



GROWTH POINT

MIDWEEK SERVICE

A Biblical View of Homosexuality

Dr. John Goetsch | August 14, 2019

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” (Psalm 119:105)

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” (Isaiah 8:20)

“The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them?” (Jeremiah 8:9)

“Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures.” (Matthew 22:29)

“...that he might make thee to know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.” (Deuteronomy 8:3)

Introduction

1. The Development of the Species

- What is our origin?
- Evolution?
- Creation?
- We don't know?

A. Creation

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1)

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” (Genesis 1:26–27)

“And the Lord God formed man out of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” (Genesis 2:7)

- So, why male and female?

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth.” (Genesis 1:27–28a)

B. Conception

- God made two genders—male and female—for the purpose of procreation. God purposefully created two distinct genders so that together in marriage they could reproduce children.
- When the sperm from the male is united with the egg of the female the conception of a two-celled zygote is formed.
- This doesn't happen in every instance of sexual activity, for it is God that gives conception.

“So Boaz took Ruth and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the Lord gave her conception, and she bare a son.” (Ruth 4:13)

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.” (Psalm 127:3)

C. Chromosomes

- This two-celled zygote formed at conception contains all of our human DNA. Twenty-three pairs of chromosomes are present—half from Dad and half from Mom. Hair color, eye color, and gender are all determined by those chromosomes.

“My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest part of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.” (Psalm 139:15–16)

D. Characteristics

- Due to the large number of chromosomes, the combinations of these formed in the womb now make us all unique creations of God through our parents.
- Skin tone, height, weight, personality, creativity, athleticism, etc. are all different in each of us, even in the same family. One child might be gifted musically, while another in sports, etc. Our interests are different.
- Genesis 4:1–4 reveals that Cain was a tiller of the ground while Abel was a keeper of sheep.
- Genesis 27:11 reveals that Esau was a hairy man and Jacob a smooth man. Verse 22 Isaac declares that the voice is Jacob's voice but the hands are Esau's hands.
- None of these characteristics however changes our gender.

E. Choice

- Man is created with a free will to make choices. But our gender is not a choice. Gender is designed by God at the moment of conception as part of His created process.

“I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.” (Psalms 139:14)

2. The Declaration of the Sovereign

A. A Pleased Creator

“And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.” (Genesis 1:31)

B. A Planned Companionship

“And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make an helpmeet for him.” (Genesis 2:18)

“And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” (Genesis 2:21–23)

C. A Purposeful Commitment

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they two shall be one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24)

“Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.” (Matthew 19:6)

- The act of sex is designed by God and placed in the boundary of marriage.

“Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.” (Hebrews 13:4)

D. A Pleasurable Cause

- What an amazing privilege and responsibility to come together in marriage and as husband and wife, not only create another human being, but a living soul. An eternal being that has the opportunity to spend a lifetime and eternity with their Creator!

“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.” (Proverbs 18:22)

“Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.” (Proverbs 5:18)

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

3. The Depravity of the Soul

- So how did we get so confused identity, sex orientation, etc.?
- How did we get here to the point we are now in this sexual revolution?

A. A Bold Temptation

- Lucifer, the fallen angel from heaven rebelled against God and has been on a mission to destroy the creation of God.

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die. For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked...” (Genesis 3:1–7)

B. A Beguiling Trick

- Satan’s trick is to make us think that God is withholding something good from us. Genesis 3:1b “...Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”
- Why would God forbid this tree? What is He hiding from you? You are obviously going to miss something by listening to God.
- The devil’s age old trick is to make you think that God is not good.
- Satan wants you to believe that there is a better and more pleasurable way to live than God’s way.

C. A Brazen Transgression

“And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.” (Genesis 2:16–17)

“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat.” (Genesis 3:6)

- Here was a direct disobedience of God’s command.
- The Bible calls this sin.

“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.” (1 John 3:4)

D. A Binding Trouble

- This original sin caused the entire human race to fall into sin.

“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” (Romans 5:12)

“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one.” (Romans 5:10)

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)

“But the scripture hath concluded all under sin.” (Galatians 3:22a)

- Sin separates us from God. We no longer enjoy the best that He created for us.

“Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you.” (Jeremiah 5:25)

- This has eternal ramifications, but earthly consequences as well.

4. The Defilement of Simplicity

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.” (2 Corinthians 11:3)

A. A Sacred Compass

“Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.” (Romans 1:19–20)

“That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.” (John 1:9)

- God has put within man’s conscience a compass of His expectations.

“For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law are a law unto themselves. Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.”

(Romans 2:14–15)

B. A Seared Conscience

- The sinful nature of man enables him to sear his conscience of the truth God has placed there.

“Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and the doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.” (1 Timothy 4:1–2)

“Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.” (Titus 1:15)

C. A Selfish Contention

- What has God made it clear in His Word and His Spirit has made clear in your conscience that you are justifying or rationalizing?
- Are we smarter than our Creator?

“Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay?” (Romans 9:20–21b)

“If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one of a thousand.” (Job 9:2)

“Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him?” (Job 40:2)

“Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker!” (Isaiah 45:9a)

“For thou hast trusted in thy wickedness: thou hast said, None seeth me. Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverteth thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me.” (Isaiah 47:10)

- It all comes back to whether we are going to trust God’s Word (the lamp to our feet and light to our path) or our own wisdom and knowledge.

5. The _____ of Significance

- We are intricately designed by our Creator for His purpose and glory.

“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” (Revelation 4:11)

- You are significant, special, and set apart for God’s unique plan for your life.

“Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.” (Jeremiah 1:5)

A. A Questioning of _____

- Our chromosomes determine our gender not our choices.
- Why do we question Divine arrangement and assignment?

“Who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?” (1 Corinthians 4:7)

B. A Quenching of _____

- Eliminating authority eliminates accountability.

“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.” (Psalms 14:1)

“Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.” (Ecclesiastes 11:9)

“For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.” (Ecclesiastes 12:14)

C. A Quest for _____

- Sin destroys all that it touches including those institutions that God established.
- Often today our homes, our government, and our churches are not the places of acceptance they ought to be.
- Regardless of past experiences, every person is loved by God.

“The Lord appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.” (Jeremiah 31:3)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.” (1 John 3:1a)

- We do not need to run to sinful practices or ungodly influences to find acceptance.
- True and absolute significance is found in our Creator who made us an eternal soul so that we could enjoy fellowship with Him forever!

6. The _____ to Sin

- As we noted earlier, man was created with a free will to choose.

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of days.” (Deuteronomy 30:19–20a)

A. God’s _____

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they two shall be one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24)

“Marriage is honourable in all.” (Hebrews 13:4a)

B. A Growing _____

- Man in his sinful flesh has always resisted God’s instruction. We think we know better than our Creator.

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” (Proverbs 1:7)

“To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? Behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the Lord is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it.” (Jeremiah 6:10)

“Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the Lord of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the Lord of hosts.” (Zechariah 7:12)

““Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools. And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like unto corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them

up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves. Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.” (Romans 1:21–28)

C. A Gay _____

- The word *gay* has a variety of uses that date back to the 13th century. These range from a person who is described as “joyous” to an object that is “brightly colored.” Daniel Bainbridge explains, “One meaning was to be fine or showily dressed.” Another was “noble, fine, and excellent.” Another still was “light-hearted.”
- Starting around the 16th century the word *gay* was linked to sexuality in general—homosexual or heterosexual and carried the idea of being hedonistic or frivolous. In the 18th century, “gay houses” was another term for brothels where same-sex relationships were happening.
- Before the word *gay* became prominent, same-sex relationships were called “homosexual.” In the 19th century these relationships were deemed a psychological disorder that could be treated and cured. This led to many anti-gay laws that criminalized this behavior.
- The practice of considering queer desire and illness has been denounced by the American Psychological Association and the American Psychiatric Association since 1973 and 1975 respectively.
- The shift to the word *gay* took a bit longer. The *New York Times* did not adopt the use of this word until 1987, and still today does not use it in all contexts.
- In the middle of the 20th century the word *gay* was adopted by those involved in the practice as a sort of “code word” with each other so that listeners or straight people would not be offended or interpret.
- By the 1960’s the word *gay* became popular publicly and was used to liberate those of such practice and argued for decriminalization of same-sex relationships.
- Randy Alcorn in his book *Happiness* writes, “There is a tragic irony in the positive term *gay*, which has replaced historically negative terms, such as sodomite, and neutral terms such as homosexual. No matter how happy *gay* may sound, these are the facts about the suicide rate among homosexuals:

The risk of suicide among *gay* and lesbian youth is fourteen times higher than for heterosexual youth.

Between 30 and 45 percent of transgenders have attempted suicide.”

- Alcorn goes on to say, “I didn’t get these statistics from religious conservatives, but from a secular website sympathetic to gay and lesbian issues.”

D. A Grave _____

- The first chapter of Romans from which we read earlier, ends with a shocking statement.

“Who knowing the judgement of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.” (Romans 1:32)

“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.” (Isaiah 5:20)

“Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and strengthened the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way, by promising him life.” (Ezekiel 13:22)

“Ye have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?” (Malachi 2:17)

7. A _____ **from Satan**

- What is the answer to this dilemma? Statistics show that people are not fulfilled or happy in this lifestyle, though they may try for a time.
- How do we help the homosexual? How do we instruct those with tendencies or attractions to the same gender?
- We must be willing to call this practice “sin.” Until we do, there is absolutely no hope for change.
- To claim to be a female in a male body or vice versa is to blame God.
- To call this practice my “natural” tendency is to defy nature itself.
- To go back and forth in preference (bi-sexual) is confusing and illogical.
- The only hope is to call this practice sin—for sin can be forgiven and, through Christ’s finished work, we become a new creature in Christ.

A. A Provided _____

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9–11)

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)

“...and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7b)

B. A Proper _____

- We cannot have salvation and our sin.
- Faith in Christ without repentance from sin is unbiblical.

“Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Acts 20:21)

“...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” (John 3:3b)

“...except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:3b)

C. A Perpetual _____

- No one will stop sinning who does not stop spending time around sin.

“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.” (Proverbs 28:13)

“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.” (Romans 6:11–13)

“That ye put off concerning the former conversation of the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” (Ephesians 4:22–24)

D. A Promised _____

- We tend to defend that which in our mind makes us happy; fulfilled; at peace with ourselves.
- There is no happiness or peace or fulfillment in a lifestyle of any kind that is contrary to God’s creative plan.

“But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.” (Isaiah 57:20–21)

“Great peace have they which love thy law.” (Psalms 119:165a)

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.” (Isaiah 26:3)

“O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river.” (Isaiah 48:18)

8. The _____ of the Saints

- What is our responsibility as Bible believing Christians?

A. _____ Bias!

- This lifestyle is a part of the culture in which we live. There is no place for a crude or vile attitude toward those living in sin.

“But by the grace of God I am what I am.” (1 Corinthians 15:10a)

- Every human being regardless of their ethnic background, education, financial status, religious beliefs, and sexual orientation deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. Human life is a product of God’s creation and should be treated accordingly.

B. _____ Blamelessly!

- When God uses the word *blameless* in the Bible He doesn’t mean sinless, but “without handles.”

“That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.” (Philippians 2:15)

C. _____ Benevolently!

- If you live blamelessly, in a perverse nation, you will have people talk to you.
- Listen with a heart of love and compassion. See them as Christ sees them—with an eternal soul.

“He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.” (Proverbs 18:13)

D. _____ Boldly!

- Study the life of Jesus in His confrontations with the woman at the well in John 4, the maniac possessed with devils in Mark 5, Zacchaeus the tax collector in Luke 19, or the thief on the cross in Luke 23.

“And of some have compassion, making a difference.” (Jude 22)

E. _____ Biblically!

- Psychology, psychiatry, counseling, behavior therapy, statistical data, personal experience, etc., may all have a their place, but...

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word.” (Psalms 119:9)

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” (John 17:17)

“Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.” (John 15:3)

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

Conclusion



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