

Salvation & Sexuality Reconciled

NOTE: The following information is taken from my personal profile at:
<http://gaybrotha.tripod.com>

RELIGION: Pentecostal/Apostolic

Description: 5' 7 1/2", 220 lbs (solid), carmel complexioned w/ shaven head, beard, mustache, and goatee. Intelligent, attractive (so I've been told), communicative, and definitely Saved. Open to meeting those of like faith and affectional orientation, or anyone who simply wants good enlightening communication.

Note to Bible Thumpers and Homophobes: I have already reconciled my sexuality with the Scriptures and become quite comfortable with who I am. There is therefore no need for your derisive statements and comments. However, before you judge and condemn me, I implore you to consider the following:

INTRODUCTION: None of the scriptures commonly used to condemn same-gender-loving individuals have anything to do with two men (or women) who enter into a monogamous, committed, relationship based on love, devotion, or commitment (or a covenant relationship similar to that of David and Johnathan. Read about their relationship throughout I Samuel. Note in II Samuel 1:26 that as David was lamenting over the slain body of Johnathan, David declared that Johnathan's love to him was "sweet, PASSING the love of women". In other words, Johnathan's love for David was all he could have had with a woman plus so much more.)

Those scriptures commonly used to condemn same-gender-loving individuals are related to an acronym I refer to as SIR FLIPPP. They are:

SEXUAL SLAVERY - which was commonly practiced among the Romans and other idolatrous societies. Human beings were kidnapped, bought, and sold for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Incidentally, this is how S&M (Sado-Masochism or Slave/Master) originated, which is addressed in I Corinthians 6:9. "ABUSERS of THEMSELVES with mankind" were those who derived sexual pleasure through pain (masochist), usually through some sort of sexual abuse from the sadist (those who received sexual pleasure from administering pain). S&M was clearly a part of idolatry indicated in Judges 19:22-30. Sons (or worshipers) of belial (an idol god) tortured and raped a young woman (note that the rape and torture was heterosexual) all night until she died. Today S&M is engaged in by both men and women, heterosexual and homosexual, and has nothing to do with a monogamous commitment based on love.

IDOLATRY - in which homosexual and heterosexual ritual orgies were common. Before planting crops, fertility rituals would be held on the fields in which the men would engage in intercourse with women and other men. As the men would approach orgasm, they would withdraw and release their sperm on the ground as a metaphysical way of fertilizing the earth. In some of these rituals children (primarily boys) were often molested then sacrificed to these gods. Interestingly, this is where we get the term "molest" from the god "molech" they were

sacrificed to (Leviticus 18:21, 20:2-3). This is one reason Leviticus 18:22 which prohibits "lying with mankind as with womankind" appears right after Leviticus 18:21 which prohibits child sacrifice. If you consult a Hebrew lexicon (such as Strong's or <http://bible.crosswalk.com>), you will find that the word rendered as "mankind" could also have been rendered as "man-child" as it is in 4 other verses of the Authorized (King James) Version.

Idolatry is also the key to understanding Romans 1:18-32 out of which verses 26-27 are usually distorted and used to condemn gays and lesbians. Notice first that the men left the "natural" use of the woman. The original Greek word was 'Phusikos' which means "produced by nature, inborn, instinctive". In other words these were men who were INSTINCTIVELY sexually attracted to women (heterosexual) unlike homosexual males, who in most cases, have never experienced or felt a sexual attraction for females. Following, it says these men "burned in their LUST" and became promiscuous with other men. In summary, these were heterosexual men who because of their rejection of the One True God began to perform promiscuous sexual acts with other men out of LUST. Once again, this has nothing to do with love, devotion, monogamy, and commitment. Also, contrary to popular teaching, the 26th verse does not condemn females who love other females (lesbians). The "natural use" (same word meaning inborn and instinctive) which is against nature" which the women changed, was the use of the anus by heterosexual women to engage in sexual intercourse. Rather, than engage in vaginal intercourse during the ritual orgies, they engaged in anal intercourse. This was most likely to avoid pregnancy (since birth control was non-existent) and to resist having to give up their babies which were conceived in the orgies to be sacrificed. This is why the 27th verse begins "And LIKEWISE (in the same manner) the men" As the men observed the women engaging in anal sex, they began to do the same with other men. The recompense they received in their bodies was the host of sexually transmitted diseases which plagued Roman society. Note that all of this was not only a result of oppressing the Gospel, but also of having knowledge of the One True God of the Gospel (Jesus) and rejecting that knowledge in preference to idols (Romans 1:18-25). Remember, Rome is where Paul spent the last of his days ministering the Gospel which was rejected (Acts 28:16-31). Romans 1:28-32 continues with the downward spiral that whole society took as a result. This is usually never emphasized beyond the 27th verse.

RAPE - as in the case of Sodom & Gomorrah (Genesis 18:16-19:25). God did not destroy S&G because of homosexuality. If you read in Genesis 18:23-32 where Abraham attempted to intercede, God was going to destroy the cities because He could not find ten righteous people. Back in Genesis 13:13 we are made aware of just how wicked the city was. However, in Ezekiel 16:44-50 God compares the sin of Israel as worse because they had experienced the One True God and yet turned to idolatry. In Ezekiel 16:49-50, God lists the sins of Sodom and homosexuality is NOT listed. However, the word "abomination" is used in which the original Hebrew ('towebah') usually relates to idolatry and everything that accompanies it (reference Strong's Concordance). Beyond that, the men who came to Lot's house wanted to RAPE those angels they perceived as men. (This is the "strange flesh" referred to in Jude 1:7 -- the sexual intermingling of angels with man. See the preceding verse in Jude 1:7 which refers back to Genesis 6:1-4.) Rape has nothing to do with sexual intimacy between two people of the same gender -- that proceeds from a monogamous, committed, devoted relationship based on love. Furthermore, had those men actually been homosexual, Lot would not have offered them his daughters. Ironically, in Judges 19:22-30, a parallel incident occurs. Men who are referred to as "sons (or worshipers) of belial" -- belial being the name of an idol god also denotes excessive wickedness and corruption as a result of worshiping that god. These men

were given a young woman who they raped all night although they originally wanted her husband. As a result, she died from the excessive abuse. (Ironic, when most refer to Sodom and Gomorrah to condemn same-gender-loving individuals, *they never condemn the fact that Lot offered his daughters to these men to be raped.*)

FORNICATION - which is basically whoredom, in which you have multiple partners for the purpose of sex -- without any love, commitment, or devotion. Its roots are both prostitution and idolatry. There are many who practice this today. However, they don't get paid or worship a false god outright. The god that is now worshipped is sex itself. Fornication/Whoredom was characteristic of idolatrous societies. It is different than the polygamy of the Old Testament or polyandry of some poverty stricken societies, which are patriarchal. (India for example, where a family of brothers will commit to one wife for the purpose of each fathering a child by her and jointly supporting her and the children financially). In both polygamy and polyandry, there is still a commitment of some sort -- either financial, romantic, or both.

LUST - in which you look upon an individual created in God's image as a mere object to be used for the gratification of your sexual urge ONLY -- as was also the case in Romans 1:27. Note that the passage says the men burned in their "lust" for one another. This has nothing to do with love, devotion, monogamy or commitment. Lust is the opposite of Love in that it is selfish and focuses on gratification of self only. Whereas love is unselfish and gives based on the need and for the benefit of the receiver.

INCEST - which was also a part of idolatrous worship. Members within families would also engage in sex with one another as a part of idolatrous sexual rituals. This explains the surrounding verses (context) of Leviticus 18:22 and Leviticus 20:13 -- key scriptures primarily used to condemn same-gender-loving individuals.

PROSTITUTION - In idolatry, temple prostitutes were a common practice since sex was a part of its worship (see Deuteronomy 23:18). Also, the term "effeminate" and "abusers of themselves with mankind" (I Corinthians 6:9) refer to the men who disguised themselves and prostituted themselves as women (since both men and women can provide oral and anal sex). It also refers to catamites which were younger male prostitutes. These men would rather be taken care of by an older man in exchange for sex rather than work. Today, we would look upon them as those who are in search of a "Sugar Daddy". Here, we have a hint of why God prohibited cross-dressing in Deuteronomy 22:5 and why Paul gave certain restrictions concerning hair in 1 Corinthians 11:13-16. In Deuteronomy, God prohibited the Hebrews from associating with anything that reflected or was related to the practices of the nations around them, which could open the door to idolatry. Cross-dressing for the purpose of temple prostitution was one of these practices. In I Corinthians, Corinthian society was EXTREMELY idolatrous. A woman with a shaved head was a sign of a female prostitute and transvestite prostitutes (men) often grew their hair long to disguise themselves as women. Prostitution was so pervasive, that it took this distinction (hair) for female prostitutes to distinguish themselves from transvestite prostitutes which were men disguised as women.

PEDERASTY - the kidnapping, seduction, and trafficking of young boys for sexual purposes. These were mainly older men who would prey on adolescent boys because of their innocence, physical weakness, vulnerability, and naivete'. Today, we refer to these as pedophiles. Interestingly, this may be a key as to why in the King James (Authorized) Version, the Hebrew word "Zakar" was translated as "mankind" ONLY in Leviticus 18:22 and Leviticus 20:13 of the

WHOLE LAW (first five books of the Bible). However, throughout numerous other verses of the law -- "Zakar" was translated as "man child" or "children". First, we must understand that King James DID NOT have anything to do with the literal translation of the Bible. As a political move (which God ordained), he authorized and commissioned the translation by 54 of the best Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic scholars in his kingdom. This was to wrestle religious control of the people from the catholic church -- who kept the Word of God from the common man. Therefore, the Bible was dedicated to him as the King James Version. However, it is documented by numerous resources that King James was a lover of what we would consider under-age (teenage) boys. (Go to <http://yahoo.com> and do a search under "King James preferred young boys" without the quotes.) When the translators came to Leviticus 18:22 and Leviticus 20:13, they rendered the Hebrew word "Zakar" as "mankind" (an adult man) rather than "man child" or "child" so as not to affront the king and lose their lives. King James was an avid believer in the "Divine Right of Kings" and therefore believed that he could do whatever he pleased with the lives of his subjects.

SUMMARY: Since God is no respecter of persons, these are the very same contexts in which heterosexual sex is condemned. Once again, these have nothing to do with a monogamous, committed, loving, devoted, mutually supportive relationship of which heterosexuals have the legal sanction called marriage. Furthermore, in Galatians 3:28, we find that in Christ "there is neither male nor female"; in Galatians 5:23 as it pertains to love, "against such there is no law"; and in 2 Corinthians 5:16, "know we no man after the flesh". So two Believers (Christians) who love one another and wish to commit to one another based on that love, cannot be denied that honor simply because they have the same genitalia. Out of all which I have written, the context of idolatry cannot be overstated enough, which brings me to my final point:

PROCREATION: Had the Hebrews out of which the Messiah, the Savior of the world would come -- ever abandoned themselves to idolatry, two things would have happened: (1) They would have begun to sacrifice their children on a massive scale and (2) they would have incurred the wrath of God in which He would have completely destroyed them as He did other nations. (As a matter of fact, this almost happened in Exodus 32:7-14 but Moses interceded for them.) Both of these results would have cut off the lineage (40 generations, Matthew 1:1-17) from which Christ would come, and TERMINATED GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION FOR ALL HUMANITY.

This subject of procreation brings us to three powerful issues. The first is God's creation of the woman (Eve) for Adam (or "Not Adam and Steve" as we all have heard). Please understand the following concerning God's omniscience (all-knowing) and infinite foreknowledge (knowing all things beforehand):

Jesus Christ is the lamb that is without sin and was slain "before the foundation of the world" (1 Peter 1:19-20; Revelation 13:8). Therefore, before God even spoke the first words which brought all of creation into existence, Christ already existed in the Mind of God as the supreme sacrifice for the sins of all mankind (John 1:1-5,14-15,29). God knew long before He created man that Adam would sin and bring dire consequences upon humanity. So in His Mind, God had already prepared a sinless body which would be born into humanity to be offered up as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world (Hebrews 9:14, 10:5). However, there was a problem -- Adam would be the original seed of humanity and all living things in creation could only produce "after their own kind" (Genesis 1:21-28). So once Adam became corrupt with sin,

everyone of his decedents would be corrupt (Romans 5:12). Therefore, God needed a medium or vessel which would enable the Savior to be born into the world as a descendent of Adam without receiving the corruption of sin which Adam would pass down. GOD ACCOMPLISHED THIS BY CREATING THE WOMAN and this is the reason why: The sin nature of Adam is passed on to each following generation by the man, NOT THE WOMAN (although like men, women RECEIVE their sin nature from their father). The fact that the sin nature is passed down by the man, and not the woman is established by four proofs. The **first proof** is the fact that the rite of circumcision was only required of the males (Genesis 17:10-14). The foreskin which had to be cut away was a type or symbol of the sin nature which is passed down from generation to generation through the genitals of the man. Its cutting away was a type and foreshadow of New Testament baptism which cuts and casts away "the body of the sins of the flesh" (our inclination to sin) when we believe on Christ (Colossians 2:11-12). The **second proof** that the woman does not pass the sin nature on to her offspring is the fact that when Eve sinned first by eating the fruit which was prohibited, nothing happened. However, when the man sinned by eating the fruit, both their eyes became open. They became aware of their nakedness, experienced guilt and shame, and attempted to hide from God. Both experienced this AFTER Adam sinned because Adam was the original seed from which Eve had been created (Genesis 3:1-7; 2:18-23). Therefore, when he became corrupt with sin, its effect spread to Eve because she had been taken out of him, and was in a sense, his offspring. The **third proof** that the woman does not pass the sin nature onto her offspring is the fact that in the curse of the serpent where God promised the Savior, He said that enmity would be between his (the serpent's) seed and HER (the woman's) SEED (Genesis 3:15). NOTICE HE DID NOT MENTION THAT SEED AS BEING OF THE MAN. In creating the woman, who's egg or ovum does not contain the sin nature (unlike the sperm of the man), God was able to cause His Word which is referred to as "incorruptible seed" (1 Peter 1:23) to act as sperm, combine with the egg of the woman (the Virgin Mary), and produce the sinless body of Jesus Christ, which was offered up as the perfect sacrifice for our sins (Heb. 10:10-12, 7:26-27). The **fourth proof** that the woman does not pass her sin nature to her offspring is the fact that females are BORN with all the eggs (seed) they will ever produce. (It is more difficult for an older woman to conceive because they have fewer eggs than a younger woman. Fertility clinics have proven this fact.) The formation of eggs in the female occurs while they are in a sinless state, as a fetus in the womb. However, the male does not produce seed (sperm) until the onset of puberty -- long after the sin nature has become active, and continues to produce sperm daily into old age. There are numerous cases of elderly men who have fathered children.

The woman therefore, was not created as the "help meet" (Gen. 2:18-20, fit or suited) for Adam because she was to serve him (as believed by those who promote the subjugation of women) -- she was the help suitable and fit for Adam because IN GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION, SHE WOULD BE THE INSTRUMENT OF GOD TO CONCEIVE AND GIVE BIRTH TO THE SAVIOR WHO WOULD REDEEM THE MAN (Isaiah 7:14, 9:6; 1 Peter 2:13-15). Notice also in Genesis 3:16 that in God's "judgement" upon the woman, her longing and desire for her husband was connected to conception and bearing children. (Note that this was judgement and not a "curse". Only the ground and serpent were cursed.) And the power or rule the man would have over the woman would be sexual. This too, was a protection to ensure procreation would take place and establish the lineage (40 generations) out of which Christ would come. Homosexuality or heterosexuality was not the issue at all. Therefore, it is not about "Adam and Steve" but about Jesus Christ.

WHO WERE THE EUNUCHS?

The second issue concerning procreation is God's creation of the eunuch. Contrary to popular belief, eunuchs were NOT men (originally) who had been castrated to prohibit them from having sex, or who men had no desire for sexual intimacy. Eunuchs were simply men who did not procreate or produce offspring because of different reasons, as we shall see later. The Hebrew words for eunuch are (to be finished at a later date).

The third and last issue concerning procreation is the fact that Christ was a eunuch. (To be finished at a later date.)

APPEAL: If you are gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgendered, or inter-sexual -- and struggling to come to terms with who you really are -- when church, society, community, and family have told you who you should be -- feel free to email me. I will send you a list of online resources that you can research and study for yourself. You can then take the issue before the Lord in your own personal prayer closet and receive a Word from Him which will educate, uplift, and affirm you. This will enable you to truly begin living as a whole person -- unashamed and unafraid of who God has created you to be. Be blessed in the Most Precious Name of Jesus Christ.

GayBrotha

<http://gaybrotha.tripod.com>

(My link for this profile)

Online Resources for LGBT Christians who are Seeking to Reconcile Their Sexuality with the Scriptures

The Truth About Homosexuality

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUnAFWvXKLE&list=PL042B69B994891C91>

Is the Bible Against Homosexuality

<http://homosexualeunuchsandthebible.com>

Affirming Pentecostal Church International

<http://www.myapci.net>

United Progressive Pentecostal Church

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-United-Progressive-Pentecostal-Church-Fellowship/159126402757>

The Vision Church of Atlanta

<http://www.thevisionchurch.org/>

The Vision Church of Atlanta Webcast

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/tvc-broadcast>

(Sundays @ 10:30am and 6:00pm CST)

Blaque Bi/Gay Ministers Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/blaquebigayministers>

Saved, Sanctified and Same-Gender Loving by D. Marcell

(Visit Amazon.com to find book.)

Steps to Recovery from Spiritual Abuse

(Visit Chirhopress.com to find book)

Dispelling the Myth

<http://mercytoall.net/dtm/index.htm>

The Fellowship

<http://www.radicallyinclusive.com>

Christ Evangelical Bible Institute

<http://cebiaz.com/>

Whosoever Ministries

<http://www.whosoever.org/>

What the Bible Says *and Means* about Homosexuality

http://www.religioustolerance.org/hom_bibl.htm

Gay and Christian (Free Book by Apostolic Author)

<http://www.lulu.com/product/file-download/gay-and-christian-yes/4135979>

Biblical Evidence of Same-Gender Couples

http://www.wouldjesusdiscriminate.org/biblical_evidence.html

Gay Christian 101

<http://www.gaychristian101.com/index.html>

Gay Christadelphians

<http://www.inherit-the-kingdom.org/>

What the Bible Says and Means About Homosexuality

http://www.religioustolerance.org/hom_bibl.htm

Gay Christian Network

<http://www.gaychristian.net/>