

August 23, 2015

#### Homosexuality

## 1. If homosexuality is wrong, why doesn't the <u>Bible talk</u> about it <u>more</u>?

The Bible clearly condemns homosexuality <u>11</u> times — Gen. 9:20-27; 19:4-11; Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Judg. 19:22-25; Ezek. 16:50; Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:10; 2 Peter 2:7 and Jude 7.

The Bible condemns homosexuality as part of pagan worship <u>8</u> times — Deut. 23:17–18; 1 Kings 14:24; 15:12; 22:46; 2 Kings 23:7; Job 36:14; and possibly Rev. 21:8; 22:15.

"...wherever homosexual intercourse is mentioned in Scripture, it is condemned... Rejection is a foregone conclusion;..." Pim Pronk, gay dutch scholar

The Bible has 8 vice lists. Sexual immorality is in every one and heads most of them. — Mark 7:21–22; Rom. 1:24–31; 13:13; 1 Cor. 6:9–10; Gal. 5:19–21; Col. 3:5–9; 1 Tim. 1:9–10; Rev. 21:8.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: <u>sexual immorality</u>, <u>impurity</u>, <u>passion</u>, <u>evil desire</u>, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Colossians 3:5 (ESV)

But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the <u>sexually immoral</u>, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, <u>their portion will be in the lake</u> <u>that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death</u>." Revelation 21:8 (ESV)

Now the works of the flesh are evident: <u>sexual immorality</u>, <u>impurity</u>, <u>sensuality</u>, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19–21 (ESV)

# 2. Doesn't the Bible only refer to <u>violent</u> and <u>abusive</u> homosexuality?

"Scripture provides no concrete examples of God blessing same-sex marriages. This is because <u>mutually loving</u>, <u>egalitarian marriages between gay partners</u> were simply not an available option for ordinary people during the times when the <u>Bible was written</u>." — Mark Achtimeier, <u>The Bible's Yes to Same Sex Marriage</u>.

Some interpreters, seeking to mitigate Paul's harshness, have read the passage [in Romans 1] as condemning not homosexuals generally but only heterosexual men and women who experimented with homosexuality. According to this interpretation, Paul's words were not directed at "bona fide" homosexuals in committed relationships. But such a reading, however well-intentioned, seems strained and unhistorical. Nowhere does Paul or any other Jewish writer of this period imply the least acceptance of same-sex relations under any circumstances. The idea that homosexuals might be redeemed by mutual devotion would have been wholly foreign to Paul or any Jew or early Christian.—Louis Crompton, gay scholar and pioneer in queer study in Homosexuality and Civilization

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# 3. Why would God give people homosexual desires and not want them <u>fulfilled</u>?

1. Are people born homosexual?

"the causes of sexual orientation (whether homosexual or heterosexual) are not known at this time and likely are multifactorial including biological and behavioral roots which may vary between different individuals and may even vary over time." - http://www.aglp.org/pages/LGBTPositionStatements.php

- 2. If people were born homosexual, why can they change?
- 3. What if you are homosexual and don't have the gift of <u>celibacy</u>?

"It was also clear from all the stories of brokenness I was encountering that Kristi and many others were not able to embrace <u>a lifelong commitment to celibacy</u> without crippling spiritual and psychological consequences." - Mark Achtimeier

- It assumes that those with homosexual desires will never repent and change their orientation.
- If chastity is too much to ask of a person with same-sex desires, it is too much to ask of a person with heterosexual desires.



### **Homosexuality** — Part 2





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#### 4. Why would God want me sexually miserable?

You see what God has to say about homosexuality, but your heart doesn't utter the same sentiments. God's word says it's sinful; your heart says it feels right. God's word says it's abominable; your heart says it's delightful. God's word says it's unnatural; your heart says it's totally normal. Do you see that there is a clear divide between what God's word says and how your heart feels? — Jackie Hill-Perry Love Letter to a Lesbian.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, Titus 2:11–12 (ESV)

## 4. Will practicing homosexuals go to heaven because Jesus <u>forgives</u> their <u>sin</u>?

and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." Mark 1:15 (ESV)

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but <u>now he commands all people</u> <u>everywhere to repent</u>, Acts 17:30 (ESV)

No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish." Luke 13:5 (ESV)

No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you... Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God,... 1 John 3:6–10 (ESV)

# 5. What should I know about the legalization of <u>same-sex</u> <u>marriage</u>?

Prior to the legalization of same-sex marriage the government was not:

- Criminalizing homosexual behavior.
- Prohibiting homosexuals from committing themselves in public or religious ceremonies.
- Legislating what people could and could not do in their bedrooms.

Legalization of same-sex marriage means forced recognition of the equality of same-sex marriages to traditional marriage:

- Two daddies and two mommies are no different than a mother and father.
- Procreation is unimportant to marriage.
- The definition of marriage can be further expanded.
- Those who do not agree with same-sex marriage will be forced into submission. — Trinity Western University



#### 6. Where can I find hope in my struggle with sexual sin?

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (ESV)