

Combating Worldliness - Homosexuality

Chuck Northrop

In the normally quiet city of Conway, Arkansas, on June 27th of this year, there was a “Gay Pride Celebration and Parade.” Generally, we think of homosexuals somewhere else like in the big cities or on the east coast or in California, but on this day, homosexuals and protesters from throughout the state of Arkansas merged on the streets of our community.

According to Becky Harris, staff writer of the Log Cabin Democrat, the local newspaper, “About 65 marchers – some in costume carrying signs that said ‘God loves me’ – strolled through downtown streets that were lined with about the same number of men and women carrying signs, some that said: ‘God loves you.’”¹ Several days before the parade, the ten o’clock news in Little Rock interviews one of the organizers. He said their march was to promote tolerance and gay rights.

Personally, I find this interesting. They want to be on the receiving end of tolerance while not tolerating those of us who believe, teach, and promote the Bible. Brother Tyler Young wrote, “One of the great ironies of this controversy is that promoters of the homosexual agenda march under the banner of ‘love’ and ‘tolerance,’ while at the same time manifesting extreme hostility and intolerance toward those who dare to dissent.”²

You might be surprised, but I too believe in the rights of homosexuals. Homosexuals have the right to be convicted of the sin of homosexuality and be given the opportunity to repent. Furthermore, homosexuals have the right to hear and obey the gospel in order to be forgiven of their sins by the precious blood of Christ. And, homosexuals have the God-given right to choose to obey or to suffer the consequences of their rebellion. I do not believe in “gay-bashing” and the such like, but I also know they will reap what they have sown, and God will judge fornicators and adulterers (Hebrews 13:4).

Along with other forms of immorality, homosexuality has plagued our nation. However, wise Solomon of old said, “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Proverbs 14:34). The plague of homosexuality does not exalt the “red, white, and blue” but is a reproach to the beloved citizens of the United States of America.

Homosexuality Is Against Nature

When God created the world, He created mankind as male and female. In Genesis 1:27, Moses recorded, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” God created Adam and Eve — not Adam and Steve or Madam and Eve. Associated with this fact, God established the home which consisted of a man leaving his parents and being joined to his wife. God said, “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh” (Genesis 2:24).

However, homosexuality is against the natural order as God created it. L.L. Welborn wrote, “When human beings engage in homosexual activity, they act out the rejection of the creator’s design.”³

Also, in reference to Romans 1:26-27, Charles Brown wrote, "Homosexual acts are said to change the 'natural use' into that which is 'against nature.' ...Heterosexual relationships are natural; homosexual relationships are unnatural. Perverted actions resulted when men 'left the natural use of the woman' and 'burned in their lust one toward another.'"⁴

To the contrary, homosexual organizations claim that at least ten percent of the population is homosexual, but unbiased studies show quite the opposite. A study by the University of Chicago found only two percent of men and nine tenths of one percent of women identify themselves as gay.⁵ Also, the Wall Street Journal reported less than one percent of the population of Europe and North America are homosexual.⁶ Furthermore, the results of the investigation of "Science" indicated that just over four percent (4.1%) of men and about two and a half percent (2.6%) of women had ever had homosexual intercourse.⁷ The difference in the last investigation from the previous ones reported in this paper concern those individuals who have "ever had homosexual intercourse." This would include those who experimented with homosexuality, succumb to peer pressure, or who may have been forced into a homosexual relationship.

To combat the real statistics, homosexuals will use examples of animals to show that homosexuality is natural. However, Luiz Sérgio Solimeo reported, "There is no 'homosexual instinct' in animals. It is poor science to 'read' human motivations and sentiments into animal behavior, and irrational animal behavior is not a yardstick to determine what is morally acceptable behavior for rational man."⁸

Another piece of evidence the homosexual community uses to "prove" that homosexuality is natural is the so-called "gay gene." But think about this: If there was a "gay gene," then how could it be passed from generation to generation since homosexuality cannot naturally reproduce? On this subject, the publication "Reason and Revelation" said, "The available evidence clearly establishes that no such gene has been identified. Additionally, evidence exists which documents that homosexuals can change their sexual orientation."⁹

Homosexuality Is Against Reason

As the story goes according to the comedians, a man goes to a medical doctor and says, "It hurts when I do this."

The doctor responds, "Then, stop doing that."

So it is with homosexuality. Because of the various self-inflicted illnesses associated with homosexuality, it destroys the physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects of man. The solution: "Stop doing that!" As simple as the solution is, homosexuals do not listen to nor heed the warnings. In a report by L. Mskusick, he wrote, "Knowledge of health guidelines was quite high, but this knowledge had no relation to sexual behavior."¹⁰

Homosexuality is against reason because it is brutal for it destroys life! Anyone who says homosexual behavior is an innocent lifestyle is either ignorant of the facts or are ignoring the facts or both. Sixty-five percent of all reported AIDS cases in the United States since 1981 have been

men engaged in homosexual behavior, and seventy-eight percent of homosexuals are effected by some type of STD (Sexually Transmitted Disease).¹¹ You see, homosexuality is a matter of life or death, but the statistics do not stop there. According to the Post-Tribune, fifty percent of suicides can be attributed to homosexuality.¹² Also according to Dr. E. Fields, homosexuals are one hundred times more likely to be murdered. Couple that with these facts: the median age of death of homosexual men is forty-two and only nine percent live past the age of sixty-five whereas the median age of death of a married heterosexual man is seventy-five. Plus, the median age of death drops to age thirty-nine if the cause of death is AIDS. And, the median age of death of lesbians is forty-five and only twenty-four percent live past age sixty-five whereas the median age of death of a married heterosexual woman is seventy-nine.¹³

Though these statistics are alarming, they still do not give the full picture. Not only is homosexuality brutal to self, it is brutal others — physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Associated with the homosexual lifestyle is extreme promiscuity. Forty-three percent of homosexuals admit to having had five hundred or more partners in a lifetime, and twenty-eight percent admit to having had a thousand or more partners in a lifetime. Seventy-nine percent say that half of those partners were total strangers, and seventy percent were one night stands. Forty-one percent admitted to having had sex with strangers in public restrooms, and sixty percent admitted to having had sex with strangers in bathhouses. Of course as you would suspect, illegal drugs play a role in this. Twenty-five to thirty-three percent of homosexuals are alcoholics, and sixty-four percent admitted to using illegal drugs when encountering strangers.¹⁴

Violence is also associated with homosexuality. Judge John Martaugh, chief magistrate of the New York City Criminal Court said, “Homosexuals account for half the murders in large cities.”¹⁵ Also as reported by Newsweek, in the first seven years of a “gay-bashing” hotline in Boston, fifty percent of the calls involved homosexuals bashing homosexuals.¹⁶ Add to this, sadomasochism. Thirty-seven percent of homosexuals engage in sadomasochism. In the city of San Francisco, classes were held to teach homosexuals how not to kill their partners during sadomasochism.¹⁷

Though STD’s, extreme promiscuity, and violence associated with homosexuality is alarming, the next topic is frightening. Many homosexuals are pedophiles. According to one report, seventy-three percent of male homosexuals had sex with boys under the age of nineteen.¹⁸ Captain William Riddle of the Los Angeles Police said, “Thirty thousand sexually abused children in Los Angeles were victims of homosexuals.”¹⁹ According to Psychological Reports, homosexuals commit more than a third of all reported child molestations in the United States, and, in fact one out of every twenty homosexual is a child molester.²⁰ Furthermore, a Canadian report noted that ninety-one percent of non-familial molestations were committed by homosexuals.²¹ And at many “gay parades,” signs can be seen with “NAMBLA” written on them. “NAMBLA” is a homosexual activist group and stands for “North American Man and Boy Love Association.” One of their slogans is “Sex before eight, before it’s too late.”²²

As you can clearly see, homosexuality is not an innocent nor harmless lifestyle. Why would anyone ignore reason, logic, and common sense to participate in such wickedness? If there were three glasses of water, and one had poison in it, would you take your chances and drink from one? This is exactly what homosexuals are doing, except their chances are greater than one out of three. But, then, someone may say, “Yes, but if I was about to die of thirst, then I might drink.”

That may be true with water because humans must have water to survive, but humans don't have to engage in homosexual activity to survive.

Homosexuality Is Against God's Will

During all periods of Bible history, (Patriarchy, Mosaic, and the New Testament age), God has revealed His displeasure of homosexuality.

PATRIARCHAL AGE: During the age of the patriarchs, there was the incident in the ancient city of Sodom in which the Sodomites wanted to "know" Lot's guests (Genesis 19:5). In other words, they wanted to have sexual relations with them. Though some have tried to justify the Sodomites and/or twist the reason for their destruction, the Bible is very specific. In fact, because of Lot's attempts to curtail the sin, the text clearly indicates the Sodomites desire to have homosexual relations with the two angels who were visiting Lot. This also was not an isolated incident involving only a few of the inhabitants of Sodom. The text says, "old and young," "all the people from every quarter" surrounded the house (Genesis 19:4). Notice also their intense desire. As the incident develops, the angels struck the Sodomites blind, but their blindness did not stop them from doing their wickedness. "They wearied themselves to find the door" (Genesis 19:11). Furthermore, the New Testament prophet Jude wrote about this. He said, "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" (Jude 7). Finally, Peter, an apostle of the Lord, address their destruction. 2 Peter 2:6 says, "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly."

MOSAIC AGE: During the Mosaic dispensation, God clearly revealed His will. Moses wrote, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination" (Leviticus 18:22). There is no mistaking. Under the Old Testament law, homosexuality is an abomination. In fact, it was so abominable the punishment was death. Again, Moses wrote, "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them" (Leviticus 20:13).

NEW TESTAMENT AGE: Three passages within the New Testament clearly reveals God's will in the current age.

First, to the Romans Paul wrote,

Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: ²⁵ Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. ²⁶ For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: ²⁷ And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is

unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet (Romans 1:24-27).

The depravity of the gentiles which included homosexuality came as a result of their rejection of God. The text indicates five ways they rejected God. First, “when they knew God, they glorified him not as God” (verse 21). Second, they “changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image” (verse 23). Third, they “changed the truth of God into a lie” (verse 25). Fourth, they “worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator” (verse 25), And fifth, they did not “retain God in their knowledge” (verse 28). Therefore, God gave them over to their own vile affections which included leaving the natural for the unnatural (i.e. the natural design for sex for that which is against nature). Verse 32 is also important to note in our study. Tyler Young wrote, “Notice, too, that condemnation is pronounced not only on the practitioners of perversity, but on those who ‘consent’ with them (v. 32), a term which in the original language means ‘to approve heartily’ (cf. NASB), which describes the attitude of many Americans today.”²³ Good listener, there are consequences of rejecting God!

A second passage for consideration is Paul’s admonition to Timothy.

But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; ⁹ Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, ¹⁰ For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine. (1 Timothy 1:8-10).

Associated with murderers and kidnappers are sodomites and homosexuals. Such associations ought to tell us something. When men reject the law of God, they turn to every form of wickedness known to man.

A final passage for our consideration is 1 Corinthians 6:9-10.

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰ Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

The “effeminate” and “abusers of themselves with mankind” have reference to sodomites and homosexuals. It is important to note they are categorized in the list of “the unrighteous” who will “not inherit the kingdom of God.”

Also, in the New Testament, two words describe homosexuality. The first is ARSENOKOITES (ἀρσενokoίτης). This word is used in 1 Corinthians 6:10 and 1 Timothy 1:10. In the Corinthians passage, it is translated “abusers of themselves with mankind,” and in the Timothy passage, it is translated “them that defile themselves with mankind.” The Analytical Greek Lexicon defines the word as “one who lies with a male, a sodomite.”²⁴ Thayer says, “one who lies with a male as with

a female, a sodomite.”²⁵ This is a compound word from ARSEN meaning “a male” and from KOITE meaning “a bed.”

The second word is MALAKOIS (μαλακοίς). It is also used in 1 Corinthians 6:10 and is translated “effeminate.” Again, the Analytical Greek Lexicon says, “soft; soft to the touch, delicate . . . an instrument of unnatural lust, effeminate.” This is not to say that all homosexuals are effeminate in manners or dress but that they permit their bodies to be used in effeminate ways.

~~There are other words within the~~ New Testament that include the idea of homosexuality. “Fornication” is a broad term and means illicit or unlawful sexual intercourse which would include homosexuality. Also, “uncleanness” sometimes includes such. The gentiles of Rome were in part guilty of uncleanness through their homosexual activities.

Though some homosexuals and homosexual advocates have tried to use the Bible to justify their deviant lifestyle, God has made it perfectly clear — homosexuality is immoral and an abomination to Him. Those who practice sodomy and those who condone its practice are in the gall of bitterness and the bond of iniquity. They have rejected God, are lawless and unrighteous, and will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Sodomy is not associated with emerging societies but with declining ones. In America in the past, homosexuals were “in the closet.” but they have “come out of the closet” and are parading themselves in our streets. Not only have they “come out of the closet,” they are a militant force for evil demanding acceptance by society. Too many today portray those who oppose them as “homophobic,” intolerant, and bigoted while portraying the sodomites as disadvantaged and oppressed victims of society. However, be reminded of the words of Isaiah who said, “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (Isaiah 5:20). And remember, “Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge” (Hebrews 13:4).

Though sodomy is an abomination, it is not without forgiveness. Homosexuality is not a “greater sin” in which there is no pardon. In fact and in reality, it is no worse than any other kind of fornication which would include adultery, premarital sex, bestiality, promiscuity, pedophilia, and prostitution. Forgiveness awaits all who will turn from their sin in obedience to God. Many in Corinth were guilty of these things, but they turned to God and obeyed His plan of pardon. After listing many sins including fornication, adultery, and homosexuality, Paul wrote, “And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Corinthians 6:11).

End Notes

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14. Author Unknown, "Facts and Statistics About Homosexuals." 2000-2003 International Organization of Heterosexual Rights <http://www.inoohr.org/homosexualstatistics.htm>.
15. Kaifetz, J. "Homosexual Rights Are Concern for Some," Post-Tribune, 18 December 1992 as quoted at <http://www.inoohr.org/homosexualstatistics.htm>.

16. King, Patricia, "Not So Different, After All." Newsweek, 4 October 1993.
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