

Glad You Asked

What About Homosexuality

Sunday, May 4, 2014

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

I. Introduction

Every person and in particular every Christian is going to have to make a decision concerning this issue. You can no longer hide from this issue! It will confront everyone of us.

Some resources on the topic of homosexuality:

Robert Gagnon – The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Text and Hermeneutics;

Robert Gagnon – www.robagnon.net

Peter Hubbard – Love into Light: The Gospel, The Homosexual and the Church;

Al Mohler Blog – www.almohler.com - especially concerning new book by Matthew Vines.

Restored Hope Network – Facebook and Webpage

God views ALL sex outside of a monogamous and heterosexual marriage relationship as ‘abnormal’ and sin.

II. The Question: The Authority of Scripture

2 Peter 1:19-21

First, Scripture is the word of God Second, the word of God is no less divine because it is given through human instrumentality. Third, the Bible is without error.

Peter tells us that the ultimate authorship of Scripture is God himself. Scripture did not come from the will of man; it came from God. And if it is God’s word then it must all be true, for in him there can be no error or deceit.

“Inerrancy means the word of God always stands over us and we never stand over the word of God.” Kevin DeYoung

“One cannot doubt the Bible without far-reaching loss, both of fullness of truth and of fullness of life. If therefore we have at heart spiritual renewal for society, for churches and for our own lives, we shall make much of the entire trustworthiness- that is, the inerrancy – of Holy Scripture as the inspired and liberating Word of God.” JI Packer

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Malakoi – “softness or effeminate men who are the “passive partner” in the relationship and undertake to erase their distinctively masculine nature.

“Therefore, in 1 Corinthians 6:9, malakoi should be understood as the passive partners in homosexual intercourse, the most egregious case of which are those who also intentionally engage in a process of feminization to erase further their masculine appearance and manner.” R. Gagnon

arsenokoitai – “bedders of males, those men who take other males to bed”

“It is self-evident, then, that the combination of terms, malakoi and arsenokoitai, are correctly understood in our contemporary contest when they are applied to every conceivable type of same-sex intercourse...First Corinthians 6:9 confirms Paul’s rejection of homosexual conduct is just as applicable for believers as for unbeliever. Paul’s warning here is to the believers at Corinth to remember that those who live their lives under the control of sin will not inherit the kingdom of God.” R. Gagnon

III. The Question: The Heart of Love

We must approach this with a heart of love. Christians have sinned in at least two major ways when it comes to reaching those in the gay community. On the one hand, some have laid aside God's clear teaching that homosexuality is a sin in a misguided attempt to show God's love. Love stripped of truth is not love but deceit. This is a grave sin against both God and man.

On the other hand, some have neglected compassion and harbored a condescending attitude toward people who practice homosexual sin. Love stripped of compassion is not love but hypocrisy. This too is a grave sin and unlike Christ's love toward us.

IV. The Question: The Gospel

Can People with Same-sex Attraction or Homosexuals change? Yes, just as adulterers can change, pornographers can change, there is no sinner that God cannot change.

“If our problem before God is homosexuality, then our greatest need is to repent and stop pursuing homoerotic lust. But the antidote for homosexuality is not heterosexuality. A crack addict can “repent” and switch to meth and remain a drug addict. Likewise a homosexual can pursue heterosexuality and remain bound by lust, greed, and fear...Jesus is not our get-out-of homosexuality plan, but ‘the way and the truth and the life.’ Real change is not simply a reaction to our latest problem, but a miraculous step toward our new eternal identity.” Peter Hubbard

It is the gospel of Jesus Christ that gives us the power to change! We must pursue Him with our whole hearts and know that even though we may struggle God’s grace is there for us. Part of God’s grace is this church – AGCC

V. Conclusion