

Homosexuality: The Real Truth

Introduction:

- I. If you took a survey asking people what some of the greatest dangers facing our society are, you would probably get a variety of answers. You would hear about things such as inflation, unemployment, crime, or someone, somewhere would make reference to global warming. And while some of these things do need to be addressed, they are not the biggest problem that we face. The biggest problem that confronts this country today, and in fact every country on earth, is immoral conduct. America is plagued today by willful, unabashed and far-reaching immorality.
- II. But what is morality? *“In its “descriptive” sense, morality refers to personal or cultural values, codes of conduct or social mores that distinguish between right and wrong in the human society. In its “normative” sense, morality refers directly to what is right and wrong, regardless of what people think” (Wikipedia).* So then, the idea of morality points to the character and behavior of people as it relates to the doing of right and wrong. And there is no doubt but that America has long since lost focus of what is morally right and wrong.

But someone may ask, “Who or what is to be the standard that determines what is right and wrong?” One of the problems of answering that question is that man has developed a plurality of theories that are supposed to determine right from wrong. Theories ranging from subjectivism and relativism to situation ethics where right and wrong is determined by individual conscience and morality is determined by certain situations instead of an absolute standard.

However, these kind of theories ignore the fact of a supreme being Who has all authority and they place man as head over himself. But let us remember what Jeremiah said in **Jer. 10:23**, *“The way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”* We are merely creatures and God is the Creator. Such being the case, God is the One, and He is the only One, Who determines what is right or wrong. And has God set forth an absolute standard of morality that is applicable to all people of all time? Yes, it is this book we call the Bible. This is our code of ethics. This is our measure of right and wrong. And this is the standard whereby we shall each be judged in the last day (**Jn. 12:48**).

With this truth in mind, I want to talk to you for awhile about “Homosexuality: The Real Truth.”

Lesson:

I. **Don't Get Caught Up in the Hype!**

I know what society is now saying. Homosexuality is simply an **“alternate life style”** and constitutes normal behavior. But the fact is there isn't anything

normal about homosexuality. It is a perversion of nature, and pay attention to me, it is a perversion that is taken by choice. I said it is a perversion that is taken by choice.

We have all heard of the “gay rights” movement, but you may not be aware of what this movement is really after. It is not just an effort to stop discrimination in the work place. Homosexuals do not march the streets just to stop others from persecuting them or to stop “gay bashing.” Yes they want those things to stop, and so do I as a matter of fact, but that is not the real agenda of the “gay rights” moment. What homosexuals really want, what they are really after is complete social acceptance. They crave public legitimacy. They want people to view them and their life style as being normal. And the way they are doing that is by getting people to think that they have no choice in being what they are. Homosexuality, they say, is inborn.

You see, the gay rights moment is really trying to work on the psyche of America, portraying themselves as a minority group which has been terribly wronged. And once people are convinced that homosexuality is no more a choice than choosing the color of one’s skin, its acceptability becomes legitimate and any opposition to it is labeled, not only as homophobic, but becomes a form of racism and bigotry. This explains why there are as many or more non-homosexuals advocates for gay rights as there are homosexual ones. It’s because the gay rights moment is winning the battle for the minds of people. Now in this country most people think that homosexuality is a civil and human rights issue. This is why you hear people comparing what homosexuals are going through today with the struggles that blacks had to endure in years past. This is why you have some civil rights leaders who called themselves preachers who speak out for gay rights. You see they divorce the issue from the bible and make it a civil and human rights issue. But let me tell you something, nobody knows anything more about human rights than God. And God has spoken about the issue of homosexuality and He calls it sin.

Pay attention to me now: the issue of homosexuality being sinful has nothing to do with what is civilly right or wrong. The issue has nothing to do with what the Constitution of the United States says. The issue has nothing to do with what scientists say or what preachers say or what “seems right” or “feels good.” The only issue is “What does the Bible say?”

II. A Word about Same Sex Marriage.

If homosexuality is legitimate then men ought to be marrying men and women ought to be marrying women. As everyone knows this is the direction that America is going. And it is worth our time to talk about this for a few minutes. In 2003 Massachusetts became the first state to legalize same sex marriages and now this country is in a battle over this issue. There are presently seven states that have legalized same sex marriages, along with a federal district (Washington, D.C.) and an Indian tribe in Oregon. I guarantee you that proponents of this perversion will keep on fighting until either the Lord comes

back or every state legalizes same sex marriages. Why? Because they think it is a matter of human rights. Marvin Ellison, a Presbyterian minister, said during a retreat sponsored by the United Church, "*Ours is a marriage culture. Doesn't it make sense that many same-sex couples who grow up in this culture would want to marry?*" In the same speech to over a 100 people who gathered at the United Church in Chapel Hill, NC, Ellison said, "*...denying gay and lesbian couples the right to marriage is akin to oppressing their human rights.*" Now, if homosexuality is legitimate, this man is right. But remember, God is the one who determines what is legitimate when it comes to marriage. In fact, God is the one, by virtue of the fact that He is our Creator, who determines what rights we as humans have. And the regardless of what is now being said by homosexual advocates and same sex proponents, God has determined that marriage is a union between a man and a woman.

In Gen. 1 we find that God created man on the sixth day (**Gen. 1:26-28**). This passage affirms the equality of the sexes by virtue of the fact that both male and female were made in the image of God. Now Gen. 2 gets more specific as it relates to God creating first a male and then a female as his helper (**Gen. 2:18-24**). While Gen. 1 affirms the equality of the sexes, Gen. 2 affirms the complementarity of the sexes which constitutes the basis for heterosexual marriage. Pay attention to me: God created the female gender specifically to compliment, complete and contribute to the male gender. I don't care what feelings a man has about another man or a woman has about another woman, no man can compliment and complete another man and no women can compliment and complete another woman. That's why God made Eve and not Steve.

So then, God made marriage a union between a man and a woman. Where is the passage that sanctions a marriage between two people of the same sex? It's not in the Bible. God never authorized it because it is not His will. And let me tell you right now, anything that is not God's will is not best for society. The fact of the matter is, if society ever changes God's institution of marriage to include homosexual relationships, it will do so at its own peril. Not simply because it will bring upon itself the displeasure of God, but because of the effect that it would have on traditional marriage between a man and a woman and thus society itself. Listen to me: marriage as God instituted it, i.e., a union between one man and one woman, is the foundational building block of every civilized society. It is the union in which a man and a woman can reach their full potential, not only loving and caring for each other, but fulfilling needs that cannot be meant apart from one another. This is why God said, "*It is not good for man to be alone.*" Furthermore, traditional, God sanctioned marriage is the only union in which children can be borne and raised to reach their full potential. I know that this statement would immediately raise the ire of homosexual couples, but it is a biblical, societal and natural fact. A child needs both a mother and a father. A 12 year old foster child once told a reporter what every child instinctively longs for, "*I want a mom and a dad who will spend time with me.*" A mom and a dad, a husband and a wife is the natural composition of a family and it has always been the case.

A plurality of social studies taken over the years shows two things undeniably. First, adults that are married, are more likely to live longer, have better physical health, be happier, experience more stable relationships, have less mental and emotional health problems, be better off financially, experience less domestic violence and have more satisfying sex lives (*The Case for Marriage, by Linda J. Waite and Maggie Gallagher*).

Second, children suffer when they are denied the nurturing influence of their mother and father. Children born out of wedlock or who experience their parents' separation or divorce are more likely to experience slower cognitive and verbal development, lower educational achievement and job attainment, more behavioral and emotional problems, increased dependency on welfare, lower financial well-being, increased exposure to crime, a greater risk of being sexually abused and marital problems of their own (*The Effects of Divorce on America, by Linda J. Waite and Maggie Gallagher*).

The evidence is clear: marriage as God would have it, like no other relationship, benefits everyone involved in it – children, parents, and society.

III. What the Bible Says about Homosexuality.

A) Homosexuality is a “grievous sin.”

This has always been the case. In the Patriarchal dispensation we read of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (**Gen. 19:24-28**). Why were these cities destroyed? It was an example of God's attitude toward ungodliness (**2 Pet. 2:6**). Were Sodom and Gomorrah the only ungodly cities in the world at that time? No, of course not, but their sin was particularly grievous to God. In **Gen. 18:20** we read, “*And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous.*” What was their sin? It was the homosexual act of Sodom (**Gen. 19:1-5**). The word “*know*” is an euphemism for sexual relations (**Gen. 4:1, 17, 25**). The **NAS** renders this translation of ver. 5: “*and they called to Lot and said to him, ‘Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them.’*” And notice the **NIV** is even stronger yet: “*They called to Lot, ‘Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them.’*” And if there is still doubt as to what the intentions of these men were, consider the book of Jude (**Jude 7**). Sexual immorality of the homosexual sort was the grievous sin of Sodom and Gomorrah. Now some say that rape was the grievous sin under consideration and that the consensual act of homosexual relations is not condemned. Well, let's look at more.

B) Homosexuality was condemned under the Mosaic dispensation (**Lev. 18:22-30; 20:7-13**).

C) Homosexuality condemned by the gospel of Christ (**1 Cor. 6:9-11**).

The word *effeminate* often implies homosexual tendencies. Thayer says the following: “*soft, soft to the touch* 2) *metaphorically, in a bad sense: effeminate: 1) used of a catamite 2) used of a boy kept for homosexual relations with a man 3) used of a male who submits his body to unnatural lewdness 4) used of a male prostitute.*” Now, homosexual theologians are quick to point out that this word does not always imply a homosexual act, but notice the next word Paul uses: “abusers of themselves with mankind” (KJV). The NAS simply translates the word “homosexuals.” Thayer says of this word: “one who lies with a male as with a female, a sodomite, a homosexual.” There is no question about this: homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God (**Rom. 1:22-27**). Any one who truly believes in the Bible must conclude that homosexuality is immoral, sinful and a violation of God’s will.

IV. How Should We Treat Homosexuals?

- A) We must love them. (Homophobia – “irrational fear of, aversion to or discrimination against homosexuals.)**
- B) We must try to convert them.**

Conclusion:

This is a hot issue in the world today, but as Christians, we must take a stand that is in accordance with the Word of God.