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Bible House of Grace.**



*God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.*

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## **Is Homosexuality a Sin?**

**Same Sex Relationships.**

**Love, Grace and the Bible.**

**Homosexuals and Lesbians.**

(2013)

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The Bible not only reveals God's eternal Plans, Purposes and Promises,  
But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

***Teach it, don't demand it.***

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Thank you for clicking on this topic, my aim in this study is not to change anyone's mind to a particular view, but rather to dispel some of the antipathy and hostility there is toward those who love Christ, but happen to be born for whatever scientific or medical reason with a natural attraction to a partner of the same sex. Please take the time to read the title, "About the Author and Testimonies" to understand the motive and intent of my heart in writing these articles.

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## Is Homosexuality a Sin?

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**Sin and separation from God:** every Christian loves God, and does not want their lives to be controlled by bad habits and self-centred attitudes that can harm their relationship with Him and with others. The plain truth is that sin separates humans from God, no Christian wants to be separated from God, rather all who belong to Christ want to grow closer to him and become more like him with each passing day (2 Cor. 6:14) (1 John 5-7), but what exactly is sin?

If a poll was taken of every church and denomination that exists it would find an endless list of different opinions from every one of them. It would be discovered that everybody seems to have their own idea as to what is right and what is wrong, so if Christians want to rid sin from their lives, where would they start and whose list should they follow? Perhaps it would be better to forget what everyone else thinks and go right to the source, the Bible itself, could God's will be found by cataloguing every sin mentioned in the Bible and if so, how are Christians to handle edicts that seem to change over time?

**Bible history:** shows that laws regarding slaves, personnel hygiene, dietary laws, diplomatic relationships with neighbouring nations and laws regarding ownership of land have all changed over the years so what is right for our culture and for this day and age is obviously different to what was right in past history. Paul told Christians over and over again that trying to live their lives by a long list of do's and don'ts was a lost cause, because no-one is good enough to follow such a list, day in and day out.

Furthermore, he said such attempts would only bring heartache and failure for no-one except Jesus Christ himself is capable of living a perfect life (Rom. 3:23) (2 Cor. 5:21) (1 Peter 2:22) (1 John 3:5) worse yet if believers attempt to earn their righteousness through good deeds they are in fact rejecting the very work that Christ achieved for them on the bloodstained cross of Calvary (Gal. 2:19-3:21) (Gal. 5:1-6).

Equally as bad as this they are making his death count for nothing, but does, this mean that trying to do the right thing is a lost cause? First and foremost, those who belong to Christ must settle in their hearts and minds that their salvation only comes through Jesus Christ and none other. No-one can earn their way to eternal life and everlasting glory, nevertheless that doesn't change the fact that all Christians still want to please God and find His will for their lives, so how is that done? The following verses will help answer this question since they clearly show what is at the very heart and soul of God's will.

Jesus in the following few words sums up the entire law: -

- Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. <sup>38</sup>This is the first and great commandment. <sup>39</sup>And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets (Matthew 22:37-40).

James the brother of Jesus wrote: -

- If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well (James 2:8).

Jesus told his disciples: -

- Jesus said, a new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another (John 13:34).

From these verses we see that the same royal commandment lies at the heart of both the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. God has never changed, but the political environment over time has, and the cultures we all live in are different from one another. Today's Christians don't face the same problems the early Patriarchs faced.

Nor were the apostles encumbered with some of the things believers have to deal with today. Each generation and each culture is different. What may be a loving act in one culture may be cause for war in another, but in spite of human differences, we are all given the same basic principles to carry out in our lives which are summed up in the next few verses.

- You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup>This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets (Matt. 22:37-40)

Jesus is saying on these two Commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets, simply put, all Christians are to love God first, and then love others, as they love themselves, every Christian who embraces and follows these two laws is following God's will for their lives and though they remain a sinner before God they are not living in sin.

Paul expressed the same thing in the following two verses: -

- For the whole law (concerning human relationships) is complied with in one precept. You shall love your neighbour as (you do) yourself (cited from the Amplified Bible). (Gal. 5:14).
- Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law (Rom. 13:8-10)

Based on these verses sin is simply this: -

- If we do not love God and put Him first it is a sin.
- If we deliberately hurt or harm ourselves or others physically, financially, sexually, emotionally or spiritually it is a sin.

Many tend to think the Ten Commandments are simply a list of do's and don'ts, but the spirit underpinning these laws is love, this is because each law concerning the behaviour and actions of humankind protect the innocent from harm and hurt. Love is the basis for all of God's laws, Old and New Testament, therefore sin is the absence or distortion of this love. Once this truth lights up the darkness in our minds it raises the following question, "Are people who have been born with an orientation and natural disposition toward people of the same sex who are in a loving and caring relationship, devoted to God and the Lord Jesus Christ, are not breaking any laws and are showing kindness to others committing a sin?"

Before answering this question a spotlight should be shone upon the fact that whenever the Bible condemns same sex relationships it has in focus heterosexuals who chose to be sexually active with each other and is in the context of people who deny God, rape others are violent and rebellious and in many contexts worshippers of idols. Perhaps the answer is not an issue of whether a person is gay or straight but an issue of love in the relationship. With this in mind I suspect the law of love and the spirit of wisdom and grace would ask us to consider the following questions before condemning anyone to hell fire: -

- Is the relationship encouraging both partners' spiritual growth and their relationship with God?"
- Is, the relationship loving, fulfilling and spiritually healthy for both parties?
- Are those in the relationship causing others to be hurt or harmed in anyway?

Perhaps when we reject and condemn to eternal hell-fire those who love the Lord Jesus Christ simply because they are born with an orientation and disposition toward the same sex maybe we are in danger of bringing judgment on ourselves

since we all have dwelling within our own bodies particular sinful aberrations and dysfunctions and no-one is able to stand before Christ free of sin, added to this not one of us is saved without God's abundant grace.

**Ponder the following questions:** if in the resurrection all Christians become as the angels and there is, no marriage in eternity is God concerned with the superficial things that worry us? Does God stress over a person's sexual orientation, gender, skin colour, or what their church affiliation is if they are fulfilling the royal law of love and are not bringing harm to any other human? If the code of a Christian life is to live under the New Testament law of love, do things that do not bring any harm to other humans have any meaning to God?

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I, like the Jews of old who had to work their way through adopting Gentiles into their midst and work out-together what that meant for each group, still have certain questions that I am working through myself and for that reason my aim in these articles is not to tell anyone what they should or should not believe, but simply present unbiased information that hopefully will help people who like myself were influenced by my generation to dehumanize homosexuals and lesbians and by certain church leaders to condemn everyone who was in a same sex relationship to condemnation and hell-fire.

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End.