



# DISCIPLE DEVELOPMENT MONTH

## God's Design for Gender, Sex, and Marriage

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### The Bible and Homosexuality

Week 3 || January 23, 2024

#### Six key verses about homosexuality

- a. "There are only six verses in the Bible that address homosexuality."
  - i. The Bible from the beginning to the end shows the design of God for marriage, sex, and gender.
  - ii. All six of these verses are connected.

#### 1. Genesis 19 Sodom and Gomorrah

- a. "Genesis 19 has nothing to do with homosexuality." Ez 16:49
  - i. The rest of the OT is right for condemning Sodom for those other sins, but sexual perversion was definitely amongst the list.
  - ii. Jude 7 alludes to "unnatural desires" in Sodom
  - iii. 2<sup>nd</sup> temple Jewish writing outside of the Bible corroborates the fact that Sodom had a reputation for same-sex sin.

#### 2. Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13 "The Law" (Yuan and Deyoung)

- a. "Leviticus is only referring to holiness codes that we don't follow today."
  - i. The Law is not done away with, it is fulfilled (mt 5:17-18)
  - ii. Leviticus is not obscure and is quoted by Jesus, Peter, Paul, etc.
  - iii. When Paul makes his argument in 1 Cor 6, he uses a word derived from Leviticus
  - iv. The use of the term "Abomination" in Leviticus points to the seriousness of the sin.
    1. Ez 16:49-50
  - v. The reference to a women's menstrual cycle should not call into question the context of homosexuality.
  - vi. The sexual ethic from Lev 18 and 20 are reiterated, clarified, and reinforced in the NT.

#### 3. Romans 1:18-23 The Exchange of Natural Relations

- a. "Romans is addressing lust and people acting separate from their orientation."

- i. Paul's whole argument is grounded in nature and God's design
- ii. Contemporary and later writings corroborate the use of "unnatural desires/relations" to mean gay sex.

#### 4. **1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Timothy 1:8-10 "Arsenokoitai"**

- a. *Arsenokoitai* is Paul referencing Leviticus and taking two words "man" and "bed" to refer to "men who have sex with men"
- b. In 1 Tim, we see that Paul mentions sins having to do with the 10 commandments and ties 1 Cor 6 to the sexual ethic from the book of Leviticus.

#### 5. **Other Gay Affirming arguments:**

- a. The type of homosexuality back then was very different than today? It was abusive, pederastic, and included prostitution? It wasn't committed loving partners like we have today. See: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/not-that-kind-of-homosexuality/>
  - i. This is an argument from silence.
  - ii. There are good words that could have been used if God wanted to convey this to us.
  - iii. Faithfulness does not make something right.
  - iv. Romans 1 "exchanged natural relation".
  - v. It is not historically accurate to say that pederasty was the norm. Nor is it accurate to say that "consensual monogamous relationships weren't a thing".
    - 1. Cultural distance argument or the opposite "Genetic fallacy"

#### b. **Jesus didn't talk about Homosexuality**

- i. He didn't talk about it because it wasn't important to the day for him to address. He didn't address all possible sins...that was not the purpose of Jesus' ministry.
- ii. Jesus addresses Sexual Immorality
- iii. Jesus reaffirms God's design for marriage
- iv. Jesus was the author who superintended all of scripture.

#### c. **It's not fair. I was born this way.**

- i. We do not know if people are genetically predisposed to same-sex attraction or not. But in the end, it doesn't change much for faithful Christian living.
  - 1. We don't have the luxury to say that I am genetically predisposed to sin and therefore it is ok.

#### 2. **Concluding statements**

- a. **The Bible is uniformly negative against homosexuality**
- b. **There is no “positive argument for homosexuality”**
- c. **Concluding statement on the Bible about Homosexuality**
  - i. The Bible does NOT say anything positive about Homosexuality.
  - ii. The Bible is ONLY negative about Homosexuality
  - iii. All gay-affirming arguments in scripture are eisegetical, anachronistic, and adverse (harmful; unfavorable) to Holy Scripture.

#### **Next Week:**

1. Loving “gay Christians”
2. SSA and the Church
3. Living in a LGBT affirming world

#### **Resources:**

1. <https://holysexuality.com/>
2. <https://identityproject.tv/>

#### **Small Group Discussion Questions:**

- What are some situations that you are in with gay friends/family? How have you tried to balance truth and maintaining relationships with those individuals?
- What was helpful tonight to understand a Biblical view of homosexuality? What are some ways that you can apply it?
- Why is it important to understand this topic and what the Bible has to say about it?
- Which gay-affirming arguments have been particularly difficult to address? Any that were not mentioned tonight?
- Why is “Bible study” so important to this class (and all the classes in DDM)? Would you say that you know how to study your Bible well?
- What is the importance of NT authors grounding their arguments in creation (Gen 1-3)? Can you think of any other examples in scripture?
- How can we love and support people who are struggling with “Same Sex attraction (SSA)” in our church?