

"SINFUL ISSUES CONFRONTING CHRISTIANS"

HOMOSEXUALITY

I. WHAT THE WORD OF GOD HAS TO SAY ON THIS SUBJECT

A. God's Word first of all reveals to us His plan for man's relationships and we see that homosexuality is contrary to God's plan.

1. We notice in Gen. 2:18, 21, 22 when God designed and provided a companion and a help-meet for Adam it was a woman to complete him and not another man. It was a man and a woman then that God commanded to be fruitful and to fill the earth (Gen. 1:28).
2. We may rightly conclude from the foregoing that God's ordained plan for marriage and physical relationships is a heterosexual union and not a homosexual union. God ordained a monogamous union of a man and a woman in marriage to be "one flesh" or to find sexual fulfillment with one another (Gen. 2:24). For this reason any such fulfillments outside the marriage relationship is fornication and sinful (I Cor. 7:2) and dissolution of this partnership to have another is contrary to God's plan as well (Mark 10:2-9).
3. We find later on when God gave the law to the Israelites to govern their lives, He expressly condemned the practice of homosexuality as an abominable and sinful thing (Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Dt. 23:17, 18). The grounds for this condemnation was based upon the fact that it violated the plan which God had ordained.

B. The Word of God secondly shows us God's attitude toward this sinful practice and how much it displeases Him.

1. It was because of this sin of homosexuality that God was so grieved with the people of Sodom and Gomorrah that He destroyed them (Gen. 13:13; 18:20; 19:5, 24, 25).
2. This sin was one of the primary reasons why the Lord cast out the Canaanite tribes and ordered their complete destruction by the hands of the Israelites (Lev. 18:22-24).

3. The sinful practice of homosexuality is also one of the reasons God repeatedly chastened His people (I Kings 14:24-28).

C. The Word of God points out it is right in His sight to be against the practice of homosexuality.

1. Notice it is said of King Asa that he did "that which was right in the eyes of the Lord" and one of the things which he did was to rid the land of the Sodomites (I Kings 15:11,12; 22:46).
2. We find also when king Josiah made the Godly reforms in his day and Judah experienced revival, one of the things that he did was to get rid of the places where the homosexual practices were going on (II Kings 23:7).

D. The Word of God warns others against the sinful practice of homosexuality. Both Peter and Jude say that the condemnation and judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah is an **example** for those who live in an ungodly manner such as this (II Pet. 2:6; Jude 1).

E. The Word of God declares that the sin of homosexuality is a result of those who turn their backs upon God and they consequently condemn themselves by a deliberate choice to engage themselves in this practice

1. Speaking of the heathen practices of the Gentiles we find a digression of depravity and the depths to which man may sink when he turns his back upon God (Rom. 1:21-28). Homosexuality is one of the vile sins of a depraved mind apart from God.
2. Notice in this portion of Scripture it is said repeatedly that "God gave them up" to do these sinful things (Rom. 1:24, 26, 28). In other words God allowed them to exercise their own free moral will and to do those things which led to a mind void of things which God approves of and in so doing they were held accountable before God.

F. The Word of God says those who are practicing such sinful things as homosexuality are not going to inherit the Kingdom of God (I Cor. 6:9, 10).

II. WHAT OTHERS HAVE TO SAY ON THIS SUBJECT AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH WHAT THEY SAY

- A. Some say first of all that they cannot help the way they are. They contend they are predisposed to homosexual affections and actions genetically and are not like those with affections for the opposite sex.

To this we must accept the fact that some individuals do not possess the same degree of masculinity or feminicity as others. But we must not accept the fact that God made certain ones predisposed to do something sinful which He condemns in His Word. We also notice one of the very things which will characterize the last days is people with unnatural affections (II Tim. 3:3). People follow this sinful practice because it is one of the sinful desires and deeds of the unregenerated soul who is led by the sin nature.

- B. Some even contend that God made them that way and use Matt. 19:10-12 for support.

The eunuchs in this passage however, speak of those male individuals who were either born with physical handicaps which render them impotent or it speaks of those who have chosen to remain unmarried so that they might give themselves wholly to serve the Lord.

- C. Thirdly, some will say that they feel no desire toward the opposite sex but that they do feel attracted to those of the same sex.

In this case it can be seen, most of the time, that such individuals are suffering from faulty parent-child relationships and the environment and example which they have had has not provided for them to have a normal sexual development.

- D. Finally what others say on this subject is a host of expressions contending for one's right to practice this sinful relationship with another and they would have others to regard it as "an acceptable lifestyle". One of their slogans is "gay is good".
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To answer this assertion we should understand that no one has a right to do what God has said is not right to do. According to what God says gay is not good, it is sinful.

III. WHAT THE CHRISTIAN SHOULD DO IN REGARD TO THIS SUBJECT

- A. We as Christians should first of all look upon this practice as a wicked and vile sin before God which is contrary to His plan and something to be repented of .
- B. The Christian should recognize that this sin is just like any other sin and a result of one being led by the lustful desires of a depraved sin nature.
 - 1. For this reason we may use the law in a lawful manner as Paul said to show an individual of his sinfulness and need of being saved (I Tim. 1 : 9 , 10) .
 - 2. For this reason we may also offer hope to those involved in this sinful practice just like Paul offered hope to some of the Corinthians who were no doubt involved in this very same sin (I Cor. 6 : 9 - 11) .
- C. The Christian should keep in mind that while the Bible condemns this practice as an abominable thing before God, those who are involved in it are still those for whom Christ died. The need that they have to repent of this sin and trust Christ is no different from the need that anyone else has apart from Christ.
- D. We Christians should be personally opposed to the promotion of this sinful practice in our society . We should therefore do whatever we can legally and morally to defeat the plans of those who demand its acceptance as an acceptable lifestyle.