

# Homosexuality Q&A

This study was inspired by a conversation with a practicing homosexual who claimed to be a Christian. His questions were based upon what he was taught by a local homosexual pastor. After reading this study, please pray for such individuals. - **CAUTION: MATURE CONTENT**

**The book of Leviticus was written as laws for the Jewish priesthood. Doesn't this limit the prohibitions of homosexuality to that group alone?**

Yes, the book of Leviticus was ordained for that purpose. But in that treatise God made specific pronouncements that went beyond the priesthood. In regard to any kind of incest, homosexuality or bestiality, God made this statement:

Do not defile yourselves by any of these things; for by all these the [non-Jewish, non-priesthood] nations, which I am casting out before you, have become defiled. Lev. 18:24<sup>1</sup>

The first thing we should note is the fact that God labels these offenses as defilement. The result of such lifestyles is to be "cast out". The good news is that Jesus said, "All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out."

Remember, we must take the whole of scripture into account and not pick and choose the excerpts that work best in our own personal favor. For God also gives these offenses another response and label:

But as for you [Levitical Priests], you are to keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not do any of these **abominations**... Lev. 18:26

No matter *who* these laws are intended, God labels them as abominations. This is very important to understand. For those who become involved with abominations have a horrible end.

... nothing unclean and no one who practices **abomination** and lying, shall ever come into [the New Jerusalem], but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. Rev. 21:27

But are these sexual-limitation laws only intended for the Levitical priests? No! For God has made it clear to whom these laws were intended.

But as for you [Levitical Priests], you are to keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not do any of these abominations, neither the native [the Jews], nor the alien [the non-Jews] who sojourns among you. Lev. 18:26<sup>2</sup>

By this we see that defilement will cause any individual soul to be cast out. But those who come to Jesus, and consecrate their lives to Him for His good purpose, will find his name written in the Book of Life.

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<sup>1</sup> Nations are *non-Jewish* and *non-priesthood* has been added for clarification.

<sup>2</sup> Note specifying the *non-Jew* and *gentile* has been added for clarification.

**Whenever Homosexuality is spoken of harshly in the scriptures, it is always directed toward those who lust after one-another. What about a loving relationship with just one partner?**

You can apply the same argument toward bestiality or pedophilia. The fact that it is a loving relationship does not make it legal to God's order. Besides, as we have stated above, the law against male-upon-male sex included priest, Jew and gentile.

The Greek language did not have a word for homosexuality; so they used the word "male" or *ars' n*; and combined it with the word "marriage bed" or *koite*. The resulting Greek word is *ars' n-koite* and can be accurately translated as "male-bedders". Now this carries no lustful overtones. Rather, it points to a monogamous male-to-male connotation.

Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor **homosexuals**, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9b-10

Paul repeats himself in saying that "male-bedders" will not inherit the kingdom of God. This aligns with Leviticus as well. Yet Paul makes it *very* clear that an individual in bondage to this type of behavior *can* be delivered.

And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:11

The answer lies not in finding justification in scripture; it doesn't exist. The answer is found in being washed in the blood of Jesus; sanctified by baptism into a new life; justified by faith; that through Jesus all offenses have been nullified and being filled with the Holy Spirit to equip us to live this new life.

**The Tao teachings of Lao-tse point to the Ten Commandments as being enough to be a good person. Isn't keeping the Ten Commandments and John 3:16 enough to save even a homosexual believer?**

I would limit that even more. John 3:16 has enough truth to lead anyone to the saving grace of Jesus Christ. However, the scripture plainly teaches that *whosoever believes upon Jesus* will not perish but have everlasting life. Jesus said,

"... why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say? Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great." Luke 6:46-49

It is not enough to believe in Jesus, we must also do what He says. He said He was the only way to heaven;<sup>3</sup> He said He was God;<sup>4</sup> He said we must stop sinning;<sup>5</sup> and that the only way to follow him is to give up our lives and views in death.<sup>6</sup> To enter in any other way is evil and wicked.<sup>7</sup>

Jesus says that you cannot serve two masters.<sup>8</sup> Either you are a lover of Lao-tse and Tao-Buddhism or you love Jesus. One way will allow you the freedom to be whatever is right in your eyes, with shallow promises of life afterward. The other offers a resurrected new life with guaranteed eternal life beyond the grave.

As for the Ten Commandments, read the following scripture carefully:

But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussion, wanting to be teachers of the Law, even though they do not understand either what they are saying or the matters about which they make confident assertions. But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that *law is not made for a righteous man, but for those who are lawless and rebellious*, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and **homosexuals** and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching... 1 Tim. 1:5-11

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<sup>3</sup> John 14:6

<sup>4</sup> John 8:58

<sup>5</sup> John 5:14, 8:11

<sup>6</sup> Matthew 16:24

<sup>7</sup> John 10:1-7

<sup>8</sup> Matthew 6:24

Here the word *ars' n-koite* or "male-bedder" is used again. The context is that the Ten Commandments are intended for those who wish to continue to live in their homosexual lifestyle and teach that it is lawful when, in truth, it is not.

Be careful though. If you wish to live under the confines of the Law, by the Law you will be judged without the washing and justification found in Jesus Christ. You will be judged by your works and not by your name being found written in the Book of Life.

I saw the dead standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged *according to their works*, by the things which were written in the books.

They were judged, each one according to his works... and anyone not found *written in the Book of Life* was cast into the lake of fire. Rev. 20:15-20<sup>9</sup>

**If you believe the Bible, especially the Old Testament, then do you believe homosexuals should be killed as commanded in Leviticus 20:13?**

We, in the United States, live under a Republic style of government. The laws given in the Old Testament were under a Theocratic style of government. To God, there are reasons for these laws. Homosexuality is behavioral, not biological. Why would God instruct a death penalty upon that which is biological and His creation? In our present laws, what is the penalty for adultery? Not much I'm afraid. To God, adultery carries the death penalty as well.<sup>10</sup>

In today's high tech. environment, we have computers that can be crippled with the introduction of a computer virus. It is through seemingly productive utilities that these small codes enter central processors and spread via Internets. Human beings were created as a biological super computer. God, in His mercy, is concerned about the input that can be spread due to these seemingly productive programs and input. Homosexuality, on the surface, can seem productive and good. But God, the creator of your programming, identifies a hidden, spiritual, virus.

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<sup>9</sup> Edited for brevity

<sup>10</sup> Leviticus 20:10

**Jesus talked to the disciples about eunuchs that were born as eunuchs. Isn't He talking about homosexuals and their being born to that preference?**

Before I answer that, let us first look at a question posed to Jesus.

"Is it lawful for a *man* to divorce his *wife* for just any reason?"

And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them *male* and *female*, and said, 'For this reason a *man* shall leave his *father* and *mother* and be joined to his *wife*, and the two shall become one flesh'? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put *her* away?"

He said to them, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your *wives*, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his *wife*, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries *her* who is divorced commits adultery." Matthew 19:3-12

I have highlighted all references to male and female gender for a purpose. The context or the question was in regard to a man's relationship with a woman. That is, the married relationship. Jesus does not change the context, but rather answers the question by referring them back to the beginning with God's divine order; one man married to one woman until death.

The Jews of that day, under Hillel, taught that you can divorce your wife for any reason, as is seen in the Pharisees' question. Jesus responds with an almost opposite approach to marriage. This scared the disciples, to which they asked:

"If such is the case of the *man* with his *wife*, it is better not to marry."  
Ibid.

Note the context; it is in regard to the relationship between *a man and his wife*. Adultery became commonplace during that time (as seen with the abundance of prostitutes). So much so that the disciples thought it was impossible to stay faithful. If what Jesus was saying is true, then perhaps it is better to remain unmarried and fall into fornication than be married and break one of the Ten Commandments (the lesser of two evils).

Jesus' response was to not accept the lesser of two evils but to be transformed into the greater of three godly consecrations:

But He said to them, "All cannot accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given: For there are eunuchs who were born thus from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He who is able to accept it, let him accept it." Ibid.

Remember the context! The relationship is between a man and his wife! What Jesus is saying is that there are those who were born without inward passion toward woman; those who will not marry for they have been castrated; and those who choose not to marry in order to dedicate themselves to God's service.

Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am [unmarried]. However, each man has his own gift from God [self-control over passions], one in this manner, and another in that. 1 Corinthians 7:7

### **So are you saying that because I am a homosexual, I am going to Hell?**

No, you are going to Hell because you are a sinner—no more or less than any other person on the earth. That is why Jesus died— to redeem us. There is no such thing as a good person<sup>11</sup> with a good heart.<sup>12</sup> We are all equally corrupt.

There is only one thing that keeps us from the truth, and that is the presumption that we already have it. The way to salvation is not to tailor-make the gospel to proclaim us clean; for by this, every heinous crime perpetrated by churches past have thus justified their actions.

No, salvation is gained by dying, dying to our old life and being miraculously raised into a born-again, Spirit filled *new* life in Christ.

Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, that we might bear fruit for God. For while we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law, were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death. But now *we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.* Rom. 7:4-6

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<sup>11</sup> Psalm 14:1-3

<sup>12</sup> Jeremiah 17:9

## **I have had homosexual preferences since I was a child. I tried dating girls, but it seems unnatural to me. What should I do?**

Jesus said that if you are not willing to give up all intimate relationships for the sake of the kingdom, then you will not deserve it.<sup>13</sup> He also said that if something is as close as your own appendage keeps you from the kingdom; cut yourself off from that relationship and never see it again.<sup>14</sup> For it is better to enter into eternal life bruised and torn emotionally, then to have had a fulfilled life on earth and spend eternity in lonely darkness, thirst and torment.<sup>15</sup>

But consider this, the greater the sacrifice you have to make toward a new life in Jesus, the greater your ultimate fulfillment and love will be.

Jesus said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you. There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"

Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more."

[Jesus] said to him, "You have rightly judged."

Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." Luke 7:40-47 (edited)

## **Do you think that AIDS is a judgment from God?**

When God, in the form of plagues, was judging Egypt, one of the facets of the affliction was to not harm the Jews living in the land of Goshen. In other words, God separates the innocent from His rod of judgment. If the deadly virus of AIDS is a judgment of God, then Christians, heterosexuals or newborns would not contract it.

AIDS is the medical result of an imbalance of the sexual order (such as a computer virus within an Internet). God does not forbid certain behavior to be mean or to deprive us of fulfillment. That is the lie of the devil from the very beginning with Eve in the garden. Satan told Eve that God was only trying to keep her from becoming fulfilled as a living entity. The result of her disobedience was a perversion of her perfect DNA strand that introduced death to her offspring. Was death a judgment of God? No, it was a result of straying out of His protective order.

Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.  
Romans 1:27

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<sup>13</sup> Matthew 10:37

<sup>14</sup> Mark 9:43-45

<sup>15</sup> Luke 16:19-31

The previous scripture is more accurately translated as a monetary transaction:

...receiving in themselves the anti-wage (deficit) of their wandering which was necessary.<sup>16</sup>

When I make a poor investment and lose my valuable capital, it is not considered a judgment from God. It is the result of poor decision making on my own part. I alone am responsible. But why does Paul state in his letter to the Romans that it is necessary that this happen? I am not sure. It is my own conjecture that a terrifying disease such as AIDS is like an emergency brake for an immoral society. Perhaps it is a necessary *cause-and-effect* of the body. If *cause-and-effect* is what Paul is actually alluding to, then he is declaring that sexually transmitted diseases are not a judgment of God, but rather the result of disobedience.

I can state with confidence that it does *not* mean that homosexuals *deserve* such outcomes. The Greek text does not validate that, nor does it answer why Christians or heterosexuals contract AIDS via blood transfusions. It is through the Bible that I have learned not to ask God for justice. If I got justice from God, my penalty would be death, for that is what the wages of my sins are.<sup>17</sup> No, I have learned to ask God for mercy; for His mercy is new every morning.<sup>18</sup>

To those who have this horrendous virus, I must tell you that *all of us* have a death penalty in our DNA strand. But I am not afraid, for I have been transfused with the pure blood of the Savior who has saved me from the second death, which is more damning than the first.

But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.  
Revelation 21:8

Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. Revelation 20:6

Reach out for Jesus, for He has come to save, and not condemn. May God bless you in your search for truth — author.

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<sup>16</sup> Romans 1:27 translated from original Greek text.

<sup>17</sup> Ref. Romans 6:23

<sup>18</sup> Ref. Lamentations 3:22 & 23