

Lesson 6

Homosexuality/Transgenderism From a Biblical Worldview

This issue is not one that should have to be dealt with in middle school aged children yet the world you live has forced the church to deal with these issues earlier in the lives of our parishioners. These issues are already being talked about within educational institutions that our children are a part of. The church will speak about these issues because God has spoken about these issues.

The Biblical Worldview of Sex and Marriage

Genesis 1:27-28, 31

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Genesis 3:24

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

An argument against Genesis 1-12 is that it cannot be understood in a literal way and therefore can be reinterpreted in light of what we “know” today.¹

Mark 10:6-9

⁶ But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷ ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹ What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Christian Answer: Jesus restates the reality of creation as laid out in Genesis that God created humans as male and female and marriage is between one man and one woman for life. Jesus does not reinterpret Genesis 1-3 why should we? Keep in mind that Jesus went against many of the ‘traditional’ understandings² of the Old Testament of his day yet he did not go against this one.

Please take into consideration the result of the natural act vs. the unnatural act. God is a God of life and it is only the relationship between a man and a woman that produces life. If one is to follow the law of God regarding their sexuality one will not be harmed by that relationship. When sin is welcomed into a sexual relationship sickness and death is welcomed in as well. The biblical way is for one man and one woman to be intimate in the context of marriage. When one deviates from that plan sickness and death can enter in. [This is the argument of scripture itself in Romans 1:18-32]

Genesis 19:4-11 Sodom and Gomorrah (Recall from Lesson 1 the archeological evidence of this story)

Summary: The city was destroyed in response of a mob of men of the cities wanting to have homosexual relations with angels.

¹ It should be noted that we don’t know the medical/psychological reason why people deal with homosexuality. Even if we did it doesn’t change anything in regards to its morality.

² Example: understanding of the Sabbath, understanding of how one is saved, understanding of God’s relationship to women, understanding of the purpose of food laws (which he declared all food to be clean)

Lesson 6

An argument against Genesis 19 being about homosexuality is that it was truly about the people being unwelcoming/inhospitable to the guests.

Jude 4-7

For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

⁵ Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶ And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— ⁷ just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

Christian Answer: Scripture interprets scripture and to deny that Gen. 19 is dealing with the act of homosexuality is to deny what is clearly written in Jude 4-7.

An argument against is that “everyone” believes that there is nothing wrong with homosexuality.³

Jude 17-19

¹⁷ But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ They said to you, “In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.” ¹⁹ It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.

Christian Answer: We have been warned that our faith would be scoffed at especially in the realm of our sexual morality. Note that this will come from both outside AND INSIDE the visible church. You are currently living in a time of division in those who call themselves Christian based a church’s view of homosexuality.

Other New Testament verses that address homosexuality

Romans 1:24-27 (Read surrounding verses for more)

²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷ and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

I Corinthians 6:9-11

⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

I Timothy 1:8-10

⁸ Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹ understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰ the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, ¹¹ in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

³ I will deal with the biblical arguments above, but also wanted to include that this is an incorrect assumption. The amount of people believing something does not make it right or wrong. Along the same line just because people change their opinion about something does not mean the new opinion is correct.

**God's Word is Crystal Clear Homosexuality IS A SIN.
Now What?**

The Church is called to do the same thing to a homosexual that they are to an adulterer, thief, liar, and every other type of sinner that there is. We offer the free gift of forgiveness as we call people to repent and trust in Jesus Christ as their savior.

Luke 24:45-47

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

Augsburg Confession [*XII. Concerning Repentance*]

[1] Concerning repentance it is taught that those who have sinned after baptism obtain forgiveness of sins whenever they come to repentance [2] and that absolution should not be denied them by the church. [3] Now properly speaking, true repentance is nothing else than [4] to have contrition and sorrow, or terror about sin, [5] and yet at the same time to believe in the gospel and absolution that sin is forgiven and grace is obtained through Christ. Such faith, in turn, comforts the heart and puts it at peace. [6] Then improvement should also follow, and a person should refrain from sins. For these should be the fruits of repentance, as John says in Matthew 3[:8*]: "Bear fruit worthy of repentance."⁴

To deny a clear word of God and ignore sin is to put sinners in jeopardy of eternal damnation!

⁴ Kolb, R., Wengert, T. J., & Arand, C. P. (2000). *The Book of Concord: the confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church* (p. 44). Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.