

# GENDER, SEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE

## What Does the Bible Really Say About Homosexuality?

October 14 & 17, 2021 | David Whiting

How many passages directly talk about homosexuality in the Bible? \_\_\_\_

### Genesis 19:4-13

- Ezekiel 16:49-50 – The sins of Sodom listed never mention “homosexuality.”
- Genesis 19 \_\_\_\_\_ be used to condemn all homosexual behavior. The story was about homosexual, gang \_\_\_\_\_. It has nothing to do with a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship.

### Leviticus 18:22 & 20:13

What type of sexuality is this condemning?

- The issue in both verses is biological sex. Two people of the same sex are not to be involved sexually the way two people of the opposite sex are allowed to be.
- Both participants are to be put to death (20:13). Both are willing participants. This is not rape. It is a consensual, sexual relationship.

Do we still follow laws from Leviticus anymore?

- Categories of Old Testament Laws
  - Ceremonial Laws - feasts and festivals
  - Civil Laws - to govern the nation
  - Moral Laws - timeless laws that reflect God’s character and will

Do these laws apply to us today?

- Which other laws in Leviticus 18-20 no longer apply?
  - Incest (18:6-8; 20:11-14,17,19-21)
  - Adultery (18:20; 20:10)
  - Child sacrifice (18:21; 20:1-5)
  - Bestiality (18:23; 20:15-16)
  - Theft (19:11)
  - Lying (19:11)
  - Oppressing your neighbor (19:13)
  - Love your neighbor as yourself (19:18)
- The clearest evidence of an Old Testament law being a timeless, moral law is if it is \_\_\_\_\_ in the New Testament.

### Romans 1:24-27

What type of sexuality is this condemning?

- “...inflamed with lust for one another” - this is about a mutual, homosexual relationship.

### 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Which sins listed are no longer sins?

- sexually immoral
- idolaters
- adulterers
- men who have sex with men
- thieves
- greedy
- drunkards
- slanderers
- swindlers

Distinct Greek words

- μαλακοί (malakoi)
  - “yielding to touch”
  - “being passive in a same-sex relationship”
- ἀρσενικοῖται (arsenokoitai)
  - Compound word “male” + “intercourse”

### 1 Timothy 1:9-11

Which sins listed are no longer sins?

- those who kill their fathers or mothers
- murderers
- sexually immoral
- those practicing homosexuality
- slave traders
- liars
- perjurers

The word “homosexuality” is the same compound word used in 1 Corinthians combining “male” and “intercourse.”

### Conclusion:

**Homosexual activity is not an \_\_\_\_ to be celebrated, but a \_\_\_\_ to be forgiven.**

- The consistent teaching of the Bible is clear: God \_\_\_\_\_ homosexual activity.
- It is worse than you think: the Bible condemns \_\_\_\_\_ of sexual activity outside of a \_\_\_\_\_ between a husband and wife.
- 1 Corinthians 6:11 – “And that is what some of you were. You were washed... sanctified...justified... .”
- Jesus came to deliver us from the penalty and power of sin. Even the sins of homosexuality, adultery, or lust.
- The beauty of the Gospel is that every sin can be forgiven and doesn’t need to \_\_\_\_\_ you.
- Your sin issue may be your life-long \_\_\_\_\_, but it doesn’t need to be your \_\_\_\_\_.

### Discussion Starters:

- What arguments would a person make against a traditional interpretation of the Bible’s view of “same-sex relationships”?
- What was most helpful to you in understanding what the Bible says about same-sex relationships?
- Which of the concluding statements would you think may be most helpful and hopeful for a Christian who battles same-sex attraction?