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Sodom.

(Genesis 19:1-5)

Same Sex Relationships.

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Sodom. (Genesis 19:1-5).

TEACH IT, DON'T DEMAND IT

Thank you for visiting this topic, my aim in this study is to dispel some of the antipathy and hostility there is toward those who love Christ, but through no fault of their own, have been born with a natural attraction toward those of the same sex gender or have this attraction, because of some medical, biological or genetic influence.

THE STORY OF SODOM AND GOMORRAH

The story of Sodom and Gomorrah takes place in Genesis chapter nineteen with God about ready to pass judgment on the evil people of Sodom. But before He does, He elects to give them one last chance. God agrees to send two of His angels to the city. If they can find ten righteous among the citizens of Sodom, God will spare the city from destruction, however, if they cannot find ten righteous people then His judgment would stand and the city would be destroyed. In the following verses we catch the story, as the angels are coming into the town.

- The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth² and said, "My lords, please turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the town square."³ But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house.⁵ And they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them." (Genesis 19:1-5)

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That evening as the angel's bed down for the night, the entire male population of the city encircles Lot's home and accuses Lot of harbouring these uninvited strangers. They demand that Lot hand the angels over to them so that they may know them. The word (*know*) comes from the Hebrew word (*yada*) and from Strong's concordance means to know properly, but it is used in a great variety of senses. Because of this there has been debate over the interpretation of the word (*yada*), but there is no need to spend time on theological debate since the context of the story clearly shows that the intention of the men was to take Lot's two visitors by force and rape them. Whatever the exact translation of the word (*yada*) is it is very clear the people of Sodom meant the angels harm since the angel's had to blind the men to protect Lot and his two daughters. After Lot and his family were a safe distance away, the city was destroyed just as God had originally planned. From this story the question that is debated is this: "Is God condemning the people because they were homosexual or because they intended to take the men by force and rape them, clearly showing that they were cruel, selfish and showed no mercy or compassion to others?"

Concerning the sins of Sodom Ezekiel wrote:

- Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy.⁵⁰ They were haughty and did an abomination before me. So I removed them, when I saw it. (Ezek. 16:49-50).

In other words, they were evil and self-centred people who totally ignored God and thought nothing of attacking and violently raping people. The fact these men of Sodom wanted to attack and harm the strangers at all demonstrated the evil nature of these people and their complete abandonment of God and the law of love. They were prepared to violently rape lots guests and rape has nothing to do with a loving and committed relationship, even the LGBT community condemns the act of rape in any relationship. It could be reasoned that when the Bible refers to the sin of the Sodomites God is not talking about the specific sexual act of homosexuality as some translations might imply, but to the overall spiritual state of the person that leads them to embrace a sinful lifestyle that is totally selfish, full of pride, violent and completely devoid of love.

NOTE: the word homosexual did not exist when the Bible was written, during these ancient years the people knew nothing of people being born with a natural attraction to another person of their own gender, which means, the focus would be upon heterosexuals having sex with another person of the same sex. This is not hard to understand when it is remembered, that during earlier generations a person born disfigured, disable, blind or deaf, or suffered some type of mental or physical illness that the people did not understand, was believed to be possessed by demons and many were banned from the community, so it is hardly likely they would know anything about a man and a woman being born with an attraction to another person of the same sex.

Added to this, condemning a heterosexual person for sexually lying with a person of their own gender, is justifiable, since they are acting contrary to their natural sexual orientation. In contrast to this, a homosexual is person who through no fault of their own, have been born with a natural attraction to the same sex, or for some medical, biological or genetic influence at a very early age (probably by age five) have a very real sexual orientation deeply-rooted and imbedded in their nature, that is naturally attracted toward people of the same sex gender, which is not only their natural state of being, but is also unchangeable, because it is the natural disposition of the person, and therefore they cannot love a person of the opposite sex, for such a thing would be repulsive and repugnant to them. For them to hook up with a person of the opposite sex, would be extremely nauseating, for they would be acting against their natural nature.

SUMMARY: to use the story of Sodom to condemn men and woman who love the Lord Jesus Christ, are in a loving committed relationship, are law abiding citizens and show kindness to others but for whatever biological, genetic or scientific reason happen to have a natural sexual and romantic orientation and disposition toward people of the same sex gender, maybe reading far more into the story than God intended, especially since Sodom's attempted sexual act was not a loving one, but one of violent force and rape, which even the LBGT community themselves condemn.

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. The aim is to simply present information that hopefully will help the reader come to their own conclusion, especially those who have been influenced to dehumanize homosexuals and lesbians by the collective consciousness of their generation (as I was), or who have been influenced by certain religious leaders to harshly judge, reject and condemn everyone to eternal damnation who is in a same sex relationship.