

They Asked Her to Issue a Gay Marriage License, but She Did This Instead

Editor's note: *The following column originally appeared on .*

Linda Barnette has issued marriage licenses in Grenada County, Mississippi, for 24 years. On Tuesday, she resigned.

"I choose to obey God rather than man," Mrs. Barnette wrote in her one paragraph resignation letter to the Grenada County Board of Supervisors.

"I am a follower of Christ and I believe strongly that the Bible is my final authority," she wrote. "The Bible teaches that a marriage is to be between a man and a woman. Therefore, because of the recent ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court, I can no longer fulfill my duties as Circuit Clerk and issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples."

Another worker has been appointed to replace Mrs. Barnette. It's unclear if Grenada County will hold a special election to permanently fill the elected post.

"I told my supervisors a while back if it happened, I would tender my resignation," she told me. "I had already decided in my heart that I could not issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. It's my Christian belief. As a follower of Christ, I could not do it. The Bible teaches it is contrary to His plan."

Mrs. Barnette is a Southern Baptist and her husband once helped Franklin Graham with his national festivals. So when it came to choosing between her job and her faith—there never was any real debate.

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Todd Starnes is host of "Fox News & Commentary," heard on hundreds of radio stations. Sign up for his American Dispatch newsletter, be sure to join his Facebook page, and follow him on Twitter. His latest book is *God Less America*.