

The "Pro-Gay Spin" On Scripture & Why Their "Spin Cycle" Doesn't "Hold Water":

NOTE: You'll need to "break-out" your Bibles as you go through what follows

Genesis 19:4-9:

The classic, liberal "spin" of this text teaches that the reason Sodom and Gomorrah deserved judgment was "inhospitality" (not homosexual rape). The Oriental nature and character of hospitality would demand that visitors to the community would be welcomed, cared for and honored by each member of the community. The fact that they were treated without respect and in the context of the liberal view: "this is about a sinful group of people exercising power, violence (rape), and inhospitality in relationship to their fellow man. This is a sin against the 2nd table of the law, and destroys trust, love and mutual respect as creatures of God". That last concern is true and we would all agree with that – if it stood alone.

However, it is absolutely clear that among the various offenses against God in Sodom & Gomorrah is also the sin of homosexuality. We are told clearly that the "men" of the city wanted to have sex with the male visitors. We can see that Lot believes their intentions to be evil and offers something that (in his mind) would provide a less evil solution – giving them his daughters to rape. In some perverted way, Lot believes this to be better than what the men of the city intended to do to the male visitors. What they intended to do was to have forced homosexual sex with these visitors. This also brings guilt to the people of the city.

The Lord's word to Abraham that "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous" (Genesis 18:20) reminds us that the list of sins against these two cities is very long. They include inhospitality, violence, intimidation, attempted rape, hatred for God and his people, rejection of God's will for sex and marriage, and the acceptance and practice of homosexuality.

The traditional, Biblical understanding of this text, which we have heard since we were children is certainly correct. Perhaps the focus has been too exclusively directed at homosexuality, BUT very clearly this is one of the sins that God found among these people.

But, to further "cement" this, we look to other scripture to give understanding on this. For example, we find this in the New Testament Book of Jude Verse 7: "In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire."

In context, Jude teaches the broad lesson that those who reject God's will for their lives receive his punishments – the unbelievers among those rescued from Egypt, the unbelieving angels in heaven, and the unbelieving people of Sodom and Gomorrah. The Bible specifically speaks of their sin, not as inhospitality, but as a sexual sin. The term "sexual immorality" in the original language of the Bible is a very strong word for the concept and the phrase "to give themselves up to...perversion" also speaks clearly to sexual impropriety. That those men "go after other flesh" is a powerful testimony that the text is speaking of homosexual activity as the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Leviticus 18:22 / Leviticus 20:13:

Those two references from Leviticus are often dismissed by the "Pro-Gay Spin Doctors" as admonitions of the Levitical Law, which are no longer applicable to New Testament Christians. This argument is that Old Testament Levitical Laws are no longer applicable (this is true - Col. 2:16-17); so they say, these particular prohibitions do not apply any longer either. Their reasoning goes something like this: "Well, we aren't required to paint blood on our door frames for Passover, or observe the OT dietary restrictions any more, or sacrifice animals on our altars... so, it isn't morally wrong anymore for a man to lie with another man..."

It is very clear however, especially in the context of Leviticus 18, that these chapters are not merely referring to OT civil and ceremonial law, but are also referring to moral law (which is still applicable to us as NT Christians). In the preceding verses we find moral law regarding sexual relationships: laws against incest and sex with close blood relatives, adultery, idolatry, bestiality, and homosexuality. It would be impossible to argue that all of those practices are now fine to engage in as NT Christians because the Levitical Law is no longer relevant.

For example, there are no NT references regarding bestiality. Does that now suggest that such a practice is ok for all Christians, since the only reference to it is found in the OT ceremonial law? Of course not! All of these regulations are all in-line with God's intention regarding sex and marriage... this undoubtedly touches upon moral law, not merely Levitical Law. So, it is important for us to understand that the moral law regarding sex does not begin with Mt. Sinai, but in Eden, where God created marriage and godly sexual relationships. It is indisputable that God's expressed intent for marriage is a life-long commitment between one man and one woman.

Judges 19:22-23:

The comments made regarding the Genesis 19 passages would apply here also, with the addition that the phrase "don't do this disgraceful thing" carries the prominent idea of sexual impropriety. This fits with God's views on men having sex with men (he doesn't like it!).

Romans 1:21-28:

This passage presents one of the most powerful condemnations by God of homosexuality. Here, rather than using words or ideas that could be twisted or redefined, God (through Paul's writings) is being extremely blunt. Here there is no mention of power or inequality; rather he simply speaks of immoral attitudes and actions among men and women that can be described in no other way than homosexuality.

The main "pro-gay" spin / argument here is against Paul's word here in his use of the word "natural". Again, you have to remember that in the gay community, homosexuality is not considered a choice, it's the way people were born – created... it is "natural"... "normal". So, according to their interpretation, when Paul is speaking of men and women going against what is "natural", the gay community argues that he's not speaking about homosexuals engaging in homosexual behavior – because that IS "normal"... it IS "natural". Instead (according to them), Paul is referring to heterosexuals engaging in homosexual behavior or homosexuals engaging in heterosexual behavior.

The phrase "natural relations" very correctly carries the meaning that fits Paul's argument, supporting the traditional Biblical understanding. Paul's argument in this whole section is that the gentiles of the world have rejected and disregarded the naturally revealed truths of God and embraced their own wisdom and world-views. They have done this in spite of the fact that God has "made it (the truth) clear" to them. They have exchanged the truth of God for a lie and continually down-play the truth about God.

Their depravity includes the rejection of what God considers normal sexual relationships between people of the opposite sex and the participation in sex that doesn't make sense, even at the simplest level. The anatomical design of men and women, the social implications of monogamous homosexuality, and the devastating realities of promiscuous homosexuality all speak volumes against this unnatural, God forbidden behavior. It also includes the "degrading of their bodies".

1 Corinthians 6:9-11:

The "Pro-Gay" Theologians try to "spin" their way out of these passages by saying they are referring to "ritual matters" (ex. Temple prostitution), or dealing in pederasty, or perhaps words that are rhetorical in nature (ex. Paul's "lists" are irrelevant expressions in detail, but address matters in broad strokes, with rhetorical technique).

The two words "male prostitutes" or "homosexual offenders" are quite specific in nature. They speak of the realities of the homosexual relationship known in the Roman world. Paul makes it clear that people engaged in this activity will not inherit the kingdom of God. Where homosexuality is obvious here, some argue about the technicalities of the pederasty (erotic relationship between an older man and an adolescent boy) to try to dismiss the condemnation.

However, the far more germane and comprehensive phrase speaking to the matter of homosexuality could well be found in the idea of "the sexually immoral". If, indeed, the Bible speaks powerfully, consistently and profusely about the concept of divinely instituted marriage and sexual expectation – And IT DOES – then the phrase "sexually immoral" covers the matter of homosexuality as powerfully as do the other two words. Even if you were swayed by what this writer feels is an untenable "pederasty" argument, one would still have to deal with the Biblical concept of sexual MORALITY which clearly addresses any sexual behavior outside of the life-long, committed relationship between one man and one woman as sin. This would obviously include homosexuality.

To be sexually immoral is to engage in sex in ways that oppose the divine and revealed will of God. And God has revealed His will about sex and marriage in the scriptures, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh"

(Genesis 2:24). From Genesis to Revelation, the instituted, revealed, sanctioned, normal expression of God-ordained sex is relations between one man and one woman engaged in a committed, life-long union. That is what moral sex is. Anything else falls into the category of being sexually immoral.

1 Timothy 1:10:

Here we find another list of Paul's, which identifies among a grouping of unlawful activities, the sin of homosexuality placed right along side of its former companion sexual immorality, here translated as "adulterers". These two words cover the gamut of sexual rebellion against God and His will, and while they certainly could include issues of power, domination, and control over other human beings (which is what the Pro-Gay folks claim it ONLY means), they do not exclusively, nor primarily, address those issues.

Some of God's Word on Homosexuality:

- Genesis 2:24 19:4-9
- Leviticus 18:22,24 20:13
- Romans 1:26-27
- **■** 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
- 1 Timothy 1:9-10
- **■** Ezekiel 16:49-51
- Judges 19:22-24
- Mark 10: 6-9
- Matthew 15:19
- Jude 7

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