rocker **Boy George** (George O'Dowd), 1961

June 15: Novelist **Patricia Nell Warren**, 1936; actor, director, writer **Simon Callow**, 1949; actor **Neil Patrick Harris**, 1973

June 16: **Gustav V**, King of Sweden, 1858

June 20: Movie star **Errol Flynn**, 1909

June 21: Writer **Ann Allen Shockley**, 1927

June 23: Sex researcher **Alfred C. Kinsey**, 1894

June 25: Pop singer **George Michael**, 1963

June 26: Soulforce co-founder **James Melville "Mel" White**, 1940

June 27: Radical organizer **Emma Goldman**, 1869

[from glbtq.com](http://fromglbtq.com)

JOKE

A man on his Harley was riding along a California beach when suddenly the

sky clouded above his head and, in a booming voice, God said, 'because you have tried to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish.'

The biker pulled over and said, 'Build a bridge to Hawaii so I can ride over anytime I want.'

God replied, 'Your request is materialistic; think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking; the supports required reaching the bottom of the Pacific and the concrete and steel it would take! I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of something that could possibly help man kind.'

The biker thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said, 'God, I wish that I, and all men, knew what a woman feels inside, what she's thinking when she gives me the silent treatment, why she cries, what she means when she says nothing's wrong, why she snaps and complains when I try to help, and how I can make a woman truly happy.'

God replied: 'You want two lanes or four on that bridge?'

TAILGATING

A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a

couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him... I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk; naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car."

(Thanks DJ!)

God bless,
Mary

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