

mercEmail

"He delights in mercy" (Micah 7:18)

"Verbicide"

by Steve Higginbotham

I believe it was C.S. Lewis who coined the phrase, "Verbicide." Verbicide denotes the "murder of a word," and it doesn't take us long to notice how many words in our culture have been "murdered." Just think with me for a minute...

"Gay" - Now refers to a lifestyle which God calls an abomination.

"Choice" - Now used as a term denoting the killing of babies.

"Love" - Now used as a term denoting fornication and adultery.

"Mercy" - Now used to denote the murder of the sick and elderly.

And the list can go on and on. Why are we witnessing the "murder" of these good words to describe such debase actions? Well, I believe it is an effort to salve our consciences, and it indicates an unwillingness to be honest and straightforward.

While that may not sound very promising, I see in it a glimmer of hope. The unwillingness to call things what they are, and to dress up a foul deed with a rosy word indicates that there is still a collective conscience that can be pricked. The day our society no longer feels the need to "dress up" foul deeds with nice words is a day we should really fear. But so long as there is a conscience that can be touched with guilt over sin committed, there's hope.

Continue to pray and make intercession for our society. Remember just a handful of righteous people could have saved the city of Sodom.