

A Nation In Crises Facing Off With Homosexuality

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Introduction: (Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 6:9-11)

HOMOSEXUALITY, GOD'S WORD, AND OUR FAITH:

A. The Problem Of Homosexuality:

1. The presence & prominence of the homosexual movement needs to be recognized (Isaiah 3:9; 5:20-21)
 - a. Since 2004, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa, Vermont, New Hampshire, Washington D.C., New York, Maryland, Maine, Washington, Delaware, and California have all passed laws recognizing homosexual marriages. Rhode Island & Minnesota's laws go into effect Aug. 1st
 - b. The "Gay, Lesbian, And Straight Education Network" is a well funded machine that pushes the homosexual agenda, especially in schools. Here is a report summarizing their activity (7)
 - 1) Believe early sexualization of children is beneficial. Sexual activity and exposure to graphic images and material helps kids in discovering their own sexuality.
 - 2) Coming out and even beginning to practice homosexuality at a young is a normal and positive experience for youth. It should be encouraged by teachers & parents
 - 3) Bisexuality and fluid sexual experimentation is encouraged by GLSEN for all students.
 - 4) Meeting up with young people questioning their sexuality without parental consent is common. Often college age and adult homosexuals will talk to such students.
 - 5) In their material the "cool" people are those who encourage students to embrace homosexual practices and cross dressing. They are exposed to questionable people
 - 6) Their resources are openly hostile to Christianity. Christian beliefs are ridiculed. False information about Christianity is spread. Turns students against Biblical morality
 - 7) The spirituality they present is heavily laced with occult themes and nightmarish images
 - c. In June of this year, a kindergarten class in a school in Los Angeles ended their end of the school year program with a clear message of support for the LGBT movement performing Cyndi Lauper's "True Colors." They decorated with the "rainbow" colors and held up signs and performed sign language pushing love and acceptance regardless of sexual orientation (6)
 - d. There are major companies that actively and openly support homosexual agenda. My point here is not to move you to boycott these companies. That's a personal decision and many companies support things we wouldn't agree with. But this list shows the strong presence of this movement: Target, J.C. Penneys, Kenneth Cole, Amazon, Levis (8), Abercrombie & Fitch, Home Depot, Walt Disney, Ebay, Facebook, Olive Garden, Apple Bees, Best Buy, the NEA (9)
 - e. The current administration (Obama) has done more to support LGBT agenda than any other (10)
 - 1) From open support, to the repeal of don't ask don't tell, overturning of the defense of marriage act, and more... They are openly supportive of the homosexual movement
 - 2) the State Department made it easier to change your gender on your passport
 - 3) A \$13.3 million dollar grant was given to the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center to create a model program supporting LGBT and questioning youth in the foster care system
 - 4) June 2011, the Department of Education held a LGBT Youth Rally. Secretary Duncan gave guidance for in the creation of Gay-Straight Alliances to form and meet at schools

- 5) Obama signed Matthew Shephard & James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act into law
- 6) Obama issued LGBT Pride Month declarations in 2009 & 2010. He also held gay pride events at the White House
- 7) In 2011 the White House added a special page to its website dedicated to LGBT Americans
- f. Recently, the Supreme Court struck down a key part of the Defense of Marriage Act, declaring it unconstitutional. This has opened a flood gate for homosexual marriages to be declared legal in states. Crowds of LGBT supporters gathered for the ruling and when it was announced they began singing, "God Bless America" (11)
- g. There are actually scholarships being given out to high school students by organizations because they are homosexual. Several years ago Alyn Libman was shocked to receive a \$15,000 a year scholarship to attend Cal Berkley... why was she chosen? She was gay. In 2004, a group called Zami in Atlanta gave out 21 scholarships to African American gays in Atlanta. The United Church of Christ gives out \$2,000 awards to homosexual seminarians each year. George Washington University gives out \$3,000 fellowships for homosexuals to study politics for a semester in Washington D.C. – Much like the women's lib movement, this shows the ultimate goal isn't equality but superiority. They are waging a war (13)
- h. For a good article outlining the presence of the homosexual agenda in the public school system, see "Homosexuality And Public Education" by Eric Lyons. See footnote (12)
2. Consider for a moment the untold story of homosexuality. These stories are hidden by those leading the charge in the movement and these stories are never covered by major news networks:
 - a. Homosexual men have an average of 8 different sexual partners per year. Over 40% of white homosexual men have had sex with over 500 partners. Almost 1/3 have had sex with over 1000 partners. 70% live an enormously promiscuous lifestyle (1)
 - b. One study showed that 66% of gay couples reported having sexual relationships outside of their union within the first year. 90% admitted to such infidelity within the first five years (3)
 - c. STD's such as syphilis are on the rise among homosexuals, especially men. It is common to engage in unprotected sex with partners just met at anonymous places such as coffee houses, adult bookstores, sex clubs, internet, and more. Homosexual men are 46 times more likely to contract such an STD than other men. Promiscuity among lesbians is less common than that among gay men, but it is still much more prominent than among heterosexual women (4)
 - d. A British journalist and practicing homosexual described the lifestyle as a sewer. In a report he described what took place at "bath houses." He commented: "Are we just swimming around in a sewer which we are sort of saying is normal? ...the gay lifestyle is incompatible with happiness and fidelity in human relations." He states that promiscuity has become the norm. It's good to question why the homosexual movement portrays themselves as being in committed relationships when it's not common among them! One problem is that the word "committed" is not used the same among them... It's rarely truly monogamous (5)
 - e. The homosexual movement portrays the concept that it is most often heterosexuals that molest children; however, the homosexual movement actively endorses pedophilia:
 - The Journal of Homosexuality published a special double-issue not long ago, entitled, "Male Intergenerational Intimacy," containing many articles portraying sex between men and minor boys as loving relationships. **One article said parents should look upon the pedophile who loves their son "not as a rival or competitor, not as a theft of their property, but as a partner in the boy's upbringing, someone to be welcomed into their home."**
 - In 1995 the homosexual magazine "Guide" said, "We can be proud that the gay movement has been home to the few voices who have had the courage to say out loud that children are naturally sexual" and "deserve the right to sexual expression with whoever they choose. ..." The article went on to say:

"Instead of fearing being labeled pedophiles, we must proudly proclaim that sex is good, including children's sexuality ... we must do it for the children's sake."

3. Although some have tried to defend homosexuality, even using the Bible in their attempts, the practice of homosexuality is clearly condemned from the Bible's beginning through to its end...
 - a. In the beginning God made man. When it wasn't good that man was alone, God created a woman specifically designed to be his "helpmeet." The marriage relationship was then instituted. It was a woman that was designed for a man and not a man. Marriage was created for a man and a woman. The marriage law given by God is specific to a man & a woman (**Gen 2:23-25**). Throughout the scriptures marriage is specific to a man and a woman (**1 Cor. 7:2**). No where does the Bible speak of a homosexual relationship in positive or even permissive terms.
 - b. Sodom and Gomorrah – Some contend that their sin wasn't homosexuality but God judged them for their desire to pursue "gang rape" of the angels. However Jude makes it clear that they were judged for unnatural affections (**Genesis 19:4-5; Jude 7**)
 - c. The Law of Moses made very clear God's view of homosexuality. It was condemned clearly. It was also listed as wrong in the same way as bestiality (**Leviticus 18:22-23; 20:13, 15-16**). It was condemned for the same reason. It wasn't just wrong because it was in the Law of Moses!
 - d. While Jesus never specifically addressed homosexuality, He condemned it by implication. When Jesus spoke of the sin of lust, he described as a man lusting after a woman. When Jesus spoke on marriage, He spoke about a man & woman exclusively (**Matt 5:28, 31-32; 19:1-10**)
 - e. Paul addressed homosexuality as being unnatural. And as an activity that arose when men quit recognizing God. It is said to be something that should not be done. Paul said those who practice suffer a penalty which seems to be some kind of present problem. It's shameless. These words come in the middle of a strong condemnation of sinful living (**Rom 1:26-27**)
 - f. There were some in Corinth who had been practicing homosexuality. However, this was something in their past. When they came to Christ, they gave this up. Notice that it is listed in a group of sins that cause people to be unable to inherit the kingdom. (**I Corinthians 6:9-11**)
 - g. Homosexuality is clearly a form of sexual immorality. It is not the only form, but it is a form. The sexually immoral are pictured as spending eternity in the lake of fire... aka, Hell! (**Rev. 21:8**)
4. Homosexuality is a sin. It is a practice that a person must repent and turn away from (**1 Cor. 6:9**)
 - a. You cannot practice homosexuality and please God. You cannot live a homosexual lifestyle and be part of the kingdom of God. You cannot continue in this sin and inherit eternal life. If a person won't turn away from it, there's no hope of Heaven... only the expectation of Hell.
 - b. It is true that the practice of homosexuality is no worse than other sinful activities and heart issues that God condemns in His word. A person will no sooner go to Hell for not repenting of homosexuality than one will for not repenting of adultery, fornication, lust, anger, injustice, lying, etc. Sin is sin. We must be careful about choosing sins to condemn & sins to overlook
 - c. Homosexuality is a sin, but what this shows is that there is hope for those caught up in it. If what we have become contradicts God's word, it is possible to change who are! It may be a life long battle, but by the grace of God and through Jesus a person can repent of this sin.

B. Help For Those Caught Up In Homosexuality:

1. It is absolutely essential for Christians to stand up and speak out about homosexuality and the homosexual agenda. The truth needs to be spoken in homes, churches, & in public (**Eph 6:4; Jude 1:3**)
 - a. It appears that speaking out against homosexuality is growing more and more unpopular and one day it may actually become illegal. We cannot stop teaching the gospel. We must preach in season and out of season. We must contend earnestly for the faith. Don't give up!

- b. Parents, it may be uncomfortable, but you need to educate your children about this. They will be taught about homosexuality from somewhere. Don't let it be from the school, a LGBT promotion group, or their friends. Arm them with the truth from God's word.
 - c. We need to speak in public. Sometimes the wrong things get promoted and accepted because people who understand better are silent. There is much money, power, & prestige pushing the homosexual agenda. Their message will get out. Will we get God's message out?
 - d. But speak the truth in love! We need to be careful we don't come across as self righteousness, hateful, unmerciful, or hypocritical. Remember, homosexuality is a sin and so are the sins you and I struggle with. Make sure God's grace & redemption in Christ are shown.
 - e. We are told that we should be more loving... to stop judging people. Certainly hypocritical and unrighteous judgments must cease, but Christians are called to speak up and reach the lost! Remember, silence is the greatest form of hate speech!
2. Whether you are struggling with homosexuality or you are trying to help someone out of it, it is important to identify the background of the decision when doing so is possible **(Passage)**
- a. Some want to contend that homosexuals are born that way. That some are born straight and some are born gay. This argument has been put out there by the homosexual movement and yet there is no real scientific evidence to back it up, but it's been repeated enough that it has just been accepted as truth. People believe that if true, this means that it cannot be a wrong lifestyle and it's not something you can just change. There have been studies that have shown no correlation between homosexuality and genetics (14)
 - b. Others have suggested there is a personality type that is particularly vulnerable to homosexuality... such as a melancholy disposition. This is hard because not all share the same attribute.
 - c. There are some common factors: Battles with depression, a distant or absent father, sexual abuse when younger, a lack of social abilities, rejection from the opposite sex
 - d. Certainly you cannot ignore the impact of influence. If a person is around people who are homosexual or have been inundated with the homosexual agenda, one starts wondering about it, thinking about experimenting, experimenting, and then choosing it **(1 Cor 15:33)**
 - e. *For a detailed breakdown of eight common traits found in those turning to homosexuality see "What Causes Male Homosexuality" by CGW. NOTE: This site is apparently sponsored by the Mormon Church; however, the information in it is consistent with other research I have found and does not seem to reflect the false doctrines this religious group teaches (15)*
 - f. So if we are going to help people out of homosexuality, you have to face the source whatever it may be. A person may need help fighting depression, they may need to overcome social issues, they may need to face a difficult past, they may need a father figure.
3. When dealing with homosexuality, we need to remember that a person is likely in for a very long battle. In fact for some, homosexuality is a life long struggle they have to fight **(Luke 9:23-25)**
- a. In most cases, there are tendencies, thoughts, and a whole lifestyle pattern involved. These things do not die quickly. There are habits that must change. Changing who you are takes time.
 - b. It may be that a person deals with homosexual desires for the rest of their life. In this situation a person may have to make a great sacrifice and live a celibate life.
 - 1) Some have given it up and moved on to get married and have children; however, others find themselves in a position to be celibate for the rest of their life.
 - 2) Often the initial reaction to this is that it's not fair. People don't think you should deny a person the happiness and fulfillment of a loving relationship.

- 3) First of all homosexuality is sinful. It's a form of "pleasure" that we have no right to pursue. It's pleasure is passing. It's ultimate end is destruction and death.
- 4) Consider a person in an adulterous marriage. If they don't have the right to remarry and want to be saved, they have to live a life of celibacy... It's the same kind of situation
 - c. As a person deals with coming out of homosexuality, there may be "tendencies" that don't immediately go away. A gay man who repents may not immediately become a "man's man" or a lesbian who repents may not immediately become extremely feminine. Is this wrong? There are guys who are a little girly and girls who are a little manly and many of the ways this is manifest are not wrong (i.e. – guy being into fashion, girl being into dirt and hunting)
 - d. If you are struggling with this issue, you cannot allow yourself to get discouraged and give up because you don't immediately move past the desires, feelings, and tendencies. Remember, desire when it has CONCEIVED brings forth sin... being drawn to the same sex is not necessarily a sin in and of itself. This may be your daily cross you bear! **(James 1:13-15)**
4. We need to make sure we are truly a spiritual family. We need to be there to help bear the burdens of those who are struggling with homosexuality or seeking to leave it behind **(Galatians 6:1-2)**
 - a. Possess a spirit of grace, mercy, forgiveness, and patience. We must make sure we are not adding grief to their pain. Be a source of support, encouragement, and strength. Don't hold their past against them or keep bringing it up. Reaffirm our love for them! **(2 Cor. 2:6-8)**
 - b. Bearing burdens may mean that you are there to listen. Homosexuality makes many of us very uncomfortable. Listen anyway. Pray together. Navigate the battle with them **(1 Pet. 4:8)**
 - c. Another way you can bear the burden is providing a relationship – Some have had unhealthy relationships and that is what they are needing and seeking. Be that brother, father, mother, or sister. Help them by giving them a healthy relationship rooted in God **(Matt. 19:27-29)**
 - d. You can also fill the void in their life created by leaving homosexuality – Part of that is new relationships, but a person may also need activities and events to take the place left by activities and events that were tied to homosexuality. Spend time with them! **(Rom 6:12-13)**
5. Those struggling or involved with homosexuality need Jesus. They need to come to know Jesus and the change Jesus can make in their lives **(Romans 7:22-8:1; 1 Peter 1:3-7)**
 - a. The homosexual movement preaches the message that you can't change who you are. If you are gay, you're gay. If you're lesbian, you're lesbian. There's no hope for a way out according to them. This message of "unchangeability" is discouraging and holds people captive!
 - b. The message of the gospel of Jesus Christ is a message of hope! It's a message of peace, light, and salvation in a world that is anything but that. This is a message we need to be preaching!
 - c. Acceptance is something that some people find in the homosexual movement which draws them in and holds them there. In Jesus Christ there is real acceptance. There is real family.
 - d. When trying to help homosexuals, we need to show them what Jesus has done for us. We need to show them what Jesus has done for others. Be open, honest, and passionate. They need to see that with Jesus, change is possible. And that in Jesus their problems can find answers.

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