# What Every Christian NEEDS TO Know About Homosexuality

GOD LOVES GAY PEOPLE, SO WE NEED to SHARE
HIS LOVE WITH THEM

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Cover: The U.S. flag as adjusted by gay people. Special thanks to D. Murray, D. Brossman, and C. MacDonald for checking the manuscript

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"Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ"

Galatians 1:10.

Some will label this book contentious, but that is furthest from the author's intent, because our desire is to genuinely love all people. Sadly, however, contention naturally arises because truth and lie conflict.

Persecution may result, but we cannot be quiet, because when the truth is spoken, seeds are sown and people are saved. Just one person being saved is worth the risk [Mark 8:36].

### This book should be read by all who call themselves Christian

If you are a non-Christian, you will probably disagree with what's written here, because Christ's moral standards are different from the world's.

To the Christian: This book is not an attack on homosexual people. God loves all people, and He wants all to come to repentance to be saved [2 Peter 3:9]. This book does, however, call homosexuality what it is: sin. It is a sinful choice, and we will discuss how we can know that being homosexual is a choice; that people are not born gay.

We will also address the danger of misguided church leaders who embrace homosexuality. They are causing much confusion and division.

We will discuss how Christians should reach out to homosexuals. Although homosexuality is wrong, so is adultery, lying, and gossip, and Jesus' blood can cleanse all sin. We need to lead all people to His all-powerful forgiveness. Homosexuals are often hurting, and they need Jesus just as we all do. Jesus can change them just as He is changing us.

We pray this book will help make you and your church more effective in loving homosexuals and leading them to the freedom and joy that is only in Christ Jesus.

T. Jacobsohn, 2014

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#### - 1 -WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

Some think a book like this is unnecessary, but they seem not to notice that as gay rights are lifted up, so other freedoms – for all groups, including Christians – are being suppressed. Here is what has recently happened in Canada:

In 2013 the Canadian Supreme Court ruled that Biblical speech opposing homosexual behavior – including distributing written material – is a "hate crime." The case arose because a Christian, William Whatcott had been distributing pamphlets quoting 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. These verses say:

"Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

The Canadian Supreme Court convicted Whatcott and ordered him to pay \$7,500 to the two homosexuals he "offended." Whattcott is also liable for several hundred thousand dollars in legal fees. Just think, this book you are holding, is now illegal in Canada!

Side point: Isn't ridiculous how "progressive" nations can be against censorship – except when it comes to the Bible, because the Bible "offends" people. However, pornography and other anti-God literature are not banned – no matter how much they offend Christians.

But, this Canadian law can never happen in the United States, right? The First Amendment of the Constitution prevents the Government from prohibiting free speech and/or impeding the free exercise of religion. Christians in the United States are protected, right? Well, that's how things should be, because the First Amendment reads:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

• The first part of the First Amendment is called the "Establishment Clause" and that means neither the federal nor state governments are allowed to make laws prohibiting the free exercise of religion.

That sounds good, but, in case after case we see gay rights trumping over religious freedoms. Below are some examples. [These examples and others will be discussed in more detail later in this book.]

- In 2006 Catholic Charities Orphanages closed because they were being forced, by the government, to give up orphans to gay couples for adoption. The orphanages had been running over 100 years.
- In 2013, California courts ruled that any school student, K-12, may use the opposite gender's school bathroom facilities if they feel they are members of the opposite sex. Teachers who oppose this ruling will be punished.
- In 2010, U.S. District Judge, George Caram Steeh, ruled that East Michigan University was right to expel a counseling student who believes homosexuality is wrong. This ruling has set a bad legal precedent for Christian students in all U.S. universities.

- In 2008, Elane Photography was fined by the New Mexico Supreme Court for refusing to photograph a lesbian union ceremony. The court ruled that the Christian owner is "compelled by law to compromise her religious beliefs." In other words, the New Mexico court has violated the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Other Christian business owners are currently in court with similar cases.
- In 2013, the San Antonio, Texas, city antidiscrimination laws were changed to read: "No person shall be appointed to a position if the city council finds that such person has, prior to such proposed appointment, engaged in discrimination or demonstrated a bias, by word or deed, against any person, group or organization on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity..." This means every Christian is effectively barred from serving in the San Antonio public office.

There are many other examples like these, but the point is clear: We are heading the way of Canada, and President Obama's recent comments regarding homosexuality are not very encouraging. On February 17, 2014, he called homosexuality one of our "fundamental freedoms." For some reason gay freedom trumps Christian's freedom.

#### HOW DID WE GET HERE?

In John 8:44, Jesus calls Satan the "father of lies," and lies are why the homosexual movement has such power. Here are 2 lies that are molding the cultures of America and the world.

• The first lie is that people are born gay. The argument follows: If someone is born gay, then they cannot help who they are, so how can anyone judge them? This is why gay rights are being equated with the Civil-Rights Movement. Gay proponents say: Just as one cannot choose their skin color, so one cannot choose their sexual orientation. But, the gay argument is a lie, because no one is born gay. The

Bible teaches this, and, as you will see in this book, scientific research agrees with the Bible.

The second great lie is that homosexuals make up a significant portion of society. They do not. In fact, their numbers are less than 2% of the U.S. population. Judging by the number of openly gay people on TV shows and how much of the media spotlight they receive, one would never guess their numbers are so small. Just as the Wizard of Oz fooled with lights and mirrors, so the gay movement is fooling the world with the help of liberal media. This is the work of Satan, the father of lies.

So, our society is falling to Satan's lies. As Christians we need to openly and clearly speak Jesus' truth, because Jesus' truth sets people free [John 8:32].

#### APOSTASY & HEART-BREAK

One of the saddest trends we are seeing is so many socalled Christians are embracing the gay movement. Many churches even have gay ministers, and many perform gay weddings.

To those, we need to ask: How can you hold onto the Bible while embracing the world's standards? You cannot! Jesus said that no one can serve 2 masters. You will only love the one and hate the other [Matthew 6:24].

People who claim to follow Jesus while supporting homosexuality need to admit the serious contradiction in their belief system. Jesus' word, the Bible, condemns homosexuality. One cannot love Jesus and sin. It is true that Christians are to love all people, whether they be liars, murderers, or homosexuals, but we cannot support murder, lying, or homosexuality. Jesus said, "If you hold to My teachings, then you really are my disciples.." [John 8:31]. By Christ's own words: Any people who do not hold to Christ's teachings are not His disciples. You cannot support homosexuality and call yourself Christ's disciple.

Either homosexuality is right, or God is. One cannot have it both ways. The fact is we are in a culture war, and

every Christian needs to stand firm on the Rock of Christ.

We need to be like Jesus, who when tempted to bow down before Satan, replied: "Go away Satan, for it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord God and serve Him only'" [Matthew 4:10]. The first century Christians believed this, and chose rather to be fined, imprisoned, and even torn apart by wild animals, than compromise on God's word. They would be ashamed of what the modern church has become. Let us have the same fervor and love for Christ that they had!

#### A CERTAIN FUTURE

Imagine a situation where hostile homosexuals [note, not all homosexuals are hostile] can claim to be Christian and take over a church, because they know that anyone who opposes them could be arrested for "intolerant discrimination." This may sound extreme, but considering (a) what's happening in Canada, (b) how U.S. judges are ruling against churches in favor of gay rights, and (c) how far this nation has changed morally in just 10 years, persecution seems to be exactly where we are heading.

Some, therefore, fear for the future of the church, but we shouldn't be afraid. Christians are not "homophobes" – people who fear homosexuality – because we have assurances greater than the foundations of the earth. Jesus promised that His church will never be destroyed. Even the gates of Hades cannot prevail against God's people [Matthew 16:18]. Jesus also encouraged us,

"Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul..." [Matthew 10:28]. Only God can destroy the body and soul, and He loves us – His church – so we shouldn't fear any person, group, or government.

The church is far older than most nations, and it will outshine them all – far into eternity. This is guaranteed! We, the church, have faced great persecution in the past, and we will overcome any future persecution, because Jesus promised: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" [John 16:33b]. We are on the winning team, and we can never lose!

Jesus' church can never be destroyed. We may, however, be ridiculed, persecuted, fined, or jailed. We may lose our church buildings, have to shut down ministries, or lose our tax-exempt status. This is not great, but it is okay, because we'd "rather have Jesus than houses or lands, or worldwide fame. We'd rather have Jesus than anything."

We thank God, that widespread persecution has not yet happened. We must, therefore, stand against it ever happening; and we don't take this stand for our personal comfort, alone. We stand, mainly, because we want to honor God, and we want, even those who oppose us, to hear the Gospel, repent and be saved by Jesus. There is "no other name given among men by which we must be saved," but the name of Jesus [Acts 4:12]. We, therefore, need to be fervent in prayer, living in the Bible, and speaking the truth in love.

#### PATIENCE & CREDABILITY

Some Christians want to resort to violent or insulting behavior against homosexuals. No, we cannot do this. When Daniel was expected to eat unclean foods, he didn't throw a tantrum. He respectfully found a way to work with the authorities [Daniel 1:8-14]. Even Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego spoke respectfully to the king when refusing to bow down to the idol he had set up [Daniel 3]. In the same way, Paul told Timothy, "The Lord's servant does not argue, but must be kind to all, patient, and able to teach" [2 Timothy 2:24]. If we lose our tempers, we lose credibility, and no one will take us seriously. But, when we are respectful, faithful, and true, we represent Jesus in far better way, and we hope our opponents will see our good deeds and praise our Father in Heaven [Matthew 5:16].

So yes, this book is necessary, and true believers in Jesus need to stand together before we lose our freedoms like the Christians in Canada and in other nations.

We need to stand united in our Lord for our children, our freedom, and for the lost people of the world who need to hear of God's love and truth.

#### - 2 -WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE?

Too often when Christians take a moral stand someone challenges: "Who are you to judge?" This question cuts deep for many believers, because who enjoys conflict? Furthermore, Christians are well-aware that we are sinners who are only saved by God's mercy, so we often ask ourselves: "Who am *I* to judge?"

Sadly, many Christians withdraw at this point. It is easier <u>not</u> to judge and to <u>not</u> be involved, but we need to understand that there are times when God <u>wants</u> us to judge, because <u>there is too much at stake.</u> Jesus makes it clear that He wants us to judge when He says: "Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly" [John 7:24].

Let's now discuss the subject of judging.

#### 1. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO JUDGE

Bill is a Christian, and one day he and his friend, Amy, are discussing the topic of gay marriage. Bill tells Amy why he believes gay marriage is wrong.

Amy is offended and asks Bill, "Who are you to judge?" Bill wisely responds, "But Amy, haven't you just judged me? Who are <u>you</u> to judge me?"

We see this so often these days. Homosexuals becomes so "offended" with someone else's "judgmental attitude," that they ignore the fact that they, themselves, are judging! Furthermore, often they are the very ones offending with their offensive behavior!

The point is that we all judge all the time; it is impossible  $\underline{not}$  to judge, so we need to be careful how we judge.

- Do you agree with what I just wrote? Then you have made a judgment.
- Do you disagree? You have still made a judgment.
- Have you decided not to get involved? Even that is a judgment.

We cannot live in this world without judging, and judging, by itself, is neither right nor wrong. The standard by which we use to judge others makes the judgment good or bad. Jesus wants us to make good judgments, based on God's standard, the Bible [John 7:24].

#### DIDN'T JESUS SAY THAT WE SHOULDN'T JUDGE?

Yes, He did. Jesus said, "Do not judge, or you too will be judged" [Matthew 7:1]. What did He mean?

People wrongly use this verse to teach that Christians should never judge others, and <u>this misuse of Jesus'</u> words has caused untold damage. Instead of addressing sin, too many Christians have turned a blind eye, saying, "Who am I to judge"

A church member beats his wife, sleeps around, or is a drunkard, and the other church members do nothing. "It's none of my business," they claim.

How ridiculous! No wonder many in the world have little respect for the church. Many Christians are no longer "salt" preserving society, and Jesus said "If salt loses its saltiness, it is good for nothing, and will be thrown out and trampled by men" [Matthew 5:13]. No wonder many consider Christianity irrelevant to the culture. In many places, the church is being thrown out and trampled by men! We need to stand for moral righteousness, and that means we sometimes need to judge.

So, what did Jesus mean when He said, "Do not judge, or you too will be judged"? In the context, Jesus is speaking of nit-picking; giving each other a hard time. How do we know this?

- a) First, He refers to the "speck" in your brother's eye [Matthew 7:3]. A speck is very small a petty thing compared to the "plank" in the accuser's eye.
- b) Second, 3 verses later in Matthew 7:6, Jesus leaves the "speck" issues to address the bigger issues that He wants us to judge. He teaches: "Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces." Jesus is not speaking of animals here, He is speaking of people! Sadly, some people are "dogs" and 'pigs," and Jesus wants us to make wise judgments regarding them. Would you freely give a thief your credit card? That would be foolish! Would you ask a pedophile to babysit your kids? Of course not!

So, Jesus never said we should not judge. Rather, He wants us to judge properly. Again, He taught, "Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly" [John 7:24]. Christians are expected to make judgments on important issues. Homosexuality is an important issue, and Homosexuality is sin.

#### 3. ARE WE TO JUDGE NON-CHRISTIANS?

This is an interesting point, and it may seem to contradict what was just said above, but it doesn't.

God wants Christians to make good judgments on moral issues, but we cannot hold non-Christians accountable to God's law. A key reason for this is <a href="they-have not committed themselves to live by Jesus' standards.">they have not committed themselves to live by Jesus' standards.</a> This is why Paul wrote:

"12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. Expel the wicked person from among you" [1 Corinthians 5].

In this context, there is a sexually immoral brother in the church, and Paul is saying that if the man will not repent, then the church must expel him. This sounds harsh, but the reasons for this judgment are for good:

- a) Firstly it is for his salvation. We read, "[So that] his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord" [v5]. God wants this person to repent and be saved.
- b) The second reason is to prevent the bad influence spreading to the rest of the church. We read, "Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough?" [v6].

So we Christians are meant to hold each other accountable to follow Christ, but we cannot do the same with non-Christians. The reason is Christians have committed themselves to Christ's standards, but non-believers have not.

DOES THIS MEAN that gay people can do what they want in society and Christians can do nothing about it? No. We are meant to be light and salt, and so we have to teach God's morality. We cannot – nor do we want to – interfere in homosexuals' private lives, but <u>all</u> citizens have a say as to what happens in the public sector, i.e. schools, government, courts, public radio and TV, etc.

We seem to have forgotten that Christians have freedoms too, and we must use them – or lose them. The more we step backwards, the more Satan advances. Christianity is not promoted on public TV and radio, so why is homosexuality? Christianity is not taught as right in schools, so why is homosexuality? American Christians need to exercise their rights as established by the founding fathers in the Constitution. In the next chapter you will see how Paul used his legal rights to promote the gospel. We should do the same [Acts 22].

But, it is not the Christian's job to judge gay individuals. We don't treat gay people as we do Christians, because we hold Christians to a <u>higher</u> standard; God's standard. That's why Paul wrote:

"9 I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people — 10 not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. 11 But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. Expel the wicked person from among you" [1 Corinthians 5].

This means we have to expel <u>Christians</u> who are adulterers, homosexuals, or drunkards from the church if they will not repent. But, we cannot hold non-Christians to the same moral standard.

This is actually a wonderful opportunity, because this means we don't have to be rigid and judgmental around homosexuals. They haven't committed to Christ. We can, therefore, truly care for and pray for them, and, if they allow us, we can teach them. Many homosexuals are not happy with their lifestyles, and the love of Christ shining in you, may give them the courage to admit their sin and come home to Jesus.

So again, it is not our job to judge non-Christians. We must lovingly teach what God says, but "God will judge those outside" the church [v13].

#### 4. LOVE THE SINNER, BUT NOT THE SIN

Modern people may ridicule the above statement, but this is exactly what we should do, <u>because that is how God treats us.</u> Homosexuals – like drunkards, murderers, thieves, and liars – are lost and need to hear the truth, and we must care enough to love and teach them. Peter tells us how to do this:

15 "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander" [1 Peter 3].

When it comes to non-Christians, we should speak God's word with "gentleness and respect." The goal is not to win an argument. The goal is to win the person to Christ. What people do with the word after we have told them is between them and God. We plant and water the seed, but God makes it grow [1 Corinthians 3:6]. Let's make sure we are doing our part. Let's love the homosexual enough to sow God's seed with gentleness and respect, so that "those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."

WE HOPE YOU ARE NOW CONVINCED that God wants Christians to make correct judgments. After all, of all people on earth, who is more qualified to judge than God's people – the people who have His laws on their minds and hearts [Hebrews 8:10]?

In the Old Testament, the judges of Israel referred the most difficult cases to the priests, because they knew God's will the best [Deuteronomy 17:8,9]. In the New Testament all Christians are priests. May we hold so tightly to God's precious word that the world will see we are wise, and they will praise God [1 Peter 2:9; Deuteronomy 4:6,7].

#### - 3 -WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY

Christians know the Bible is God's perfect word. If you have doubts about the Bible, it's important that you address them, otherwise they may grow and consume you. Websites like icr.org and ApologeticsPress.org, and books like Josh McDowell's, "Evidence that Demands a Verdict," present powerful evidence that can help you know that the Bible is God's perfect word. Christian faith is not based on feelings and hearsay, but on truth.

Once you know the Bible is from God then you can trust what it says regarding homosexuality – and any subject. If one does not believe what the Bible says, then they should not call themselves Christian, because <u>all</u> Christian authority comes from the Bible.

Below is some of what the Bible says regarding homosexuality, and all Christians should agree.

1 Corinthians 6:9 "Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

- a) Here the Lord condemns "men who have sex with men" and He says that they will not inherit the kingdom of God, i.e. they are on a path to Hell.
- b) But, notice that God also condemns the greedy, drunkards, thieves, and slanderers. Homosexuality is wrong, but Christians must be careful that we don't focus on homosexuality and ignore other sins.
- c) In verse 11, Paul wrote to the Christians, "And that is what some of you were..." Evidently, some Christians had been homosexual. In other words, one can stop being homosexual. Many today flatly deny this, saying people are born gay, but this is not true. No one is born gay. [Later, we will discuss recent scientific discoveries that support the Bible's stand that no one is born gay.]
- d) Verse 11 also explains <u>how</u> people are liberated from sin. We read, "But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." <u>Jesus is the One who changes lives.</u> Homosexuals and any kind of sinner will be changed when we surrender to Jesus.

Here are other Bible verses opposed to homosexuality:

Romans 1:26 "Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for <u>unnatural</u> ones. 27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed <u>shameful</u> acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error."

- a) Here both male and female homosexuality is described by God as "unnatural" and "shameful." No Christian can call homosexuality valid, good or normal without contradicting God.
- b) Verse 26 says that "God gave them over to shameful lusts." This is similar to when disobedient children who know their parent's will whine and demand their way until the

parent finally says, "Fine, have it!" In much the same way, gay activists are demanding "freedom" from God's will, and so He is letting them have their own way. He is "giving them over." If one chooses to disobey God, He will let them. Homosexuals are disobeying God.

Genesis 19:4 "Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house. 5 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..."

12 The two men said to Lot, "Do you have anyone else here—sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here, 13 because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the Lord against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it."

- a) The word "sodomy" comes from the name of that city, Sodom. Sodomy has been illegal in the U.S. for most of her history.
- b) God did not just destroy Sodom because the people were homosexual. He also destroyed them because homosexuality had totally saturated that culture. We read that "all the men from every part of the city of Sodom - both young and old" were homosexuals. When a culture becomes saturated like this, then there is no more hope for it, and God will destroy it. This is one reason Jesus called Christians "salt." We are to preserve our communities by teaching truth. This is whv preachers who agree with homosexuality are so dangerous. They twist and distort the truth and so confuse people. They must be addressed and, if they won't repent, expelled from the church. Remember, God expects us to judge serious sin in the church and expel the immoral [1 Corinthians 5].

Leviticus 18:22 "Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable."

a) Here God uses very strong language against homosexuality. He calls it "detestable." Christians cannot support homosexuality and be on God's side.

There are other Bible verses that we could use, but these are ample evidence to convince any God-loving person that homosexuality is wrong. Furthermore, for the sake of balance, we took 2 verses from the Old Testament and 2 from the New to show that the Bible – in its entirety – condemns homosexuality.

#### BUT...

Many people today don't want to accept what the Bible says regarding sin. Let's, therefore, address some of the arguments they use:

#### 1. "HOW DO YOU KNOW THE BIBLE IS NOT CORRUPT?"

Some ask this question out of genuine curiosity, and Christians can joyfully answer in at least 2 ways:

- a) First, Jesus promised, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away" [Matthew 24:35]. Jesus promised to guard His Bible, and He has.
- b) Second, when one studies how our Bible came to be, we cannot help but be stunned by the sheer mass of documentary and archeological evidence that verify the Bible's authenticity. Books like Josh McDowell's "Evidence that Demands a Verdict," and websites like icr.org and apologeticspress.org provide powerful evidence that Jesus has, indeed, protected His Bible from corruption. Only the ignorant say the Bible is corrupt.

Some, however, question the Bible's integrity simply because they don't <u>want</u> to believe it. This is much like the snake in Eden asking Eve, "Did God really say, 'You shall not eat of every tree in the garden'?" [Genesis 3:1]. It's not a question. It is a challenge to God's authority. Here are some questions we should ask the questioner – especially if they call themselves Christian:

- Q1: In Matthew 24:35, Jesus promised to protect His word. Do you believe Jesus is able to do this?
- Q2: Have you ever studied the archeological and textual evidences for the Bible? Would you like to study?
- Q3: The Bible is where we find the teachings of Christ. If you don't trust His Bible, then how can you call yourself a Christian?

Note: It is never our goal or intention to run people off, so we need to ask these questions prayerfully and in love. Although we care for the person, we must also be aware that false teaching can spread through the church like gangrene. It must be stopped. Christians need to hold each other accountable to the teachings of Christ. [Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-6.]

Here are some other arguments people use against Bible verses on homosexuality:

#### "JESUS DIDN'T CONDEMN HOMOSEXUALITY"

Some argue that although the Bible speaks against homosexuality, Jesus, Himself, never condemned it.

Again, the person saying this could simply be ignorant, or they could be malicious. It is usually better to give the person the benefit of the doubt. After all, Paul said, "The Lord's servant should not argue, but should be gentle to all, patient, and able to teach" [2 Timothy 2:24].

The argument that Jesus, Himself, didn't condemn homosexuality highlights faulty reasoning concerning the Bible. The Bible is not a collection of contradictory writings. The whole Bible is given by the inspiration of God [2 Timothy 3:16,17]. All the Bible writers wrote under the direction of the Holy Spirit, and so all are in full agreement with Jesus [2 Peter 1:20,21]. Jesus does condemn homosexuality because He is God and He inspired the entire Bible. Christians know and understand this.

#### "YOU CAN'T LEGISLATE MORALITY"

If you tell someone something long enough, they will accept it as truth, but this is not truth, because God legislates morality. We see this all through the Bible. God legislates moral laws and expects humanity to obey.

In a sense, God's sovereign reign is similar to nations' rule on earth. Nations have laws, and their citizens are comprised of the obedient and disobedient. In God's sovereign reign, Christians are the obedient subjects. This is not because we are better than people. Rather, we have confessed that we are law-breakers, we have submitted to salvation in Christ, and we now strive to honor God by obeying Him. The disobedient subjects are all who have rejected God.

In God's reign, Christians are called "ambassadors for Christ" [2 Corinthians 5:20]. We represent the King by teaching all people what He says. "We plead with people on Christ's behalf. 'Be reconciled to God!'" [2 Corinthians 5:20]. We do not enforce our own morality on others, rather we teach people what the Lord's will is. We are simply messengers, but He is the Judge. So, yes, we cannot legislate morality, but this does not mean there is no morality. God legislates morality, and He will judge every person. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due to us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" [2 Corinthians 5:10].

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: Many of those who insist one cannot legislate morality try to do exactly that. Homosexual activists are using judges, courts, and the legal system to legislate and force a new morality – or immorality – on us all.

#### 4. "CHRISTIANS MUST OBEY THE GOVERNMENT"

This argument has been used to silence God-fearing Christians for too long. Romans 13 teaches:

"1 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that

which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves."

It is true that God expects Christians to be law-abiding, but what should we do when God's law and man's conflict? Specifically, how should Christians respond when state education boards enforce homosexual indoctrination in schools under the guise of "anti-bullying classes"? What about when the government demands private Christian businesses supply services for gay weddings, when Christians are commanded to cease and desist from teaching against homosexuality, or when the government orders that we use our church properties for homosexual

ceremonies? What are we to do? The Bible tells us what to

do:

a) OBEY GOD FIRST: Not long after the church began, Peter and John were arrested by the Jewish leaders because they were preaching the gospel. When told to be silent, Peter and John replied in Acts 4: 19 "...Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to Him? You be the judges! 20 As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

The application is simple: We are to obey God first above any human law.

b) ROMAN CITIZEN: This next example is a wonderful, because it shows that we can use available legal mechanisms to the church's benefit. In Acts 22, when Paul was about to be beaten by Roman soldiers he asked,

"25 ...Is it <u>legal</u> for you to flog a Roman citizen who hasn't even been found guilty?

26 When the centurion heard this, he went to the commander and reported it. "What are you

going to do?" he asked. "This man is a Roman citizen..."

29 Those who were about to interrogate him withdrew immediately. The commander himself was alarmed when he realized that he had put Paul, a Roman citizen, in chains."

Paul used his legal status for the furtherance of the gospel, and to protect himself from harm. Modern Christians should use all legal means that are at our disposal in our battle against evil. There are organizations like *Alliance Defending Freedom* and the *Liberty Institute* who exist to legally advise and help Christians. This is being wise. Jesus said, "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as wise as snakes and as innocent as doves" [Matthew 10:16].

c) MODEL CITIZENS: Even though all governments are corrupt, this does not give Christians the right to be lawless. We can and should exercise our legal rights, but we should <u>not</u> go out of our way to cause trouble. In 1 Peter 4 we read:

15 "If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name."

Christians should be model citizens because we obey the Bible, which is superior to human law.

So, the Bible clearly condemns homosexuality, and we Christians need to stand united on this. Any Christian who teaches homosexuality is a good thing is opposed to God's word, and should no longer be allowed to teach God's people.

## - 4 - WHY DO CHRISTIANS SEEM TO FOCUS SO MUCH ON HOMOSEXUALITY?

Some ask why many Christians seem to focus on homosexuality above other sins. After all, the Bible does not. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, for example, lists sexual immorality, idolatry, adultery, greed, being drunk, stealing, and slander along with homosexuality. We read that <u>none</u> of these will inherit the kingdom of Heaven. All of these are sin. Why then does homosexuality seem to be such a focus among many Christians? Here are some reasons.

#### 1. "GAY PRIDE"

One reason homosexuality is such a focus is because homosexuals have pushed it to the fore. Take the "gay pride" festivals, for example. Homosexuals seem to want attention far more than people involved in most other sins. Adulterers don't, for example, have public "adultery festivals." Drunkards don't have "drunken day parades," and there are no "slander and gossip fests." No, homosexuality gets more attention because homosexual activists want it that way. One reason is they know the more it is pushed into our faces, the more society becomes desensitized, and the more normal it seems.

Christians who live in the word, however, do not become desensitized, so we speak up against what is clearly immoral, and there is a natural conflict of light vs. darkness.

A generation ago, Christians hardly ever discussed homosexuality. What has changed? Did Christians suddenly decide that homosexuality was worse than the rest of the sins, or have homosexuals recently become more vocal?

The latter is true. Today homosexuality is the spiritual battleground, because gay activists have made it so [John 3:19,20].

#### 2. "TOLERANCE"

As mentioned earlier, homosexuality is different from other sins, in that gay activists want to enforce their morality on others. Drunkards and gossips do not insist that society accept and give them special privileges, but homosexuals do. They cry for equality and tolerance, but they are deeply intolerant towards anyone who disagrees with them.

If you believe that homosexuals are loving and tolerant people, just try this experiment: Go to CNN.com or a similar site, find an article on homosexuality, and comment something like: "I am a Christian and I believe that God loves gay people, but homosexuality is wrong." If you have never done this before, you may be shocked how people will respond to you. Brace yourself, because some of the comments become abusive. So much for tolerance! Also, don't be surprised if your comment is blocked for being "too controversial."

Christians are sometimes surprised by how intolerant many gay activists are, but we shouldn't be, because this has happened before in the Bible, specifically in the city of Sodom in Genesis 19. We have already discussed this in a previous chapter, but it is worth looking at again in order to emphasize different points.

Two angels had entered Sodom, and Lot had insisted they stay in his home. We read in Genesis 19:

Lot prepared a meal for them, baking bread without yeast, and they ate. 4 Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house. 5 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." 6 Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him 7 and said, "No, my friends. Don't do this wicked thing... 9 "Get out of our way," they replied. "This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now he wants to play the judge! We'll treat you worse than them." They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door.

- a) We see that homosexuality had so infested the city that "all the men from every part of the city of Sodom – both young and old – surrounded the house." They wanted to "have sex" with Lot's guests.
- b) How is it that an entire city of men are homosexual? Were there no heterosexual men? The only way this is possible is if the homosexuals had forced their lifestyle onto others just as they were trying to do to the angels in Lot's house, and just as they are trying to do to society today.
- c) The men of Sodom were clearly wrong, but notice what they said to Lot when he tried to stop them. They said, "This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now he wants to play the judge!" Isn't this what we see happening today? Anyone who tries to oppose homosexuality is called "judgmental" and "intolerant." History is repeating.

This is a key reason why Christians are so opposed to homosexuality; because many homosexuals want to force their morality on us and our children. Drunkards, gossips, and liars don't do this. Like the men banging at Lot's door, so homosexuals are demanding access to every area of society.

In the next chapter we will look at some startling examples of growing homosexual control in society. The

gay movement has made some huge strides – especially in the last few years.

#### 3. HYPOCRITES?

It is not a fair statement that Christians focus too much on homosexuality. The reason is Christians are busy doing good in almost every area of the world. Since the first century, Christians have been serving in prisons, on foreign mission fields, in hospitals, old age homes, in orphanages, and in countless other places. We have built more houses, schools, universities and hospitals than we know. Harvard, Princeton, Yale, and Dartmouth all began as Christian schools. We have given more money to the needy than we know how to count, and we have done more good than any other body of people in the history of the world! The "problem" is that Christians don't tend to blow their own horns. If the media chose to focus on the good Christians do, the proportion of "Christian vs. Gay" articles would be extremely low. It only seems like we focus on homosexuality, because gay groups like to say we do.

#### 4. FLESH & BLOOD

Still, we Christians need to be careful that in this battle for the culture, we do not single out homosexuals. We need to address all sin. We should be as quick to address the young Christian woman who is living with her boyfriend or the old man who is divisive. We need to have a serious talk – and even involve the police – if a brother is physically abusing his wife, or if a church member is suspected of child molestation. Sin is sin, and we need to be fair. It is wrong to point a finger at homosexuals if our own backyards are a mess.

Homosexuals are not the enemy, because our <u>battle "is not against flesh and blood</u>, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" [Ephesians 6:12]. Satan is the enemy. All people – whether they choose to be gay or straight – are created in

God's image, and it is God's desire that all people repent and be saved [2 Peter 3:9].

The Lord loves all homosexuals and so should we. We need to teach the word of God, but we must make sure we teach it in love.

#### - 5 -BANGING DOWN EVERY DOOR

This part of the book has been hard to write, because here we discuss exactly where gay rights are trampling down all other freedoms.

Some people don't believe this is really happening, probably because the liberal media portrays homosexuals as tolerant people who never do anything wrong. In reality, however, many gay activists are extremely intolerant of anyone who disagrees with them. For some, this may be hard to believe, but please continue reading so you can evaluate the evidence for yourself.

In 2008, Joe Dallas, a former gay man, preached at a Love Won Out [now called, Truth Won Out] conference. He said that wherever gay rights are lifted up, other people's freedoms are taken away. None of what is written below is urban legend, or hearsay. This is happening. Should you doubt the reports, please do research for yourself.

#### 1. SCHOOL CHILDREN

Are homosexuals trying to indoctrinate our children? Without a doubt, yes. Let a columnist from the pro-gay website, Queerty.com, explain:

"They [Christian parents] accuse us [homosexuals] of exploiting children and in response we say, "NOOO! We're not gonna make kids learn about homosexuality, we swear! It's not like we're trying to recruit your children or anything." But let's face

it—that's a lie. We want educators to teach future generations of children to accept gueer sexuality. In fact, our very future depends on it... Why would we push anti-bullying programs or social studies teach kids about the historical classes that contributions of famous queers unless we wanted to deliberately educate children to accept queer sexuality as normal? . . . And I would very much like for many of these young boys to grow up and start  $f^{****}$  men . . . I and a lot of other people want to indoctrinate, recruit, teach, and expose children to queer sexuality AND THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT" ["Can We Please Just Start Admitting Do Actually Want Τo Indoctrinate www.queerty.com. Warning: Their website contains much graphic profanity].

RUSSIAN COLOR-IN BOOKS: Homosexuals clearly want to indoctrinate children, but not just in the United States. Their goal is worldwide. For example, in 2013 and 2014, American homosexuals sent thousands of copies of a Russian language coloring book called, "Misha and His Moms Go to the Olympics" to very young Russian school children. In the book were color-in pictures of Misha and his 2 Moms, Pascal and his 2 Dads, and 2 female athletes kissing.

SCHOOL BATHROOMS: The push for gay rights is so extreme that it overturns even common sense. In 2013, California passed a bill that requires all public schools, K-12, to allow trans-gender students to use whichever bathroom they choose. A boy who "thinks" he is a girl may use the girls' bathroom, locker room and showers, and vice-versa. So, again, we see a small group's demand for "expression" trump over the majority's right for privacy and comfort. Children – even very young children – are being put into morally ridiculous situations, and it is only getting worse.

TEXAS HONORS STUDENT PUNISHED: In 2011, a high school honors student in Fort Worth, Texas, was sent to the principal's office and punished for telling a classmate

that he believes homosexuality is wrong. Dakota was in a German language class when the [teacher-led] discussion shifted to religion and homosexuality. Dakota turned to a friend and said that he was a Christian and "being a homosexual is wrong." The teacher began shouting, and sent Dakota to the principal's office.

Matt Krause, of the pro-Christian organization, *Liberty Council*, said the teacher had frequently brought homosexuality into ninth grade classroom discussions. He had even posted a picture of two men kissing on a wall that offended some of the students... He told the students this is happening all over the world and you need to accept the fact that homosexuality is just part of our culture now" ["Texas School Punishes Boy for Opposing Homosexuality", FoxNews.com].

JULIA WARD: In 2010, Julia Ward, a Christian student, was removed by East Michigan University's graduate counseling program because she believes homosexuality is morally wrong. Her case went to court, and U.S. District Judge George Caram Steeh ruled against her. Ward's case sets a dangerous legal precedent, because Christian students across the nation may now also be expelled from universities for holding to their biblical convictions.

#### 2. RELIGIOUS GROUPS TARGETED

Homosexual groups are also targeting religious groups and winning with the help of U.S. courts. This may sound surprising, because one's religious beliefs are meant to be protected by the U.S. Constitution. But time and again, we are seeing gay rights trumping over religious convictions. Here are some examples:

**METHODIST CHURCH:** The Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association, part of the Methodist Church, was taken to court because they refused to let a lesbian couple get married in a pavilion on their [the Methodist Church's] property. The lesbian couple could have gotten married somewhere else, but instead they alleged that the Methodists unlawfully discriminated against them, and they won the case. The church lost part of their tax-

**exempt status.** ["Group Loses Tax Break Over Gay Union Issue", NYTimes.com].

Specifically, how did the lesbian couple win the case? Their lawyer argued that the church had to accommodate the lesbian couple, just as they would a person of any race group. In other words, it was argued that gay rights are equal to civil-rights. But, this argument is false, because one may be born Asian, Black, Caucasian, etc. but no one is born gay. Being gay is a lifestyle choice.

Evidence that being gay is a choice will be presented in the next chapter of this book.

Here are more examples of how gay rights are imposed over religious liberties:

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ORPHANAGES: In 2006, Catholic Charities chose to close their adoption services rather than be forced to accept the Massachusetts State law that allows gays and lesbians to adopt children. The state's 3 Catholic bishops said that the law threatens the church's religious freedom by forcing it to do something it considers immoral. The charity had been running for close to 100 years ["Boston Catholic Charities Stop Adoptions Because of Gay Parent Law", FoxNews.com].

It is not only Christian groups who are targeted. Here, a Jewish group was targeted:

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY: In 2001 the New York State Supreme Court ruled that Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine had to let same-sex couples live in their married dormitories. This ruling was considered surreal because no unmarried people were allowed to live in the married dorms – straight or gay. Even more surprising was the fact that at that time, gay marriage was illegal in New York. The college had been run under Orthodox Jewish tradition that considers homosexuality immoral, but once again, gay rights trumped over religious convictions.

#### HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Gay rights are also beating the personal convictions of healthcare professionals.

CHRISTIAN DOCTORS: In 2008, the California Supreme Court made a ruling that takes away the First Amendment rights of healthcare professionals, and potentially every working American.

Christian doctors from the North Coast Women's Care Medical Group declined to help Benitez, a lesbian woman become pregnant. She and her lesbian partner wanted a baby. The doctors, who believe a child needs a married father and mother, denied Benitez on religious conviction grounds. Although there were other doctors who could have helped her, Benitez decided to take the Christian doctors to court under California's civil rights act. She won the case, and a judge even told the Christian doctors that they should consider a career change.

#### 4. PRIVATE BUSINESSES

Gay rights are also winning over the personal convictions of private business owners.

ELANE PHOTOGRAPHY: In 2008, Elaine Huguenin, owner of Elane Photography in Albuquerque, New Mexico, was taken to court because she declined to photograph Vanessa Willock and her lesbian partner's commitment ceremony. Elaine Huguenin explained that it was against company policy to shoot same-sex ceremonies, because they conflict with their Christian beliefs. Willock, the lesbian plaintiff, could easily have found another photographer to shoot the ceremony, but she chose, instead, to take Elane Photography to court.

Elane Photography was found guilty of discrimination and was fined. They appealed, but the New Mexico Supreme Court upheld the ruling. The court ruled that Elaine Huguenin is "compelled by law to compromise her religious beliefs."

FIREFOX BROWSER: In 2014, Mozilla CEO, Brendan Eich, was forced to resign due to pressure from the gay community. What had he done wrong? They discovered that he had given a \$1,000 donation to oppose gay marriage back in 2008. Did Eich donate from company money? No, it was a donation from his own, private funds. Did he make the donation public? No, it was a private donation. The gay community dug up the information and then threatened to cause a firestorm and dissuade people from using Mozilla's Firefox web browser. Eich was forced to resign.

In commenting on this event, late night comedian Bill Maher said, "I think there is a gay mafia. I think if you cross them, you do get whacked. I really do." I wonder how soon it will be before Bill Maher gets "whacked" as well.

WEDDING CAKE STORE: In 2013, Aaron Klein, a Christian and owner of *Sweet Cakes by Melissa*, politely declined to make a wedding cake for Rachel Cryer and her lesbian partner. Aaron explained that his religious convictions prevent him from doing so. In 2014, the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry found "substantial evidence" that Aaron Klein discriminated against the lesbian couple. The bakery is now closed, and Klein faces hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines for supposedly violating the lesbian couples' "civil rights."

Aaron commented, "There's nothing wrong with what we believe," he said. "It's a biblical point of view. It's my faith. It's my religion."

His wife wrote: "To all of you that have been praying for Aaron and I, I want to say thank you. I know that your prayers are being heard. I feel such a peace with all of this that is going on. Even though there are days that are hard and times of struggle we still feel that the Lord is in this. It is His fight and our situation is in His hands....Please continue to pray for our family. God is great, amazing and all powerful. I know He has a plan."

SIMILAR CASES: These kinds of cases are becoming increasingly common; for example:

- a) In 2013, Jack Philips, a Christian and owner of Masterpiece Cake Shop was ordered to "cease and desist from discriminating" against gay couples. His supposed crime was he politely declined to make gay wedding cakes. He, however, happily made cakes for gay people for other events.
- b) Barronelle Stutzman, the owner of *Arlene's Flowers* & *Gifts*, is being sued by the Washington Attorney General for refusing to provide flowers for a samesex couple's wedding.
- c) Frank Turek was hired by Cisco Systems as a leadership consultant. He was very successful and his contract was renewed. His seminars were highly rated by those in attendance. That is, until one of his seminar attendees Googled Turek's name and learned had written book he а supporting one man, one woman marriage. The student complained that Turek didn't fit with "tolerance" Cisco's so-called polices. Shortly thereafter, in 2010, the company fired Turek [Thriving Values: Religious Freedom, p.9, family.org].
- d) Craig James was a former NFL running back and U.S. Senate candidate from Texas prior to being hired in 2013 by Fox Sports Southwest as a college football broadcaster. Just days later, James was fired when Fox learned that James, while campaigning for U.S. Senate, had advocated for one man, one woman marriage [Ibid].
- e) Natalie Johnson worked for Macy's in 2011, when she asked a man to leave the women's dressing room area. The obviously male customer argued that he was a woman; however, Johnson was adamant. Johnson was fired for not complying with Macy's policy regarding transgender-identified individuals [Ibid].

CHRISTIAN BUSINESSES TARGETED: Tony Perkins of the Family Research Council told Todd Starnes of Fox News & Commentary that gay groups have the option of taking their business elsewhere, but, instead, they are specifically targeting Christian-owned businesses. He said,

"Individuals are being persecuted and prosecuted using the leverage of the government through these homosexual activists. Government has become a weapon that homosexual activists are using against Christian business owners."

This is truly a culture war. Here are some more examples of homosexuals pushing their immorality on us:

#### 5. PUBLIC FIGURES

MISS USA: In 2009, at the Miss USA pageant semi-finalist, Miss California, Carrie Prejean, a Christian, was asked by gay judge, Perez Hilton, what she thought about gay marriage and whether all states should accept it. She replied, "I think that I believe that a marriage should be between a man and a woman. No offense to anybody out there, but that's how I was raised." The audience applauded her honesty, but she lost the pageant.

Although the Miss USA organizers deny that her answer cost her the crown, Hilton, the gay judge, confirmed that it did when he called her a "stupid b\*\*\*\*" on his blog right after the pageant.

A short time later, Prejean was fired from her position as Miss California. She has written of her experiences in her book, "Still Standing: The Untold Story of My Fight Against Gossip, Hate, and Political Attacks."

**DUCK DYNASTY:** In 2013 the *A&E* TV network decided to suspend Phil Robertson of the reality TV show *Duck Dynasty* for expressing his views on homosexuality. His supposed crime was he paraphrased 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, where God calls homosexuality a sin. The gay community was "outraged" and pressured organizations like *Cracker Barrel* to remove all *Duck Dynasty* merchandise from their stores.

But, this story has a happier ending. The *Duck Dynasty* family released a statement that they could not continue the show without Phil, and fans of the show sided with the Robertson family against *A&E*, *Cracker Barrel*, and the pro-gay groups. To the gay groups' great surprise, both *A&E* and *Cracker Barrel* reversed their decisions.

This shows us what can happen when people band together against gay activists.

MARGINALIZED IN GOVERNMENT: In 2013, wording in the San Antonio, Texas, city anti-discrimination laws were changed. The new laws effectively <u>ban Christians from serving in public office</u>, or from getting a city contract. The new law reads:

"No person shall be appointed to a position if the city council finds that such person has, prior to such proposed appointment, engaged in discrimination or demonstrated a bias, by word or deed, against any person, group or organization on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity..."

Again, we see gay rights trampling over religious convictions and individuals' consciences.

### THE PROBLEM: HEADS IN THE SAND

There are many other examples like these, and as homosexuality becomes increasingly accepted, so there will be less tolerance for those who choose to stand for God. This has become a battle Christians can no longer ignore.

Sadly, homosexuality has become so prevalent precisely because too many Christians have chosen <u>not</u> to get involved. Some Christians say things like, "Just stop watching the junk on TV and read a book, or go for a walk."

Sorry, that is not helping. This evil is spreading its tentacles into evermore areas of society, partly because Christians are <u>not</u> standing up and being salt and light. "Evil triumphs when good people do nothing."

This gay flood would have <u>never</u> happened in the 1950's in America. Why? Because Christians would have stopped it. People then knew what the Bible said and trusted it, but today, we see Christians giving up ground to Satan over and again. They want to be seen as "nice" and "tolerant." Well, the enemy doesn't give up ground so

easily. Every time we step backwards, Satan steps forward. More than that, he is now on a downward run into our schools, TV shows, governments, churches, homes, and our families. When are we going to say, "Enough is enough"?

#### STAND IN THE GAP

In Ezekiel 22 the Lord says: 30 " 'I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one. 31 So I will pour out my wrath on them and consume them with my fiery anger, bringing down on their own heads all they have done,' declares the Sovereign Lord."

God was calling His people to rebuild the walls of moral protection for Israel, but no one was willing to stand in the gap. In the same way, the walls of the Western world are ruined and moral filth is belching in and out. Who else, but the church, is qualified to build up that wall? Who else knows God's will? God threatened to destroy Israel. Will He also destroy this country? It is time for Christians to stand and say, "Lord, I will stand in the gap before You."

Although the anti-God forces are loud and vocal, Christians are still in the majority. The earlier-mentioned *Duck Dynasty* victory has shown us that we can turn the tide if we stand together, with Jesus, in the gap.

In Isaiah 59:19 we read:

"...When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him "

There is no doubt that the enemy is coming like a flood, and the Spirit is working in the hearts of Christians to raise up the Standard of Christ.

#### We need to:

• Pray like never before. Pray for world leaders, because they influence nations [1 Timothy 2:1-4].

- Love all people. Homosexuals and their supporters are deceived, but they are not the enemy. Satan is [Ephesians 6:12].
- Preach God's word, not ear-tickling lessons. We need to ducate the church and the world [2 Timothy 4:2,3].
- Address, and if necessary, fire preachers who teach homosexuality is good. If the preacher won't leave, find a church that loves and honors Jesus. Stand in the gap with like-minded people [Matthew 7:15].
- Write letters to newspaper editors and get involved in public debates. When we do this, we embolden other Christians to stand in the gap and raise the standard as well [Philippians 1:14]. Remember, Christians have legal rights too. Use them.
- Get involved in school parent-teacher committees. Be aware what your children are being exposed to. God holds parents primarily responsible for what their children learn [Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:4-7].
- Stay informed by subscribing to publications like CITIZEN by Focus on the Family or WORLD magazine.

The attitude of just "reading a book or going for a walk" has not helped. As Christians do nothing, so homosexuality becomes accepted in evermore areas of society, and it will affect you. Here is a most unlikely example of homosexual influence:

DISNEY GAY DAYS: Disney, which was once a hallmark of wholesome family fun, now hosts numerous Gay Days each year – often in June. Here unaware families are exposed to sights and sounds they would rather not experience, because on Gay Days, the park is <a href="mailto:still">still</a> open to the general public. According to Wikipedia over 150,000 LGBT people attended the Gay Days in 2010. Disney is certainly very pro-gay.

Disney also promotes "Fairytale Weddings" for samesex couples in places like Cinderella's Palace, and even appointed their first gay president in 2013.

Another example of Disney's pro-gay stance is seen when, in 2014, Disney decided to cut funding to the Boy Scouts of America, because they refused to let gay men be scout leaders.

How ridiculous! We question the wisdom of male coaches having access to girls' locker rooms, and viceversa for obvious reasons. But now, Disney wants male, gay scoutmasters, who are attracted to males, to be in charge of impressionable young men. That fits right in with the queerty.com article mentioned earlier: "I and a lot of other people want to indoctrinate, recruit, teach, and expose children to queer sexuality AND THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT" [Queerty.com].

How long will it be before Disney releases a "family" movie featuring homosexual characters? Some believe this has already happened in a scene in the movie, "Frozen."

PREDICTION: Gay groups will use compassion to appeal to children. There will be 2 same sex people who "truly love each other," but are shunned by horrible judgmental people – perhaps specifically Christians. Any children who do not have God's word in their hearts will fall for this lie.

There is a clear culture-war raging, and Christians need to stand in the gap. We need to raise the standard of Christ because we love our Lord and the world He died to save.

# - 6 -ARE PEOPLE BORN GAY?

Note: This is one of the most important chapters in this book because it addresses a key point in the homosexual debate: People are <u>not</u> born gay.

#### "BORN THAT WAY"

In many people's minds accepting homosexuality is the only right thing to do, because people are "born gay." This is why the gay-rights movement has been linked to the civil-rights movement. People argue that just as it is wrong to discriminate against anyone based on the color of their skin, so it is also wrong to discriminate against one's sexual orientation.

This is one reason why federal judges are overturning individual states' gay marriage bans despite the voices of the electorate, and why, in 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the defense of marriage act [DOMA] is unconstitutional. People believe that it is unfair to discriminate against homosexuals, because "they can't help it." Being gay is supposedly "in their genes." They can no more help being gay than anyone can choose their skin color.

But, this argument is false, because no one is born gay. Being gay is a choice.

### NIGHT OWLS

Some argue, "If they want to be gay, just let them be." We agree. Gay people do have God-given free choice, but

the problem arises when homosexuals expect society to change to accommodate their choice. Allow us to draw an illustration:

Imagine a group of people called themselves "Night Owls" because they slept all day and were awake all night. That's OK. There may be consequences, but that is their choice. But, what if these people claimed they were born that way, and demanded that society adjust. Suddenly, businesses that were open 8am to 5pm were called "intolerant" and were sued because they had no night shift. Schools were sued for not having night classes to accommodate children who were "born that way."

This sounds crazy, but this is exactly what homosexuals are doing. They are demanding society changes to accommodate their choices – and it is a choice, because no one is born gay! It is the height of arrogance to expect the world to revolve around you, and that is exactly what the gay movement is expecting.

In this chapter we will discuss what the Bible and Science say about homosexuality; specifically how both give evidence that no one is born gay.

## 1. THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY

Earlier we looked at a list of Bible verses that show God is opposed to homosexuality. He calls it sin. Does God, therefore, create people gay, and then condemn them? No, He does not. Here's how we can know this:

### OWN LUSTS:

In James 1 we read:

13 When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14 but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

God does not tempt or cause anyone to sin. He doesn't make people sinners. Sin comes because people give into

their lusts. Homosexuality is a sin, just as adultery and getting drunk are. One may have a powerful desire to commit adultery, or to get drunk, but God expects us to resist these lusts. <u>People choose to be gay.</u>

#### NOT THE SAME AS CIVIL RIGHTS:

Earlier we discussed 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 where Paul said that some Christians were homosexual, but they had changed. He wrote, "And that is what some of you were." This is powerful evidence that one chooses to be gay. Gay rights are, therefore, not the same as civil rights, because one cannot choose to be Asian, Caucasian, or Black. No one is born gay. Being gay is not a valid alternative lifestyle. It is sin.

#### WISDOM: ANCIENT BOUNDARY STONES:

Proverbs 22:28 says: "Do not move an ancient boundary stone set up by your ancestors."

Boundary stones showed where one's property ended and another's began, and moving them would lead to confusion. The same can be applied to God's laws – and specifically, in this case, gay marriage.

From the Garden of Eden, marriage was between male and female. God called this "very good" [Genesis 1:31]. Heterosexual marriage is a boundary stone, and if it is moved, chaos and confusion will result.

## CHRISTIANS' GUILT

The homosexual chaos is partly a result of the marriage boundary stone being removed; when divorce rates began to soar. Divorce results in broken families, fatherless children, and kids who grow up in daycare\*, because Mom has to work. Here, many Christians are not living as salt and light, because divorce rates among believers are virtually identical when compared to non-Christians.

\*Daycare: A 10-year study by Penn State University found that children who spent 30+ hours per week in daycare, fight more, have explosive behavior, and are more cruel, compared with other children.



Malachi 2:16 says that God hates divorce. Granted, there are times when He permits divorce, like in cases of adultery and abandonment [Matthew 5:32; 1 Corinthians 7:15], but many Christians get divorced for ungodly reasons, and here are 2 terrible results of this marriage boundary stone being moved:

1. CRUSHED CHILDREN: Divorce severely affects children for decades. In 2000, Judith Wallerstein released a 25-year landmark study on the children of divorced parents. Wallerstein's book explains that, "while children do learn to cope with divorce, it in fact, takes its greatest toll in adulthood, when the sons and daughters of divorced parents embark on romantic relationships of their own." In her book, Wallerstein explains how "children of divorce often feel that their relationships are avoid conflict, doomed, seek to and commitment. Failure in their loving relationships often seems to them preordained, even when things are going smoothly" ["The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce: The 25 Year Landmark Study," www.amazon.com].

2. MARRIAGE IS DISCREDITED: Divorce destroys the trust and sanctity that God planned to exist in marriage. The result is so many have been deeply hurt by their parents' divorces that they choose not to get married at all. They just cohabitate. Sadly, this causes even more harm to the next generation of children, because now there is not even a marriage "piece of paper" keeping Dad and Mom together. The out-of-control divorce rates of the 1970's and 1980's have largely destroyed a key foundation of American society: The family.

This, in turn, leads to the toppling of the next series of boundary stones.

### TOPPLING DOMINOES

Since few people respect marriage, who cares if it is between people of the same sex? People feel that since they have failed at marriage, who are they to judge two men, or two women who want to give it a try? But, now that gay marriage is being legalized, what is next? Other boundary stones will topple. After all, if God's standard for marriage doesn't apply, what does? How long will it be before group marriages, incest, and beastiality are considered "alternate lifestyles"? Already we are seeing news stories asking what's wrong with group marriages. Some people are even arguing that sexually molested children "enjoy it." God's boundary stones need to be reestablished in society's heart, or this nation is finished.

### SELF-EXAMINATION

Western Christians are partly responsible for the current mess, either because we have neglected to "raise the standard" and call sin, sin, or because we are part of the divorce and immorality problem. We should, therefore, be very careful about pointing fingers at homosexuals. As you will see in the next chapter, one's environment is a major factor in leading people to become gay. We have helped create that environment, because too few Christians have been light in this dark world. Rather than be the pillar of truth God called us to be, many of us have

cocooned ourselves in our church buildings – keeping away from the "dirty world." We have failed to engage the world. We need change and state loud and clear: "Homosexuality is sin, but Jesus loves and died to free homosexual people."

But, the past is past. We need to move forward. It's time to raise the standard and stand in the gap.

#### 2. SCIENCE AND HOMOSEXUALITY

Scientific discoveries echo what the Bible says: No one is born gay. Here is evidence:

#### THE "GAY GENE"

In 1995, a scientist named Dean Hamer set out to discover if there was a biological cause for homosexuality. He studied 40 families with homosexual brothers and published evidence of a "gay gene" – a gene that was said to make men gay. The so-called gene was discovered in an area in the X chromosome called, Xq28. The media, predictably, went wild, and soon announced worldwide: "GAY GENE DISCOVERED!" This announcement gave much power to the gay movement, because if people are born gay, how dare anyone tell them not to be who God made them?

As a result, many Christians questioned their own stances on homosexuality, and many were deceived, because they don't read the Bible, or don't believe the Bible is God's perfect word.

Even today people speak of the "gay gene" as if its existence is a fact, but it is not. Since 1995, much scientific evidence against the "gay gene" theory has gone largely unreported by the media. Here are 2 scientific reasons you do not have to accept the "gay gene" argument:

- First, no other scientist has been able to reproduce Hamer's results. This casts much doubt on his findings.
- Second: The largest ever gene study found no evidence to support the "gay gene" theory.

Specifically, in 2012 a commercial genetics company called *23andMe* analyzed the genes of 7,887 un-related men and 5,570 un-related women using a newer gene study method called GWAS [genome wide association study]. The results showed no genes are linked to sexual orientation – not even in the Xq28 area. The "gay gene" theory has been effectively dismissed.

Here's more powerful evidence against people being born gay:

#### TWINS STUDY

Question: If one identical twin is gay, will the other one also be gay? In 2000, Dr. Kenneth Kelder set out to discover the answer. But first, let us discuss how twins form in their mother's womb.

Two of the most common kinds of twins are fraternal twins and identical twins.

- Fraternal [dizygotic] twins are conceived when two sperm cells fertilize two eggs in their mother's womb, and the babies grow at the same time. These two babies are twins, but have different DNA.
- Identical [monozygotic] twins are conceived when one egg is fertilized by one sperm cell, and that egg then splits in 2, forming 2 babies with identical DNA\*.

So, if homosexuality is genetic, then if one identical twin was gay, then the other would also be, because they have identical DNA. <u>But, such is not the case.</u>

\*Identical DNA: Fingerprints: People ask, "Why don't identical twins have identical fingerprints?" Good question. The answer is because fingerprints are not caused by DNA. Fingerprint patterns are influenced by random stresses of amniotic fluid in the womb. Even a slightly different umbilical cord length changes one's fingerprints [livescience.com].

In 2000, Kelder sought to discover if 1 identical twin was gay, would the other also be. He did the largest-ever study of homosexual twins. He randomly screened 50,000

households and found 1,380 sets of identical twins. His research showed that if one twin was homosexual, there was only a 32% chance that the other would be as well. This shows that homosexuality is not in the genes! If it was in the genes, then if one was homosexual, the other would also be 100% of the time.

Scientific results like this show that <u>environment</u> plays a far larger role than genetics in one's choice of sexual orientation. This better explains why the earliermentioned Queerty.com columnist wrote: "We want educators to teach future generations of children to accept queer sexuality. In fact, our very future depends on it..."

So, the Bible and science both testify that no one is born gay. Being gay is a choice.

For more detailed scientific information, please see Rich Deem's articles on GodandScience.org, or visit icr.org, or ApologeticsPress.org.

# - 7 -WHY DO PEOPLE CHOOSE TO BE GAY?

Note: This is a deeply personal question, so Christians should approach it with respect and sensitivity.

There are many factors influencing a person's choice to become gay, but regardless of those factors, individual free choice remains. Just as one may feel compelled to lie, commit adultery, or drink, we still have the choice to say no to sin.

Let's now discuss what we know regarding the cause of homosexuality. Please note that becoming homosexual is not a simple cause and effect equation. It is a complex and confusing process. On the other side, Homosexuals who want to change also have a tough – but not impossible challenge. They need love and support. They need Christian understanding and encouragement not condemnation.

### 1. THE BRAIN

Scientists used to believe that the brain was an unchanging organ. They believed that once our brains were wired in childhood, they remain set for life. Today, however, we speak of neuroplasticity; the brain's ability to change by developing new neural pathways. Science used to teach that our brains worked in one direction, that is, they affected our behavior, but now we know the opposite is also true: Our brains are affected <u>by</u> our behavior and environment.

Here are some examples of neuroplasticity:

- a) The brain can "re-wire" itself. People who have experienced strokes or other types of brain damage can, with the correct therapy, train their brains to bypass damaged areas by establishing new neural pathways. Some people have had amazing recoveries. The brain is, therefore, not "hard-wired" for life.
- b) Lumosity, is a computer brain-training system that is based on neuroplasticity. The brain is described as a muscle that gets stronger by developing new neural pathways the more you challenge it.
- c) FastForWord is a brain plasticity program that has been shown to be successful in counteracting agerelated cognitive decline. Those who used the 10week program have shown remarkable improvement in brain function.

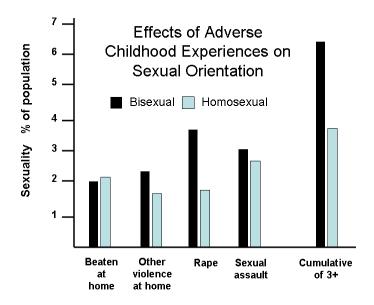
So behavior and experiences – especially repetitive behavior and experiences – affect our brains. How then does this link to homosexuality? The following study is really sad, because it shows that adverse and violent childhood experiences – often linked to the break-down of family – contribute towards people choosing a homosexual lifestyle.

## NEW ZEALAND STUDY [ See graph on next page ]

A study of nearly 13,000 New Zealanders aged 16 years and above showed that those who experienced beatings, violence, rape, or sexual assault were 2-3 times more likely to express homosexual orientation. The study also showed that there was a cumulative effect in that those who had multiple violent experiences were 4-6 times more likely to be homosexual or bisexual. These statistics explain, perhaps as much as, 10% of homosexuality.

Here we have evidence that one's environment directly affects one's decision to become homosexual.

[J. Elisabeth Wells, et al. Multiple Aspects of Sexual Orientation: Prevalence and Sociodemographic Correlates in a New Zealand National Survey. *Arch Sex Behav.* 2011 February; 40(1): 155–168, as quoted by Rich Deem, godandscience.org]



## ADOPTED CHILDREN OF HOMOSEXUAL PARENTS

A major reason people become homosexual is because their parents were. Statistics show that:

- 16-57% of children with gay parents adopted a homosexual lifestyle
- 33-57% of daughters of lesbian mothers became lesbians themselves
   [Schumm, W. R. 2010. J. Biosoc. Sci. 42:721-742, cited by Rich Deem, www.GodandScience.org]

Note, although the word "parents" is used, these children are not, obviously, the biological children of the homosexual couple. 2 people of the same sex cannot have their own biological children. This study is, therefore, powerful evidence that it is one's environment that most affects a child's sexual orientation. Again, this is why the columnist in the above-mentioned Queerty.com article

wrote: "We want educators to teach future generations of children to accept queer sexuality. In fact, our very future depends on it..."

Following this logic, one can know that a significant adult – such as an uncle, aunt, scoutmaster, or teacher – can powerfully influence children to become homosexual.

This is why God taught His people to impress the God's commands on our children's hearts. We read: "And you shall carefully teach them to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you get up [Deuteronomy 6:7].

Much of the Western world is "destroyed for a lack of knowledge" – knowledge of the Bible [Hosea 4:6]. In order to stress the importance of teaching the truth, let's read the whole of Hosea 4:6:

"[M]y people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children."

Our children need to learn to trust God's Bible far more than science and culture, otherwise they will conform to the image of this world, and that is death. We need to trust the Lord first. He made us. He knows us best.

## OTHER REASONS PEOPLE CHOOSE HOMOSEXUALITY

The following reasons are not scientifically verified, but they are certainly common-sense.

a) One's first sexual experience leaves a strong impression on a person, so if one's first experience was homosexual, then one may look for a repeat. This is why homosexuals so want to impress homosexuality on children. They want their first experience to be homosexual. This is also why God commands Christians to only have sex within heterosexual marriage. If one's first and only sexual experience is with their spouse, then one is

- more likely to always find fulfillment in that relationship [Proverbs 5:19].
- b) It is common for teens to feel uncomfortable around the opposite sex. Since homosexuality is so encouraged in society today, there will naturally be more same-sex experimentation, which will probably lead to a rise in homosexuality in the future.
- c) Some begin the gay life because they think it is "cool," but remember that our brains adjust to our behavior. One can think themselves into homosexuality. Thankfully the opposite is also true, but it is not easy to change deeply engrained behavior. The Bible says that "today is the day of salvation" [2 Corinthians 6:2]. The sooner one chooses to live right for God, the better. If you are gay, now it the time to come home to Christ.
- d) Genetics may play a role in the sense that a young man may not look very manly, and so he may have little confidence around women. This does not force someone to be gay, anymore than having a weak disposition to alcohol makes someone alcoholic. We still have free choice and can make decisions to better ourselves. That is a gift given by God that cannot be taken away. All people have free choice [Genesis 2:16,17].

## PEOPLE DO LEAVE HOMOSEXUALITY

Earlier we mentioned 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 where Paul wrote that some of the Corinthian Christians were homosexual, but changed. Modern research shows the same. Specifically:

- 1/4 of lesbians gave up their homosexual identities over a 5 year period [J. Pers. Soc. Psychol. 84: 352-64, cited by Rich Deem, godandscience.org].
- 5% of lesbians became heterosexual over a one year period [Diamond, L. M. 2000; Dev. Psychol. 36: 241-50, cited by Rich Deem, godandscience.org].

There are also well-known Christian speakers who were homosexual, but have changed. We encourage you to

research people like Joe Dallas, Rosaria Champagne Butterfield, or visit RestoredHopeNetwork.com

#### JESUS WANTS TO HELP YOU

The most important power to being able to change, however, is Christ in you. Paul explains how people can leave homosexuality – or any other sin:

"And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God" [1 Corinthians 6:11].

Jesus changed these people. To any homosexual who may be reading this book, we encourage you to reach out to Jesus. He said:

"7 Ask and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you. 8 For each one who asks receives; and he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, if his son asks a loaf, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks a fish, will he give him a snake? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father in Heaven give good things to those who ask Him?" [Matthew 7].

As homosexuality increases, so people will discover it does not fulfill them. Only God can, so truth-seeking homosexuals will turn towards Jesus. We, Christians, need to be prepared to receive and care for homosexual people. Jesus died for all!

# - 8 -HOW CHRISTIANS SHOULD RESPOND TO HOMOSEXUALS

In 2014, President Museveni of Uganda, signed an antigay bill for his nation. Many Western nations, including the United States, stood on the side of the homosexuals, and condemned President Museveni's actions. This is how the Ugandan President responded:

"We have been disappointed for a long time by the conduct of the West, the way you conduct yourselves there. But we have just kept quiet... So now there is an attempt at social imperialism, to impose social values of one group on our society... Now you say, "You must live like us.' That's where we say No" [Decision Magazine, April 2014, p.2].

It is important to point out that <u>we do not agree with the persecution of homosexuals</u>, but there is much merit in President Museveni's words. We, like the Ugandan President, have watched how society around us has slipped into moral anarchy, and we too, have been disappointed. But, we should not be surprised, because the Bible teaches that evil men "will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived" [2 Timothy 3:13]. This is how the world behaves, and, as 1 Corinthians 5:9-12 teaches we are not to judge the world. That is God's job.

We are, however, supposed to teach the truth – in and out of season – and we must resist when the world tries

to impose its morality on the church and our families. Jesus is the head of the church – not any government, social organization, or politically correct ideology. As President Museveni said, "Now you say, 'You must live like us.' That's where we say No."

We, Christians, agree. We, too, say, "No" to the culture. We follow God first.

#### NOAH'S ARK

In 2008, Joe Dallas, a former gay man, gave a talk at a Love Won Out [now Truth Won Out] conference, entitled, "How We Should Respond to Homosexuals." In this talk he refers to Noah's method.

Scripture calls Noah "a preacher of righteousness" [2 Peter 2:5] who [1] held up the truth, and [2] provided a refuge – the ark – for any who would accept God's message. We need to do the same. We must speak the truth to homosexuals, and make sure the church is a refuge ready to love and accept any who respond to the message.

Some churches have a problem with this, because they see homosexuals as dirty. Yes, they are, but so were we! How wonderful! We can relate to them! Let's not forget our own sin! In Titus 3 God reminds us where we came from:

"3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. 4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit..." [Titus 3].

Only God's kindness saved us. Nowhere does the Bible call homosexuality the "greatest sin." We all need Jesus, and we were all led to Him by people who loved us. We should do no less for homosexual people – especially if they are family and friends.

## TESTIMONY

In 1999, I had my first ministry experience with a homosexual man. He had just been diagnosed HIV-positive, and was devastated. He was also terrified because his "boyfriend" wanted to kill him. I then realized the "gay" lifestyle is not a happy one.

This man also explained to me that in all the years he had been gay, he knew in his heart he was doing wrong.

We studied some Bible, prayed together and I baptized him. He then went to live in a ministry village set up by Christians to serve people with AIDS. This man received God's truth, and a place of refuge.

Joe Dallas' Noah analogy is great. We need to clearly speak God's truth, and we need to provide a place of safety – an "ark." We, the church, need to be that ark. We need to be ready to teach and receive all homosexual people who want to turn to Jesus.

But, what if we teach and they won't repent? I think we can extend the Noah analogy further here: God shut the ark's door, and God judged all outside. God will judge those outside the church. It is our job to love and teach as long as God keeps the door open; as long as we draw breath.

A thought: Most of the people you meet will be alive for at least 5 more years. Do you want to encourage them towards God, or chase them away? Obviously we want to encourage them. The kindness you show and the truth you speak to a homosexual person may plant a seed, and years later it may germinate. As long as someone is still breathing, they still have the opportunity to come home to Jesus. Let's all, therefore, keep planting and watering seeds until the Lord comes to finally close the door.

## CONCLUSION

As mentioned earlier, I believe we need to:

• Pray like never before. Pray for world leaders, because they influence nations [1 Timothy 2:1-4].

- Love all people. Homosexuals and their supporters are deceived, but they are not the enemy. Satan is [Ephesians 6:12].
- Preach God's word, not ear-tickling lessons. We need to ducate the church and the world [2 Timothy 4:2,3].
- Address, and if necessary, fire preachers who teach homosexuality is good. If the preacher won't leave, find a church that loves and honors Jesus. Stand in the gap with like-minded people [Matthew 7:15].
- Write letters to newspaper editors and get involved in public debates. When we do this, we embolden other Christians to stand in the gap and raise the standard as well [Philippians 1:14]. Remember, Christians have legal rights too. Use them.
- Get involved in school parent-teacher committees. Be aware what your children are being exposed to. God holds parents primarily responsible for what their children learn [Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:4-7].
- Stay informed by subscribing to publications like CITIZEN by Focus on the Family or WORLD magazine.

All who trust in Jesus have nothing to fear. Let's stand in the gap, and raise the standard. We are going to heaven, so let's take as many people with us as possible.

Final warning: Galatians 6:1 says: "Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted."

Homosexuality is sexual sin, and most people struggle with sexual sins. You may not be attracted to a member of the same sex, but there are attractive bisexual people who may want to seduce you and so damage your Christian witness. We, therefore, do not recommend Christians trying to evangelize alone or at gay parties. You may believe that God has given you this evangelizing gift,

but take the above Scripture to heart: "But watch yourselves, or you may also be tempted."

May God bless your ministry to all people, whether gay or straight. We look forward to the time when we are all united together with Jesus in Heaven. Amen!

## RECOMMENDED!

If you enjoyed this book, you will enjoy others by Triston Jacobsohn

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