

# **Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.**



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

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## **The Morality of Sex.**

**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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## The Morality of Sex.

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Until the late nineteenth century, the concept of homosexuality was totally unknown. This is because homosexuality is not about heterosexuals having sex with the same sex partner, rather homosexuality is about people who for some unknown reason are born with a natural attraction to a person of the same sex. The word homosexual refers to people whose natural disposition and affection is for the same sex partner. No Bible writer knew or understood anything of homosexuality, so no Bible writer could have said anything about it, the Bible writer is always talking about the only kinds of people he knew anything about, the only kind anyone knew about for another nineteen centuries.

When Bible writers are speaking against men and women sleeping together they had in mind heterosexuals whose natural sexual orientation is toward men and woman of the opposite sex, but choose for whatever reason to have sex with partners of the same sex. Heterosexual men who chose to have sex with another man are not homosexual men neither are heterosexual women who chose to have sex with another woman lesbian women. This is because a homosexual man can only be attracted to another man, woman have no appeal to them sexually no matter how beautiful they maybe. Likewise a lesbian woman has no sexual attraction to a man.

For a homosexual man or a lesbian woman to be attracted to a person of the same sex is natural whereas for them to be sexually active with someone of the opposite sex is not only repulsive, but repugnant in the same manner as it would be for a heterosexual man and woman to be sexual with someone of the same sex. Obviously there are exceptions to this rule, there always are to the general rule of all things and to the collective whole, but generally speaking for a heterosexual man or woman even the thought of having sex with a person of the same sex is gross.

Even though it is difficult for us (heterosexual men and women) to understand this same repugnance is felt by homosexual men when they think of having sex with women and by lesbian women when they entertain the idea of having sex with a man. This is the reason why many writers point out that the words homosexual and lesbian do not refer to heterosexuals who chose to have sex with same sex partners, but to people whose natural disposition and affections are for whatever medical or scientific reason attracted toward a person of the same sex just as strongly as a heterosexual men and women are attracted to people of the opposite sex.

**Heterosexual and homosexuality:** in statements in the Bible about same-gender sex, the writer is saying that when two heterosexual people have same-gender sex, they are lustful and sinful. Even the homosexual community believe the Bible and they believe this statement to be fully true. When the Bible talks about same sex people lying together it referring heterosexual people whose natural orientation is toward people of the opposite sex, but are choosing to have sex with same sex partners, this would have been common in Old Testament pagan cult religions where group sex was accepted and in New Testament Roman and Greek orgies which was common practise during the era of the apostles. Even today it is fashionable for people to have random sex at open sexual parties or with a selected group of people with the same mind.

It should be noted that the Bible condemns heterosexual sex acts, many times, but no-one takes that to mean that all opposite-gender sex acts are condemned, so why, when the Bible condemns same-gender sex acts, only a few times, do people understand it to mean all same-gender sex acts are condemned, especially since the Bible has no specific reference to homosexual or lesbian sex. Especially when the following two things are considered: -

1. Bible writers knew nothing about men and women being born with a natural orientation and disposition which resulted in an attraction toward a person of the same sex.

2. Men and woman of their generations naively believed those born with physical disabilities, blindness and deafness were possessed by evil gods called demons and therefore in many societies were considered to be evil and cast out of their midst.

After pondering these two points for a moment perhaps it would be wiser and smarter to base our idea of sex and the morality of it on other principles found in the Bible to gain an understanding rather than basing it on a handful of Scriptures that have caused so much confusion, physical suffering and enormous emotional, mental and spiritual hurt and even suicides.

**What is moral in sex expression?** Taking all this into account what is the criteria to be met for sexual expression to be moral? Christian students of ethics, moral theologians and religious leaders throughout the ages have spent an enormous amount of time and energy on thinking about when sex can be considered moral and when it cannot. One reason theologians and Christian ethicists have difficulty finding a sex ethic in the Bible is that the Bible's condemnation of sexual acts is always associated with immoral, selfish lust, the Scriptures say nothing that specifically defines a loving sex life.

Remember the focus of these articles is not the few in each group that are abusing sex, both homosexual and heterosexuals agree that promiscuous sex is lustful and sinful. Some homosexual people are promiscuous, but so are some heterosexual people, rather this article is seeking an answer to the question regarding the morality of homosexual men and lesbian women who have fallen in love with someone of their own gender and formed a loving, committed partnership.

When they ask for membership in the church saying, "Christ is our Lord and Saviour and we want to serve him with you in this church," should it be assumed that their union is sinful when they have broken no laws are showing kindness to others and there is nothing in the Bible that talks about couples in this kind of relationship since whenever those in same sex relationships are spoken of it is always in the context of people who are rebellious, violent and deny God?

**Marriage, sex and morality:** obviously all procreative sex can only be between male and female, but just because a sex act is between a male and female that does not necessarily make it moral, or that it makes the people moral? Most married couples only have two to four children yet statistics say the average married couple in a good relationship have sex anywhere from one to three times a week showing that all humans have sex for many other reasons than procreation.

If marriage was only about giving birth to children and then raising them, why do married couples continue to have sex once they have the required number of children they want? It is because God made both men and women with the desire and potential to enjoy other expressions of sex together. All professional marriage counsellors say that without a continual sexual relationship in marriage the relationship is headed for failure.

People say sex in marriage is moral, but is this statement true, is all sex in marriage moral? What if the husband considers his wife merely a sex object and takes unfair selfish advantage of her for personal gain and in some cases even rapes her, whatever the final criteria is for moral sex, it will be found somewhere outside of or beyond, legal marriage, for morality is in people, not in a legal status or certificate. Yet the common mindset is that sex outside of marriage is sin, while sex in marriage is not, it is to most as simple and black and white as that, but can something as complex as sex, which plumbs both the heights of beauty and the depths of ugliness, be simple, and as black and white as that?

Over the years the average person has associated the morality of sexual conduct with its legal status. Part of the reason for this is that it makes it very easy to answer the question, "When is sex right and when is it wrong?" For religious teachers who associate the morality of sex to a legal certificate of marriage the answer to this question is simple, after marriage sex is good and right and prior to marriage it is sinful and wrong, but the following notes will show that there is something more to the moral quality of sexual behaviour than having a legal certificate.

**Gays, lesbians and celibacy:** if it is accepted that homosexuality (those born with an orientation and natural disposition toward another person of the opposite sex) is unchangeable because it is the natural disposition of the person and therefore a homosexual cannot love a person of the opposite sex since that would be repulsive and repugnant to them. Does any human have the right to tell them they must remain celibate and consign them to a life of isolation and loneliness? Can any human be expected to attain to this when it is virtually impossible for most? Does anyone have the moral right to condemn others to the tragic results of suffering guilt and in many cases emotional and mental disorder and force a person to live without a deep loving and committed relationship for the rest of their life?

The majority of homosexuals live a life of abstinence for the following reasons: -

- They have a fear of the heterosexual society they live in.
- They feel a compulsive need to do so because of peer or family pressure.
- Their thinking is irrational or neurotic because of the internal rejection and guilt they feel.
- They know it is the only way they can be accepted by the church.
- Church leaders tell them they cannot be saved unless they live a life of celibacy.
- They love the Lord Jesus Christ and believe it is the only way they can honour God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Many have internalized the homophobia of the surrounding culture and the church and as a consequence hate and fear their sexual feelings.

Any of the above can produce an obsessive need to live contrary to who they are, but respected doctors and psychologists say that those who have repressed or denied their homosexual feelings for pathological reasons are the ones in greatest danger of acting out those needs compulsively, imprudently, and unconsciously, seeking punishment for what they see as their crime. They go onto say, requiring celibacy of gay men and lesbian women can be mentally and emotionally damaging because just like every other human sex is a part of life. They conclude for a homosexual person to be emotionally and mentally healthy they like heterosexuals should develop the most intimate and committed relationship possible for them.

**The morality of sex:** if the morality of sex is not defined by a specific sex act, being married or by being celibate, how is it defined? Every sexual relationship which is a true expression of love can be justified morally there is no biblical sex ethic except love. This love ethic is constantly being brought to bear on whatever sexual laws are dominant in any given country, or culture, or period, love is the criterion, it is love in a committed caring and supportive relationship that makes sex moral. But the way we use the word love can mean many different things to different people, we love pies and babies and the sweet old lady next door. Obviously not just any kind of love will do. Love is certainly not where there is selfishness and lust and neither is it in the immature love of youth and their crushes however sweet they may be.

Theologians have tried to define the kind of love required for sex to be moral, they say that love and moral sex is shaped by justice, equality, fidelity, mutual respect, compassion, and grateful joy, sex between two people who have made a covenant with each other within a union which is mutuality, sharing, giving-and-receiving, life together, in this framework sexuality is not about ownership of a legal certificate, but about right relationship. For those who doubt this statement, consider those who have a legal certificate of marriage: -

- Who organise sleep overs with other married couples to enhance their sex life.
- Whose husband is so dominant and arrogant he sexually forces himself his wife.

- Who have affairs with other married men and married women.

Clearly the men and women in these examples are not having moral sex even though they have a legal marriage certificate. These examples (I am sure there could be many others) shine a spotlight on the truth that moral sex involves something more than simply having a legal certificate. With this in mind it is obvious that the criteria for acceptable and moral sex is not solely confined to child bearing and possessing a legal certificate of marriage, but is primarily centred on communion between two persons and embraces sharing the highs and lows of life together and the joyful expression of intimate love.

Most physiologist, medical practitioners and doctors who have studied human behaviour agree that the deepest need of any man or woman other than food, shelter and security is the need to love and be loved. All men and woman (with a few exceptions) desire a partner to share their life experiences with and the freedom to enjoy the sexual passions with the partner they love. This is true of heterosexual men and women and also true of homosexual men and lesbian women. When we understand this reality do any of us have the right to condemn the love of two persons of the same sex who are in a committed caring relationship who love the Lord Jesus Christ and who are not breaking any laws.

Since the Bible is silent on people who love the Lord Jesus Christ, who show kindness to others, are breaking no laws and are in a loving, caring committed relationship with a person of the same sex perhaps it would be a smarter idea to judge the morality of sex both in a homosexual relationship and in a heterosexual relationship by its inner worth, its affection and its selflessness.

### **The Christian Association for Psychological Studies.**

At a seminar on homosexuality the Christian association for psychological studies in 1975 made the following statements. The realities of behavioural research and its associated studies has forced us to propose that while promiscuity, fornication, and adultery should be regarded as sinful for both homosexual and heterosexual persons, a loving, committed, permanent relationship between two persons of the same sex is in an entirely different category.

They went on to say that any human relationship that fell in the category of a loving, committed, permanent relationship is not condemned in Scripture, and that Christian men and women with a natural homosexual orientation could choose a committed homosexual relationship as within God's will rather than an unwanted celibacy.

When Gay and lesbian people in their hearts and minds meet the criteria of love (as set forth above) in their relationships just as fully as heterosexual people are able, then their sexual expressions of love are moral in God's sight, they are within the moral principles that God expects all Christians to live by. They concluded these statements by saying that love (by the above criteria) heterosexual or homosexual is, Godlike, for God is love. This no-doubt is based on the following words of John: -

- Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:8).
- So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him (1 John 4:16).

**A legal certificate of marriage does not necessarily make sex moral:** if a couple say, "We love each other so we can move in together and if we find we're compatible, maybe we'll marry later" it is quite doubtful that they have the kind of selfless devotion and lifetime commitment required to meet the criteria of biblical love. Nevertheless in saying this I would be blind if I did not recognise that there are worldwide a numerous number of unmarried couples (many have children), for very special reasons, who live in a relationship that evidences full commitment to each other, to the Lord and to the church, the morality of their relationship cannot be questioned, because God's criterion is spiritual, not legal.

If a couple is married, but the husband is constantly abusing his wife physically or verbally, does a legal certificate of marriage make sex in this relationship moral? Rather than judging the morality of sex by one's status according to legal law or by one's sexual orientation perhaps it is far better to define sexual morality by the motivation of the heart and the kindness and caring that there is in a relationship.

**Love hidden in the heart is revealed outwardly through the following: -**

- A person's self-sacrificing support.
- Kindness and gentleness.
- Equality and sharing.
- Fidelity and mutual respect.
- Forgiveness and compassion.
- Giving and grateful joy.

Loving, committed homosexual couples represent only a small percentage of all homosexuals, about ten-percent in one large-scale study of the Gay community, many believe that number would increase greatly if society accepted homosexuality and encouraged committed homosexual relationships just as it does heterosexual relationships.

**In previous ages many Christians believed: -**

- It was sinful and evil for a white person to marry a black person.

A black man or woman was so unacceptable to God they wouldn't let them into their churches.

- Children born out of wedlock were bastards and had no hope of salvation.
- Women who had sex before marriage were not to be given any part in church fellowship.

Over generations of debate and the courage of people who were filled with love and willing to go against the general collective consciousness of the Christian community of their generation, Christians eventually saw that love was more important than colour and more important than how a person was born and more important to what a person's past was. These changes didn't happen overnight, but over many years and only came about because Christian men and women filled with love for those seeking the Lord who were being cast out of the church were willing to make sacrifices and had the courage to go against the norm and fight for the way of love.

**Condemning and entire community:** no-one condemns the entire heterosexual community for having sexual relationships because some heterosexual men rape women, have sex with young boys and girls, kidnap teenage females and sell them as sex workers to heterosexual men rather we judge each person and each relationship individually and not according to how they are having sex in their bedrooms but according to the caring and kindness each partner is showing to the other.

When we it is understood that whenever the Bible speaks of same sex relationships it has in focus heterosexuals who not only deny God, but actually hate God and who are choosing to have sex with another heterosexual (a common practised in Roman orgies and amongst the Greeks at the time of the apostles). Added to this it is almost always in the context of rebelling toward God idol worship rape and violence. With this in mind perhaps instead of putting those whose natural orientation is to be attracted to others of the same sex and who love the Lord Jesus Christ and do what is good and right into this category of people we should extend to them the same courtesy we extend to all heterosexuals and not judge them according to what they do in the bedroom, but according to the goodness and

kindness of their heart and how they treat others according to the royal law of love (James 2:8) and Jesus command love your neighbour as yourself (Matt. 22:37-40) (Mark 12:28-31) especially considering that the Bible is silent on these types of relationships. Maybe the day will come when those in the Gay community will be individually measured by the same standards as heterosexual Christians rather than being condemned by the lustful practises of a few.

**Consider for a moment:** 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 fallen and corrupted bodies our own particular sinful aberrations and dysfunctions and not one of us can stand before Christ and before the Holiness of God and claim that we are sin free. Added to this without the washing of Christ's blood none of us would be counted by God as righteous and worthy of eternal life and everlasting glory.

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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 though 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.