

# THE MESSENGER



"... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15

A Weekly Publication of the Christians Meeting at

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30

## Fasting – Voluntary Abstinance from Food

*by Dempsey Collins*

- Only commanded fast – Lev. 16:29-31
- Other examples:
  - Moses – Ex. 34:28 (40 days)
  - Israel in times of crisis – II Chron. 20:3; Ezra 8:2
  - Samuel & Israel – I Sam. 7:5, 6 – Israel fasted in remorse for sin
  - Elijah – I Kings 19:8
  - Ezra – 10:6 – Mourning over unfaith of exiles
  - Jesus – Matt. 4:1,2
  - Anna – Luke 2:37 – Served night and day with fasting & prayers
- Established practice in first century – Luke 18:12, Matt. 6:16
- Christians – Acts 13:3; 14:23

Reasons:

- Humility – Psalm 35:13; I Kings 21:27-29; Ezra 8:21; Isaiah 58:3-6  
(Forgiveness, God's work)
- Focus attention on God's work – Acts 13:3; 14:23
- Times of sorrow – Esther 4:1 – Mordecai's reaction
- Times of repentance – Jonah 3:7, 8; Neh. 9:1

# Sweden Moves to Criminalize Opposition to Homosexuality

Dub Mowery,  
August 9, 2002

Swedish lawmakers approved a constitutional amendment the first week of June, by 56% of the vote, to criminalize opposition to homosexuality. The amendment must be voted on once more after their elections this September. If passed again, it will become law next January. A lady member of parliament stated: "That means people coming from (the homosexual) lobby group could sit in our churches having a tape recorder and listen to somebody, then say, 'What you are saying is now against our constitution.'" She further said that anyone convicted of violating the constitutional amendment could spend six months to four years in jail. (Only beginning)

Bob Knight, who heads the Culture and Family Institute at Concerned Women for America, predicts the U.S. will soon have similar laws. He stated: "The Swedish example should be a wake-up call to the rest of the world that the real intent is to criminalize Christianity."

The above comments were recently printed in the McCloud, OK church bulletin (P.O. Box 760, McCloud, OK 74851). Wayne Price, the local preacher stated, "Now, imagine what might happen next year to our missionaries in Sweden, if they dared to preach on this deviant and sinful lifestyle. This amendment would effectively prohibit the preaching of Romans 1:24-28 and I Cor. 6:9-11! In fact, the very publishing of this article would get your editor at least a minimum of six months in jail."

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## NOTES & NEWS:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

*"...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16*