

CROSSPOINTE CHURCH MIDWEEK FELLOWSHIP

The Christian and Culture: Homosexuality

October 7, 2015

I. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY?

1. The Old Testament prohibits it.

- a. Genesis 2:18-25–Human sexuality is rooted in the one-flesh union between a husband and wife.
- b. Genesis 3–Adam and Eve fell and everything was fractured and out of joint.
- c. God initiates the redemption of mankind and gives the Law.
 - Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13
- d. Understanding the relationship between the Old Testament Law and the New Testament Christian.
 - The Old Testament Law was an instructor to show people what was wrong, what was right, and what was needed. In the New Testament, Jesus fulfills the requirements of the Law for his people (Romans 8:3-4). So, we are no longer bound by the aspects of the Law that speak to things like the sacrificial system, cleanliness, diet, festivals, and circumcision. But, the heart of the Law and its moral aspects are repeated and folded into what the New Testament calls the Law of Christ.

2. Paul prohibits it.

- a. Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:8-11

3. Jesus prohibits it.

- a. Jesus establishes marriage between one man and one woman as the only grounds for human sexual expression.
 - Matthew 19:3-9
- b. Jesus prohibits all sexual practice outside of marriage between one man and one woman.
 - Matthew 15:19
 - “sexual immorality” (*porneia*): every major Greek dictionary for this word would define this as all sexual activity outside of the confines of marriage between a man and a woman including adultery, fornication, and homosexuality. Homosexuality is implicit in this word.

4. The Bible is clear, homosexuality—*along with all sexual activity outside of marriage between a husband and wife*—is incompatible with the Christian life.

II. WHAT ARE THE MAIN ARGUMENTS FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF HOMOSEXUALITY?

1. A simple disregard for the authority of the Bible.

2. Jesus did not address it and the Bible as a whole only mentions it several times.

- a. Arguments from silence are weak.
- b. Jesus was not silent on the issue of sexuality, encompassing all human sexuality activity.
 - Matthew 19:3-9, Matthew 15:19
- c. Understanding the inspiration of the scriptures means Paul’s words are Jesus’ words.
 - 2 Timothy 3:16

3. The type homosexuality condemned in the Bible was not the same kind.
 - a. Claim that what is condemned in the Bible was exploitive (rape, molestation) or not based on orientation
 - Much evidence of consensual same sex relations in ancient times.
 - Romans 1:27—the men were “consumed with passion for one another”
4. None of us are perfect and it’s not hurting anyone.
5. What about other sins that the Church overlooks?

III. WHAT SHOULD OUR RESPONSE BE AS CHRISTIANS?

1. We must understand the nature of sin, salvation and Christ-like love.
2. We should repent and recapture a biblical view of marriage and sex.
3. We must treat all people with dignity and respect and love them by pointing them to Jesus.
4. If a loved one or friend is homosexual, we should love them but be clear about the gospel and sin.
5. We must reject indifference and care deeply about impact of laws regarding marriage.

What if you are struggling with same sex attraction?

1. This is a safe place.
2. You, like every other sinner with broken desires and orientations, must take God’s side against your sin.
3. You may wrestle with this for the rest of your life on earth, but Jesus is better.

IV. QUESTIONS