

A BIBLICAL RESPONSE TO THE GAY AGENDA IN AMERICA 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11

What does the Bible really say about homosexuality? Are people born gay or is homosexuality a learned behavior? Can a gay person become straight or is that simply how he or she was born and is destined to live? How should Christians respond to this cultural issue? These are important questions that were asked about this important issue in our modern culture that is more and more open to embracing homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle.

I. THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY.

A. Old Testament teachings.

1. Homosexuality is first seen in the city of Sodom. Gen. 19.
2. Homosexuality was condemned in the civil law of Israel. Lev. 18:22; 20:13.
 - a. The civil law of Israel is not binding today, but does show God's attitude toward certain actions.
 - b. The statement of Leviticus 20:13 does not give license to abuse gays. A number of practices were punishable by death under the civil law of Israel. See Lev. 20. Note 20:9,10.
3. Homosexuality is associated with periods of spiritual decline in Israel. 1 Kings 14:24.

B. New Testament information.

1. Romans 1 traces the descent of man into idolatry and immorality. Rom. 1:18-32.
* Words used to describe homosexuality in this passage include "vile affections" (26), "against nature" (26), and "unseemly" (27). *
2. 1 Corinthians 1:9-11 shows God's disapproval of the gay lifestyle, but offers proof that the gospel can transform the homosexual.

II. FACTORS LEADING TO HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR.

* The question, "Why do people become gay?" is like asking, "Why do people have affairs, start drinking, or begin to use drugs?" There is no one answer that identifies the cause in every situation. It is a behavior that develops in life with a number of factors contributing to its development. The gay person felt inadequate in his or her gender appropriate role at some point in life and turned to a gay lifestyle to find love and acceptance. *

A. Biological factors.

* A slender, effeminate boy or a strong, stocky girl may learn to feel more comfortable in the gender role of the opposite sex. Teasing and ridicule from other children can reinforce feelings of inadequacy. *

B. Environmental factors.

1. Family.

- a. Positive, healthy relationships with parents of both genders are extremely important in the development of a child.
- b. Some feel that the absent or detached father is a major contribution to the rise of male homosexuality in our culture.
- c. Overprotective parents, especially mothers, can contribute to male homosexuality.

2. Social issues.

- a. Failure to relate comfortably with people of both sexes.

- b. Sexual abuse

3. Cultural factors.

- a. The sexual revolution in America.

* Each generation tends to become more promiscuous than the previous one. *

- b. The aggressive publicity of the militant gay groups.

* The gay community aggressively teaches that some people are simply born gay. Young people are told that if you have homosexual urges, then you are gay and should simply accept yourself for who you are. This is false for the teen years are often times of uncertainty about every aspect of one's identity. *

- c. The modern media.

* Gay relationships are frequently presented in movies and TV as an acceptable lifestyle with the major problem being those who do not accept this view. *

III. CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO HOMOSEXUALITY.

A. Understanding homosexuality in the context of sin.

1. The Bible clearly teaches that homosexuality is sin.
2. Homosexuality is not the only sin listed in the Bible. 1 Cor. 6:9.
3. Homosexuals should be treated as all other sinners. i.e. – respect, compassion, etc.
* Jesus died for the gays just as much as he died for the straights. *

B. Sharing the message of deliverance and hope.

1. In Jesus Christ there is a new beginning in life. 1 Cor. 6:9-11.
2. In Jesus Christ there is the love and acceptance that all humans cry out for. Eph. 1:6.

My friend, the gay person has the same problem that the straight person has. He is a sinner in need of the love and grace of God. That is every man's condition apart from Christ. Christ is the only one who can fill that deepest need that exists in everyone's life.