

Homosexuality

What does the Bible Really Say?

by Angela Gassaway

Many in modern society feel that Christians do not love homosexuals. Although there have been a few cults who have grossly misrepresented the American church, most Christians have nothing personal against homosexuals. There is actually a growing number of Christians, and even entire denominations, who have not only accepted homosexuality, but allowed homosexuals to become licensed ministers. Though there are many differing opinions about Homosexuality today, there is only one opinion that matters; God's. So, we must ask the question, "How does God feel about homosexuals?"

John 3:16-19 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For **God did not send His Son into the world to condemn** the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but **he who does not believe is condemned already**, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and **men loved darkness rather than light**, because their deeds were evil."

The first truth we have established is that God loves Homosexuals so much that he sent His son Jesus to die for them. Jesus does not condemn us; our sin does. Homosexuals are no different than any other human on the planet. We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and we need God's grace and forgiveness. Each one of us will die one day, and we will have to answer to God for our lives. There is only one standard we will be judged by; God's. When we stand before Him, all that will matter is if we knew and loved Jesus Christ, and if we followed His commands.

In **John 14:15** Jesus says, "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

John 14:21 says, "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

Most of us are familiar with the 10 Commandments. Don't lie, don't steal, don't commit adultery, don't murder, etc. **James 2:10** says that if we have broken even one of the laws, we are guilty of breaking them all. Everyone has told a lie or disrespected their parents, so we are all guilty. Many people don't take this very seriously. Most people who argue that God condones Homosexuality are not only ignoring the scriptures that explain it, but also ignoring the other scriptures that condemn our other sinful behaviors. Without getting too deep into debating Homosexuality, let's just take a look at sexual sin, in general.

Fornication

Fornication is sexual intercourse between people who are not married to each other. Any sexual activity between two people who are not married is sexual immorality.

“¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. ¹⁹ Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.”

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

*“¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery (excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures); ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that **those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.**”*

Galatians 5:19-21

*“³ It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you should learn to **control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable,** ⁵ not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. ⁷ For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. ⁸ Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.” **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8***

*“⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.” **Colossians 3:5-11***

Pornography

Scripture says that if we hate in our heart, we have committed murder.

When we look at someone in lust, we have already committed Adultery in our heart.

Our country and most parts of the planet are immersed in a culture that accepts pornography. Whether someone looks at hetero or homosexual pornography it is still a sin that will keep you from entering the gates of Heaven.

See **Matthew 5:21-30**

Sexual Acts with the Same Sex

There are many debates about what the Bible actually says about homosexuality. Some people teach that the Bible doesn't say anything specific about homosexuality at all. Others profess that there are only a few scriptures about it in the Old Testament. Since we have a new covenant with Christ, they believe the Old Testament scriptures don't apply anymore. The Bible says that God is the same, yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). His standing on Homosexuality has not changed over the years. And Jesus did not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it (Matthew 5:17-20). So, nothing Jesus did would negate what God said about homosexuality in the Old Testament.

For those who argue that there is nothing specific in the Bible about homosexuality:

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

Leviticus 18:22

"If a man has sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads."

Leviticus 20:13

Thank God for the sacrifice of Jesus! People no longer have to be put to death for their sins against God. We live on this side of grace, and all sins can be forgiven if you believe in Jesus Christ, repent, and turn from your life of sin. There is an argument, that since Christ came to fulfill the law (Matthew 5:17-20) and that some of the rules in the Old Testament no longer apply, that homosexuality is no longer a sin.

A good example of an Old Testament practice that is no longer useful is animal sacrifice. Christ was the ultimate sacrifice for our sins, and we no longer have to sacrifice animals as the Jews did in the Old Testament. Although there are specific things that changed when Christ came, none of those changes had to do with any particular sins. We cannot pick and choose which sins are still sins. This theory does not hold water, because homosexuality is ALSO forbidden in the New Testament.

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, 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."

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Some states are now allowing homosexuals to get married. Some believe if they are able to get married, their relationship will no longer be considered fornication. But the scriptures above prove that homosexual relationships are still sin, even if the couple is married.

Homosexual Churches

There are many homosexual churches, and their members believe they have a good relationship with God. Some homosexuals argue that different translations of **1 Corinthians 6:9** say “*nor fornicators*” instead of saying “*nor men who have sex with men*” and “*nor homosexuals*”. It is true that no word exists in the Greek language that can be translated into the word “homosexual.” However, the Greek translation for this section of text is “men with men.” This is why it is important to view multiple translations, and always refer to an Exhaustive Concordance to read the original Greek and Hebrew text. In the Greek, scripture says that those who have “men with men” sex will not inherit the Kingdom of God. They will not go to Heaven. When you combine this with multiple other passages that include women, homosexuality is deemed sinful by God, in all forms.

There are people around the world who claim to know Jesus. They even pray to Him. But scripture says, in **1 John 2:3-6**, “*Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ **He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.** ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.*” Unfortunately, the phrase “homosexual Christian” is an oxy-moron. The two words cannot co-exist. To be a true Christian, we must love Christ enough to obey God’s commands.

Please note that homosexuality is listed with other habitual sins such as drunkenness, greed, slander, theft, adultery, etc. This is not only targeted toward or limited to the sin of homosexuality. This applies to anyone caught in any other sin that leads to death. Just as a person can be freed from the other sins listed in the Word, homosexuals can be free from those desires.

God also lists **disease** as a serious repercussion for homosexuality:

*“²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. ²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and **received in themselves the due penalty for their error.**”*

Romans 1:24-27

There is an epidemic of diseases and medical conditions related to both drug use and homosexuality. There is a much higher rate of sexually transmitted diseases in homosexuals. There is also a greater risk for certain cancers. Although the health risks are considerably less for homosexual women, they are not without considerable alarm.

Habitual Sin VS. Repentance

” ⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. ⁵ But you know that he (Jesus) appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. ⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him..... ⁸ The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work. ⁹ No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. ¹⁰ This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God’s child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.....
 ¹⁹ This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰ If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps God’s commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.”

1 John 3:4-24

If I keep sinning am I really and truly saved? What is the difference between making a mistake and continually living in sin? If you really know Jesus, then when you sin, you will feel conviction. You will repent and turn away from that sin. Even if you make the same mistake several times, you will feel conviction, and the Holy Spirit will empower you to walk away from that sin. Habitual sin is when you do something even though you know it is wrong, and you have no intention of stopping. You have decided that your addiction to that sin is more important than God, and that sin becomes your idol. **1 John 3** says that “*No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.*” Many believe that though a person was saved at one time, they may stray so far away that they lose their salvation. Some call this heresy or false doctrine. Whether you agree or disagree, scripture clearly states that if you live in habitual sin, you are not saved. Maybe you were never truly converted. Either way, your salvation is in question.

“For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?” **Hebrew 10:26-29**

The Responsibility to Warn People

*“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and **I will hold you accountable for their blood.** ⁹ But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.” **Ezekiel 33:1-9***

*“¹ 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. ² Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” **Galatians 6:1-2***

How to Minister to Homosexuals

If your house was on fire, and I was walking by, would you expect me to break the door down and save whoever is inside? You would at least expect me to call 911. Many people who are living in sin don’t understand the danger they are in. So many people just don’t realize they are playing with FIRE! When we share the truth of God’s word, there is always a chance we will be rejected or persecuted. But what if your words are the very thing that saves their soul? If we don’t ever open our mouth and share the truth in love, it’s like we are just walking away while their house burns down.

*“¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.” **Romans 10:17***

So how will people ever believe in Jesus unless we tell them? They WON’T...unless we tell them!!!! And how will homosexuals know that their life style is a sin unless we tell them, in love? Today’s homosexual community proclaims that people are born gay. Please read the testimony below.....

TESTIMONY

There was a worship leader at a Baptist church who also lead in the youth group. She shared this testimony. She always thought she was born gay. She saw some pornography as a small child, and since the age of 5, she remembers having sexual desires or feelings for the same sex. This was very confusing to her, as she was raised in church and taught that homosexuality is a sin. She felt as if she lived a lie all the way through high school. In college, she was free to explore those desires. She entered into a committed homosexual relationship and lived with the woman. For a time, her heart was hardened to the conviction, and God gave her over to her evil desires. After some time she began to feel conviction again. The relationship with this

woman ended, and she began to seek God on the matter. She cried out to God to help her. Some time passed and she still felt homosexual desires. One day, a Godly man approached her, and asked if he could date her. She had never been with a man. Although she was terrified, she began to open up to him. God healed her heart and removed the homosexual desires from her. She is now married and has children with this man. They are very much in love.

There are so many wonderful testimonies of people who used to live a homosexual lifestyle, but have now been set free from those desires!!!

Love, Love, Love

1 Corinthians 13 – God tells us that all of our deeds will be worthless if we do not have love. We can witness to homosexuals and share scripture with them, but if we do it without love, it is worthless.

“⁹ But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. ¹⁰ Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them. ¹¹ You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.” **Titus 3:9-11**

We are just the messenger. We do not need to harass someone by continuing to argue with them about this or any other issue. We must deliver the message that God has given to us, and then we must back off and leave it in God’s hands. We must also be committed to pray for anyone we minister to. Ask God to soften their hearts so they will receive the Word of God and truly be transformed!

Don’t Judge Me!

In **John 8:7-11**, Jesus ministered to a woman caught in adultery. Many quote verse 7 in saying “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” But the forget verse 11, “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.” Jesus did not judge the woman, but her sin condemned her. Jesus told her to repent and turn away from prostitution!

“³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:38

Although our sin can send us to Hell, there is nothing we could ever do that would cause God to quit loving us!!!!