



## RETURN AMERICA MARRIAGE RALLY TUESDAY MAY 17, 2011

We are expecting a large number to ascend on Raleigh on Tuesday, May 17, 2011, at 10:30 AM, for our Return America Marriage Rally. Because of changes brought about in our legislature due to the previous election, we are hopeful that the Marriage Amendment will now be brought to the floor for a floor vote. We must send a strong signal to our legislators that the vast majority of North Carolinians will support their efforts to go forth with the Marriage Amendment. It is vital that people from across our State take a day of vacation and influence others to attend this most important event. The future of our children and state could be decided by the influence of this rally.

### WHAT THOSE AROUND US HAVE DONE

Thirty states have voted and approved marriage amendments to be added to their state constitutions. When the votes were counted, 63% voted in favor of the marriage amendment. Every state which borders North Carolina has approved marriage amendments to their constitutions. Georgia—by a margin of 76% to 24%—approved a marriage amendment. South Carolina: 78% to 22%; Tennessee: 81% to 19%; Virginia: 57% to 43%. These states bordering North Carolina passed the Marriage Amendment by a margin of 72% to 28%. It is evident that public consensus in America is against gay marriage.

### GOD-NOT MAN-DETERMINES THE DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE

The first time the family is found in Scripture is in chapter two of Genesis. The word Genesis means "*the beginning*", therefore Genesis sets forth the beginning of marriage. When God created marriage, He established for all time the definition of marriage. In Genesis 2:21-24, God defines marriage as one man and one woman, brought together and joined together by Him. God Himself—the Lord Jesus Christ—performed the very first marriage. He set the pattern for marriage. By His definition—not man's—marriage is between a male and a female. Marriage is between a man and a woman. God loves all sinners but detests their sins. Homosexuality is a sin! (*1 Timothy 1:10*) Gay marriage is a perversion of God's Word. It is also a perversion of His pattern of salvation. (*Ephesians 5*) Traditional marriage relationships between a man and woman are found in every nation of the world, in every culture, and in every era of history for the last 6,000 years. History is against gay marriage.



Dr. Ron Baity, President

### NEWSLETTER SPOTLIGHT

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### MARRIAGE PETITION

Please go to our web site and sign our Marriage Petition.

Our web address is:  
[www.returnamerica.org](http://www.returnamerica.org)

### RETURN AMERICA WEBSITE

You may go to the Return America Web site at [www.returnamerica.org](http://www.returnamerica.org) and download a flyer for the Return America Marriage Rally. There will also be information posted on our site about bus and car parking. Bus parking will be available again this year at Beacon Baptist Church in Raleigh. Bus drivers may drop off their passengers in front of the Legislative Building and drive their buses to Beacon Baptist Church. The drivers will then be shuttled back to the rally. After the rally, the drivers will be shuttled back to Beacon Baptist Church to pick up their vehicles.

### MORE INFORMATION ON THE RETURN AMERICA MARRIAGE RALLY

We are asking each participant attending the rally to contact your representative and invite them to attend. If you do not know who represents you, please go to <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/>. In the top right-hand corner you will find a box entitled "*Who represents me?*" When you click on that box you will have the options of selecting your representative by district, county, or zip code. We are also asking each participant to visit your legislator's office after the rally and encourage them to support the Marriage Amendment. **This is vitally important!** We also need for you to spread the news about the Marriage Rally by mailing list, phone calls, emails, or announcements wherever possible. If you could send public announcements to your local radio or TV stations, it would also be helpful. If some churches could purchase an ad in their local newspaper, it would be a great help as well.



## IS IT NOTHING TO YOU, ALL YE THAT PASS BY

### BOARD MEMBERS

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For 40 years the prophet Jeremiah warned Israel of impending judgment unless they repented and turned back to God. Jeremiah pointed to the devastation of the Northern Kingdom which God had already judged and reminded the Southern Kingdom of their impending judgment unless they repented. They falsely believed that their covenant relationship with Abraham and the beautiful Temple protected them from God's displeasure.

The book of Lamentations records the sad results of living in society who willfully refuses to heed the message of God. Jeremiah sits in the devastated streets of the city where the walls have been torn down, the Temple burned and smoke still ascending toward the sky. Most tragically, the people have been taken away into captivity. As Jeremiah weeps he records, "*Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?*" The captivity could have been avoided! The judgment did not have to happen! The people had to suffer in a foreign land for 70 long years because they failed to take advantage of the moment in time when God was speaking. Are we listening? The Scriptures are speaking loud and clear, but are we listening? They failed to get out of their comfort zone, and future generations had to suffer the consequences of their callousness. They had their moment of opportunity and failed to act. Ladies and gentlemen, it will be too late in our state when the first gay marriage is allowed. If we have avoided truth and refused to take action, we will have to live with the consequences that some of our children may be partners with same-sex couples. If we believe the Scriptures to be the Inspired Word of God, we have a mandate and call to action.

In 1945 Rev. Martin Niemöller chose the path of least resistance as he watched his country disintegrate. He summarizes his times best when he said:

*First they came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up, because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time, there was no one left to speak up for me.*

This is our opportune time to speak up for the sanctity of marriage. This is our time to report for duty. "*Is it nothing to you all ye that pass by?*"

*The purpose of Return America is to build a network of churches and individuals to educate, motivate, and mobilize citizens in a united effort in promoting Judeo-Christian values; to educate and influence government in these principles upon which our state and nation were founded.*

### WEBSITE

You may contact us through our web site at [www.returnamerica.org](http://www.returnamerica.org).

### UPCOMING SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

**May 4, 2011**  
Clearview Baptist Church  
Mayodan, NC

**May 10, 2011**  
Missions Baptist Church  
Walkertown, NC

**May 17, 2011**  
Marriage Rally  
Raleigh, NC

**May 18, 2011**  
Abee's Chapel Baptist Church  
Connelly Springs, NC

**May 27, 2011**  
Vandalia Christian School  
High School Graduation  
Greensboro, NC

### NEW SUPPORTING CHURCH

We are thankful for the following church who has placed Return America in their missions budget:

Lakeview Free Will Baptist Church  
HIGH POINT, NC