

"The Truth about Homosexuality?"

1 Corinthians 6:9-18

Introduction: It was certainly not my idea to preach on the subject of homosexuality today, but it was God's will. I was planning to start our journey in the book of Ephesians, but I was led to this message as I was reading a book that was given to me quite a while back.

Today we are going to look at the Word of God to see what God says concerning the subject of homosexuality. The world has many different opinions as we shall see but the world's opinions do not matter. What matters is what the Bible says about the subject. In our message today we are going to consider what our society says about homosexuality and then we will look at God's Word to see if the world's analysis is accurate.

I. Society tells us we should just accept homosexuality and be careful what we say so as not to offend those who practice the lifestyle.

You have probably noticed over the years that churches have really softened their stance on homosexuality. Many have accepted those who practice the lifestyle and they have even made them pastors, deacons, elders, and teachers. So not only have they shied away from taking a stand they tolerate the practice and they accept it which is the same as approving the practice of it.

Why Has the church become so soft on this subject?

1. It is due to the pressure coming from the LBGTQ community.

Those who stand against the homosexual lifestyle are going to collide with pressure from the LBGTQ community.

2. It is the fear of offending people within the church and the repercussions that may come with it.

I read that one pastor said he has never preached on homosexuality because of how diverse his congregation is. Then someone ask the question, "What if your entire congregation was gay, would you speak on it then?" I can only assume the answer would be, "NO", because of fear.

Let me explain to you what has happened to the church over the years and why we are seeing what we see today. The church has been placed through a series of tests and has failed miserably.

a. The test of feminism.

The feminist rebellion gave us a chance to bear witness to the Fatherhood of God in man as male, but the church chose to be silent.

b. The test concerning fornication.

The children of our churches fornicated with one another, but the church refused to bear witness against their fornication. The church gave its own kids a pass on that sin.

c. The test of the sin of adultery.

Instead of condemning and disciplining it in the church it was over looked, and some viewed it as entertainment just like the world did.

d. The test of divorce.

This is that which God says He hates. But the children of the church and the members of the church divorced one another and again the church refused to condemn the practice. Just like the world it was accepted.

So now the church is faced with the sin of homosexuality and we see the same thing happening. No one wants to take a stand.

NO ONE WANTS TO TAKE UP THEIR CROSS AND ADDRESS THE SIN.

Many in the church do not want to face the wrath of the liberals. Many do not want to face the sneers of their own family. Many are afraid they will be labeled as bigots. So, the church sits by and allows the world's philosophies to be brought in and taught. God's Word is then set aside and when it is used it is used very selectively so as not to read any passage that might be offensive.

This soft stand against sin must stop. Jesus came to this earth to call sinners to repentance and that is what we too must do. Let me give you an example. Let me show you the conversation between Jesus and the woman at the well.

John 4:13-18

¹³ Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:

¹⁴ But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

¹⁵ The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

¹⁶ Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.

¹⁷ *The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband:*

¹⁸ **For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.**

Before she could be saved her sin needed to be revealed and she needed to repent. She asked for the water but had to repent before she could drink of the water. No let me show you what happened when she went back to her town.

John 4:28-30, 39

²⁸ *The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,*

²⁹ *Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?*

³⁰ *Then they went out of the city, and came unto him.*

³⁹ *And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.*

The men knew what she was talking about. They ran to Jesus because they desired that He would reveal their sin and call them to repentance.

Every believer today is called to choose between the broad path of acceptance and the narrow way of calling sexual sinners to repentance.

We must not accept the sin of homosexuality and we must name it and call sinners to repentance.

Luke 5:31-32

³¹ *And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick.*

³² *I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*

II. Society tells us that homosexuals are born that way and cannot change.

Listen to the words of Bryan Fischer a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary:

"Despite decades of fruitless research, no gay gene has ever been identified. Even pro-homosexual researchers have thrown in the towel."

People are not born as homosexuals. There is no homosexual gene which has been found. Let me show you the words of Jesus:

Matthew 19:4

⁴ And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female.

When God made mankind, He made them male and female. So, everyone who is born is either male or female. There is no such thing as transgender gene or a homosexual gene. Even the chromosomes in men and women tell us that that we are either male or female. If a fetus has XX it is a girl and if it has XY it is a boy. It is that plain.

Homosexuality is a sin and it is the result of the sinful heart of man. It is a choice made by the sinner.

III. Society tells us God has no problem with people being homosexual.

The reason many believe this is because they believe they are born homosexual and therefore it is God who made them that way, so He is fine with the lifestyle. This "gay theology" certainly does not line up with Scripture. God clearly condemns the sin of homosexuality.

Leviticus 18:21-23

²¹ And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.

²² Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

²³ Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.

Leviticus 20:13

¹³ 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.

Romans 1:8, 19, 26-27

⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

¹⁹ Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

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 recompence of their error which was meet.

Homosexuals receive within themselves the recompence of their error. The word "recompence" refers to a "reward or payment". This certainly refers to the diseases which are connected with this lifestyle but there is more as we shall see.

Deuteronomy 23:17-18

¹⁷ There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel.

¹⁸ Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

The homosexual is referred to as a dog here in these verses. Homosexuality is a sin and God is not ok with it. It must be repented of just like any other sin.

IV. Society tells us there are many "gay Christians" in the church today.

Notice 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Paul gives a list of people here that will not inherit the kingdom of God. The "abusers of themselves with mankind" is a reference to the homosexuals. Now I want you to listen to what I am about to say! Those who practice any of these sins that are listed here as a lifestyle are not saved.

Notice 1 Corinthians 6:9 again.

Don't miss the words, "BE NOT DECEIVED". Paul was attacking the false teaching that denied these sins would keep men from heaven. Paul knew there would be those who practiced homosexuality that would label themselves as "gay Christians" but Paul makes it clear here, that we are not to be deceived, because anyone who practices these sins are not saved.

Failure to repeat this in our churches is being unfaithful to the Word of God.

Notice 1 Corinthians 6:11

Paul says to the Corinthians, "Such WERE some of you." He did not say, "Such ARE some of you." You see, some of these people had been involved in this list of sins but when they

realized their sin was an offense to God they repented. Now they were different. That lifestyle was left in the past. This is what salvation does. It saves us from our sin.

1 John 3:5

⁵And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

There is something else here that I want you to see.

Notice 1 Corinthians 6:9

Separate from the sin of homosexuality is the sin called, "effeminacy". This word means "soft". It refers to men who are soft or who are womanish. This would be people such as Boy George or David Bowie. They would be men who present themselves as feminine. They would be men who would refuse to embrace their manhood. They would be men who may have never committed a homosexual act with another man, but they are one step away. Let me show you another place where this same word appears.

Matthew 11:7-8

⁷ And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

⁸ But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

Jesus told these people that those who were effeminate were in the king's houses. What did He mean? Fourteen of the first fifteen Emperors were homosexuals. They also surrounded themselves with soft men. Men who acted feminine and womanish.

Those who are effeminate are also living in sin and those who chose to practice the sin of effeminacy will not inherit the Kingdom of God. The flip side of this is also true and that means "hard" women. This would be woman that play the part of a man. Let me show you an Old Testament verse that covers both soft men and hard women.

Deuteronomy 22:5

⁵ The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

The man is to embrace his manhood and the woman is to embrace her womanhood. We are to be true to the way in which God made us. Men are to step up to the role of a man and women are to step up to the role of the woman.

So, when the man lives in a feminine way and suppresses his manhood and the woman lives in a manly way suppressing her womanhood both are sins that are very serious before God. There is another verse here that comes to my mind concerning the man.

1 Corinthians 11:14

¹⁴ Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?

V. Society tells us homosexuality is harmless.

Notice 1 Corinthians 6:18

Sexual sins are sins against the body, but what does this mean?

1 Timothy 4:1-2

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

² Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

Repeated exposure to sexual sins actually causes damage to the brain. It will impair a person's ability to feel pleasure. Listen to the words of Tim Jennings:

"People who damage their pleasure centers in this way will often be disinterested in healthy relationships, will often become apathetic, and they will seek out either more high-risk behaviors or drugs or other types of things to stimulate the pleasure centers so they can feel this."

Conclusion:

Our responsibility is to love the homosexual and the way we do that is to name the sin calling it exactly what it is, and then call them to repentance. They must feel the shame of their sin. Shame is grace.

"Because shame is painful, our desire is to avoid it keeps us from sin. God gave us physical pain to protect our bodies and shame to protect our souls."