# The Bible and Homosexuality Homosex

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#### Slide 3

"It sounds so churchy, but I felt like God spoke to my heart and said '[homosexuality] is not a sin."

—Jay Bakker, son of disgraced televangelists Jim & Tammy Faye Bakker, and co-founder of 'Revolution Church' as quoted in 'Revolu

Slide 4	The Bible and Homosexuality	
	1. Creation (Gen. 1–2)	
	<ol> <li>Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 18–19)</li> <li>The Mosaic Law (Lev. 18; 20)</li> <li>Jesus Christ (Matt. 19; John 2)</li> </ol>	
	5. The Apostle Paul (Rom. 1; 1 Cor. 6; 1 Tim. 1)	
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#### The Apostle Paul

- 1. Pro-Heterosexuality
  - 1. 1 Cor. 7:2-5
  - 2. Eph. 5:22-33
  - 3. 1 Tim. 3:2, 12
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"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? 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, will inherit the kingdom of God. 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 Cor. 6:9-11 (NASB)

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"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness... For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error."

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#### Slide 29

"realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, 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 of their error."

1 Tim. 1:9-10 (NASB)

#### Slide 30

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- 1. Creation (Gen. 1–2)
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# **Intro**

Chief Justice John Roberts' dissenting opinion in Obergefell v. majority Hodges 28-29-"The reiterates pp. such characterizations over and over. By the majority's account, Americans who did nothing more than follow the understanding of marriage that has existed for our entire history—in particular, the tens of millions of people who voted to reaffirm their States' enduring definition of marriage—have acted to "lock . . . out," "disparage," "disrespect and subordinate," and inflict "dignitary wounds" upon their gay and lesbian neighbors. These apparent assaults on the character of fair minded people will have an effect, in society and in court. Moreover, they are entirely gratuitous. It is one thing for the majority to conclude that the Constitution protects a right to same-sex marriage; it is something else to portray everyone who does not share the majority's "better informed understanding" as bigoted."

# 1. Creation

Genesis 1:26, 28- "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness'...God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply'."

Gen. 2:18-25- Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him." Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought *them* to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living

creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

# 2. Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 18:20 says, "The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave."

Genesis 19:4-5: "Before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; and they called to Lot and said to him, 'Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them.'"

Gen. 19:5, "that we may know them" (KJV)

Gen. 4:1-"And Adam <u>knew</u> Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord."

Ezekiel 16:49: "Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had arrogance, abundant food and careless ease, but she did not help the poor and needy."

Jude 7- "just as *Sodom and Gomorrah* and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these *indulged in gross immorality* and *went after strange flesh*, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire."

# 3. Mosaic Law

Ps. 147:19-20- He declares His words to Jacob, His statutes and His ordinances to Israel.<sup>20</sup> He has not dealt thus with any nation; And as for His ordinances, they have not known them. Praise [1] the LORD!

Leviticus 18:22 says, "You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination."

Leviticus 20:13 adds a punitive element- "If *there is* a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their blood guiltiness is upon them."

*First*, in the larger context of these chapters, the practice of homosexuality is mentioned right alongside other practices that most would deem detestable, such as incest (Lev. 18:6-18; 20:10-12, 14, 17, 19-21), adultery (Lev. 18:20; 20:10), child sacrifice (Lev. 18:21; 20:2-5), bestiality (Lev. 18:23; 20:15-16),

witchcraft (Lev. 20:6, 27), and disrespect for parental authority (Lev. 20:9).

John 3:16- For God so loved the world, that He gave His <sup>[a]</sup>only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

[Second, in both chapters, God clearly states that these detestable practices (including homosexuality) constitute the reason that He is expelling the Canaanite nations from the land (Lev. 18:24-28; 20:22-23). Thus, homosexuality should be considered a transnational sin warranting divine judgment not just for Israel but also for the Gentile-Canaanite peoples.]

Lev. 18:24-28-'Do not defile yourselves by any of these things; for by all these the nations which I am casting out before you have become defiled. <sup>25</sup> For the land has become defiled, therefore I have brought its punishment upon it, so the land has spewed out its inhabitants. <sup>26</sup> But as for you, you are to keep My statutes and My judgments and shall not do any of these abominations, *neither* the native, nor the alien who sojourns among you <sup>27</sup> (for the men of the land who have been before you have done all these abominations, and the land has become defiled); <sup>28</sup> so that the land will not spew you out, should you defile it, as it has spewed out the nation which has been before you.

Lev. 20:22-23- 'You are therefore to keep all My statutes and all My ordinances and do them, so that the land to which I am

bringing you to <sup>[m]</sup>live will not spew you out. <sup>23</sup> Moreover, you shall not <sup>[n]</sup>follow the customs of the nation which I will drive out before you, for they did all these things, and therefore I have abhorred them.

# 4. Jesus Christ

Matthew 19:3-6, Christ was questioned about marriage and divorce. "Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?" And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from 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 they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together let no man separate."

[In verse 4, Jesus quoted Genesis 1:27 and in verse 5 He quoted Genesis 2:24. In so doing, Christ obviously affirmed the heterosexual standard announced by God at the very beginning.]

[The support of Christ for heterosexual monogamous marriage is also evident in how He selected a wedding ceremony at Cana of Galilee to be the venue for His first public miracle of turning water into wine (John 2:1-11).]

John 2:11- This beginning of *His* <sup>[e]</sup> signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

[It is common to hear homosexual apologists claim that Christ nowhere condemned homosexuality. Although this is true, as argued above, He clearly affirmed heterosexuality and never homosexuality. Furthermore, this type of argument represents a logical fallacy known as an "argument from silence." Such fallacious reasoning occurs when it is falsely assumed that Christ's failure to speak against an issue represents His tacit approval of it. By way of analogy, just because Christ did not directly condemn spousal abuse, are we therefore to incorrectly assume that His failure to condemn spousal abuse represents His tacit approval of it? Such argumentation is nonsensical.]

John 16:12-13, "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth..."

1 Cor. 7:12-"But to the rest I say, not the Lord..."

John 5:14-"Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you".

John 8:11-"Go. From now on sin no more."

# 5. Paul

# a. Pro-Heterosexual

1 Cor. 7:2-5- But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband. The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband *does*; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife *does*. Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Eph 5:22-33- Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. <sup>24</sup>But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought* to be to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> that He might present to Himself the church [q]in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. <sup>28</sup> So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; <sup>29</sup> for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also *does* the church, <sup>30</sup> because we are members of His body. <sup>31</sup> FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. <sup>32</sup> This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

<sup>33</sup> Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his

own wife even as himself, and the wife must *see to it* that she <sup>[t]</sup>respects her husband.

- 1 Tim. 3:2- An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach
- 1 Tim. 3:12-Deacons must be husbands of *only* one wife, *and* [i] good managers of *their* children and their own households

# b. Anti-Homosexual

1 Corinthians 6:9-11-Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? 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, will inherit the kingdom of God. 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.

[*Two* points are worth noting here. *First*, notice how Paul equates homosexuality with the sins of fornication, idolatry, adultery, theft, covetousness, and drunkenness. In other words, just as all of these sins epitomize unbelievers, homosexuality is equally a sinful lifestyle that characterizes unbelievers rather than believers.]

In <u>evangelical gay Christian</u> Matthew Vines' new book, <u>God and</u> the <u>Gay Christian</u>, he examines the six passages on same-sex

behavior and argues that they do not address today's long-term gay relationships. New Testament scholar James Brownson, who wrote the 2013 book <u>Bible</u>, <u>Gender</u>, <u>Sexuality</u>, concurs. He told me, "Male-male sex in the ancient world was episodic. It was mainly young boys with older men or male slaves and masters. It was not mutual. These were not relationships, they were not marriage and they were not meant to turn into marriage." Brownson said to compare what ancient writers viewed as heterosexual "sexual excess" — akin to gluttony — with the modern concept of sexual orientation is misguided.<sup>1</sup>

BDAG- 'one who has intercourse w. a man as w. a woman'...a male who engages in sexual activity w. a pers. of his own sex...1 Cor 6:9...rendering of...w. the single term 'sexual pervert' is lexically unacceptable...Paul's strictures against same-sex activity cannot be satisfactorily explained on the basis of alleged temple prostitution...or limited to contract w. boys for homoerotic service...<sup>2</sup>

[Thus, far from condemning only homosexual behavior outside of a lifelong, monogamous relationship, Paul was condemning all homosexuality, which also includes homosexual behavior taking place within a marital commitment.]

According to "Dr. Robert L. Spitzer—the renowned gay activist psychiatrist who in 1973 successfully managed to have homosexuality removed from the American Psychiatric

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Kirsten Powers, "Christianity's New Look on Gays," 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Walter Bauer, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, ed. Frederick William Danker, 3rd ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 135.

Association's list of mental disorders—has published results of his new study which shows homosexual orientation can be changed to heterosexual." According to Dr. Spitzer's findings, which were eventually published in the Archives of Sexual Behavior, 200 homosexuals changed their lifestyle as a response to therapy during the five year duration of the study.

Romans 1:18-19, 26-27: For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them...For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

Rom. 1:30- slanderers, [a] haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents.

Deut 6:24-So the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God for our good always and for our survival, as *it is* today.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Gregg Jackson, Conservative Comebacks to Liberal Lies: Issue by Issue Responses to the Most Common Claims of the Left from a to Z (Bridgeport, PA: JAJ, 2006), 257.

According to one study: ...up to 55 percent of homosexual men with anorectal complaints have gonorrhea; 80 percent of the patients with syphilis are homosexuals. Chlamydia is found in 15 percent of asymptomatic homosexual men, and up to one third of homosexuals have active anorectal herpes simplex virus. In addition, a host of parasites, bacterial, viral, and protozoan are all rampant in the homosexual population.<sup>4</sup>

1 Timothy 1:9-10, he writes:...realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, 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.

# **Conclusion**

Rom 3:23- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Heb. 13:20-21- Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep <sup>[a]</sup>through the blood of the eternal covenant, *even* Jesus our Lord, <sup>21</sup> equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* the glory forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Steven D. Wexner, "Sexually Transmitted Diseases of the Colon, Rectum, and Anus: The Challenge of the Nineties," *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum* 33, no. 12 (December 1990): 1048-62.