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Effeminate. (1 Corinthians 6:9)

Same Sex Relationships.

(2019)

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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.

Effeminate (1 Corinthians 6:9).

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.

- **1 Corinthians 6:9:** Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate (*Greek malakos*), nor abusers of themselves with mankind.

THE MEANING OF EFFEMINATE

The word effeminate comes from the Greek word (*malakos*). From Strong's Concordance it means, soft (i.e. fine clothing), figuratively it means a catamite which refers to a boy kept by a man for sexual intercourse. The word translated effeminate in this verse is used in the following verse to denote soft clothing. Concerning, John the Baptist Jesus said to the multitudes:

- **Matthew 11:8:** But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft (*Greek malakos*) raiment? behold, they that wear soft (*malakos*) clothing are in kings' houses.

When referring to soft (*malakos*) clothing Matthew uses the exact same Greek word as Paul did in (1 Cor. 6:9). In Matthews discourse soft/effeminate refers to those who are rich and living in kings' houses (i.e., those who can afford expensive homes and designer clothing etc.). Taking both verses together, this means that the word effeminate (*malakos*) more than likely refers to the rich who spend excessive amounts of money on self-indulgent luxury and expensive designer clothing, without giving any aid to the poor, which manifests absolute self-centeredness and is, in the Bible, a sin that is extremely offensive to God.

Strong's Concordance also says when the word effeminate is used figuratively, it refers to a catamite, meaning a boy kept by a man for sexual intercourse, which even the LGBT community would agree that this is grossly wrong.

SUMMARY

To use the word effeminate to condemn men and woman who are living in a committed caring same sex relationship, especially those who love the Lord Jesus Christ, is certainly not good Bible study practice. For teachers of the Bible to build a doctrine, that condemns those who are living true to the natural romantic sexual attraction they have toward people of the same sex gender, that through no fault of their own, they have been born with, or for some medical, biological or genetic reason developed at a very early age on a verse that is so vague in its meaning is against the rules of good Bible study, especially if the people in focus are breaking no laws, and love the Lord Jesus Christ. Good Bible scholars only establish doctrines on verses that have a very clear meaning, to do otherwise leads to false doctrines and doctrines of error.

Following is another serious point to consider, if we do use the word effeminate in this way, maybe we are placing ourselves in a position where we are in danger of bringing judgment upon ourselves, since the word effeminate can carry the following two ideas:

1. When used referring to soft clothing, it could easily apply to people who live in kings' houses (Matt. 11:8), meaning to people who live indulgent, opulent and lavish lifestyles, without any thought for the poor and needy.
2. To a boy kept by a man for sexual intercourse, which of course both the vast majority of the LGBT and the homosexual community are totally against.

For these reasons to use the word effeminate to condemn men and woman who are living true to the natural romantic sexual attraction they have toward people of the same sex gender, that they have been born with, or for some medical or scientific reason developed at a very early age who are living in a committed caring same sex relationship, maybe reading far more into the word effeminate, than what Paul was actually saying.

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. 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.

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