

The Christian, Homosexuality and the Current Culture

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Introduction: Most Christians are unaware at the strong push to justify Homosexuality by the leaders of our age. (**Isa 5:20-21**)

- A. While living in Lincoln, Nebraska I learned of a highly coordinated effort at several levels to "re-educate" our society about homosexuality.
 - 1. The National Education Association (NEA) had powerfully used its funds and influence to push the homosexual agenda in the public Schools.
 - a. Some parents I knew who were a part of the "Traditional Values Coalition" were publicly branded by the state NEA and the local principle had orders to be told whenever she arrived on school grounds were her own children attended!
 - b. In our own state this year there were many school systems that observed a Gay and Lesbian week.
 - 2. The forces of government are increasingly equating "Gay-rights" with "Civil-rights".
 - a. Consider the actions of our own president last night: " A half-century after President Harry S. Truman declared his commitment to civil rights before a largely black crowd gathered at the Lincoln Memorial, President Clinton last night pledged similar solidarity in the battle for equal rights for gay and lesbian Americans." - Washington Post 11/9/97
 - b. Boy scouts have been forbidden by the Interior department from helping clean up the national state parks because they do not allow for homosexual scout leaders!
 - 3. I have in my possession excerpts from a government training video where a man explains from the Bible that homosexuality is not wrong!
 - 4. There are many churches who now say homosexuality is not a sin. There are even homosexual churches that exist.
- B. What does this mean to the Christian?
 - 1. We need to know what the Bible teaches.
 - 2. We need to understand that ours is not a political battle, but a spiritual one. (**Jn 18:36**)
 - 3. We need to answer the arguments advanced by those who justify sin. We need to teach our children how to answer these things. (**2 Cor 10:4-5**)

I. What does the Bible teach about homosexuality?

- A. The Old Testament condemned homosexuality.
 - 1. The cities of Sodom openly practiced homosexuality. (**Gen. 19:1 -7**)
 - 2. God specifically forbid it. (**Lev. 18:22**)
 - 3. Homosexuality would receive the death penalty. (**Lev. 20:13**)
- B. The New Testament condemned homosexuality.
 - 1. The acceptance of homosexuality by a culture is described in its steps away from God! (**Rom. 1:26-32**)
 - a. (**Rom 1:26**) - against nature (para phusin); vile passion (degrading; passions of dishonor).
 - b. (**Rom 1:27**) - men working unseemliness: indecent act, shameless act.
 - c. "Receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was due." This can so vividly be seen, among many diseases, ex. AIDS
 - d. (**Rom 1:28**) - "reprobate mind" (Vine: a mind of which God cannot approve, and which must be rejected by him). NAS: "depraved mind."

- e. **(Rom 1:32)** - "Worthy of death."
 - 2. There is no question what this sin brings! **(1 Cor. 6:9-10)**
 - a. Effeminate (malakos: Thayer-effeminate. of a catamite, a male who submits his body to unnatural lewdness).
 - b. "abusers of themselves with mankind" - denotes homosexuality.
 - c. "Be not deceived" - Do not be led astray by plausible talk to cover up sin and change it into something respectable and acceptable.
 - 3. Homosexuality is included with those who are "abusers of themselves with men." **(1 Tim. 1:10)**
 - 4. Homosexuality is fornication **Jude 7**.
- C. Those who practice any sin cannot go to heaven!

II. What are the arguments used to justify homosexuality?

- A. "The Bible is a reflection of the culture of that time. Our culture is now different!"
 - 1. What is "culture"? It is a system of values!
 - 2. God expects all men to put away the sins of the flesh and put on the fruits of the spirit. **(Gal 5:19-25)**
 - 3. Most people who accept homosexuality do not believe in the inspiration of the Bible!
 - 4. Many are excited about the "Gay-Rights" movement because they correctly see an opportunity to persecute Christians.
- B. "Homosexuals are born this way. They did not choose this lifestyle so it cannot be a sin."
 - 1. If they can prove an inborn nature the Bible would still tell us to not practice this desire! The alcoholic desires to drink even after becoming a Christian he simply puts this desire away and refuses to act upon it. **(Rom 8:13-14)**
 - 2. There is no proof that homosexuality is inborn.
- C. "The Bible teaches that homosexuality is right! My interpretation is just as good as yours."
 - 1. We must examine the scriptures and always be ready to test everything we believe. **(Acts 17:11)**
 - 2. There are those who will wrest the scriptures to fulfill their own lusts. **(2 Pt 3:16)**
- D. "If you deny practicing homosexuals membership in your church then you are bigoted and hate-filled just like those who hated blacks in the 1950's."
- E. "Since I have been saved by the grace of God you must accept me as I am because once I am saved I cannot be lost."
 - 1. The grace of God is not a cover for sin. **(2 Pt 2:18-19)**
 - 2. "Once saved, always saved" is a false doctrine. **(Gal 5:4)**

III. What should we do in this current culture?

- A. Defend the truth without shame. **(Jude 3)**
 - 1. The time is coming where our jobs may be at stake.
 - 2. We need to know what is right and stand there!
- B. Protect your family from these new "evangelists."
 - 1. In school your child has great pressure put upon them to accept this lifestyle.
 - 2. With this age of "openness" there is a greater danger of "recruiting" young people by convincing them they are "gay."
- C. Be prepared to show love to those in this error with the intent of converting them!
(2 Tim 2:24-26)

Conclusion: Let us not be sidetracked into a political battle but rather let us redouble our efforts to preach the gospel! **(Rom 1:16-17)**