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## **The Morality of Sex. 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.

**Teach it, don't demand it:** thank you for clicking on 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.

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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 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 (probably by age five), the meaning of the word, homosexual itself, is limited to people whose natural disposition and affection is toward a person of the same sex.

No Bible writer knew or understood anything of homosexuality, so no Bible writer could have said anything about it, they are always talking about the only kinds of people they 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 genuine homosexual man can only be attracted to another man, woman have no appeal to them sexually no matter how beautiful they maybe. Likewise, a genuine 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 repugnance toward the same sex, 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 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 practice 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.

No one denies, that the Bible condemns men lying with another man and likewise, woman lying with another woman, the question is, does this condemnation refer to both, heterosexual and gay men and women or to heterosexual men and women only, because Bible writers knew nothing of men and women having a true and natural romantic sexual attraction 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 (probably by age five).

This is not difficult to comprehend, especially since people during the Old and New Testament, naively believed those born with physical disabilities, such as 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 towns and villages. After pondering these realities, 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 enormous 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 and often, violence, rape and idolatries, 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 such couples ask for membership in the church saying, "Christ is our Lord and Saviour and we would like to serve him with you in your 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?

**The morality of sex:** the following focus is upon seeking for the answer to the question, "what makes sex moral?" Some say, moral sex is about giving birth to children within marriage and then raising them, the difficulty with this idea is that even after the married couple have the required number of children they want, and even after their children have left home, they continue to have sex, which means that sex can be moral with or without children.

Others says that marriage makes sex moral, but what if the husband considers his wife merely a sex object and takes unfair selfish advantage of her for personal gain or even rapes her as some husbands have be known to do, would this be classed as moral sex? it would be very difficult to find someone in both the heterosexual and homosexual community that would say that such forceful violent sex was moral, even though the couple were married.

Life shows us that sex can be enjoyed whether people are married with children, married without children, or unmarried, and can be abused in marriages with or without children and in unmarried relationships, which again raises the question, "what makes sex moral?" The first key to finding the answer to this question is to understand that morality is found in people, not in a legal status or certificate, which means that what determines moral sex, must be found somewhere else other than marriage and having children.

Psychologists and Theologians have defined the kind of framework required for sex to be moral in the following way: moral sex is framed by justice, equality, fidelity, mutual respect, compassion, and grateful joy, it is sex between two people who have made a covenant with each other within a union which is mutuality, sharing, giving-and-receiving and building life together. In this framework sexuality is not about ownership of a legal certificate, but about right relationship of love.

Should anyone still be in doubt about this framework defining moral sex, consider those who have a legal certificate of marriage, but organize sleep overs with other married couples to enhance their sex-life, who have secret affairs with other married men and married women and whose husband is so dominant and arrogant, he sexually forces himself on his wife.

Clearly the men and women in these examples are not having moral sex even though they have a legal marriage certificate. These examples (there are of course many others) show that moral sex must involve something more than simply having a legal certificate.

With this in mind, it is obvious that moral sex cannot be defined by the title, marriage or by child bearing, or by possessing a legal certificate of marriage, but is centered on caring, understanding and romantic affection between two persons and embraces sharing the highs and lows of life together and expressions of sexual intimacy

Most physiologist, medical practitioners and doctors who have studied human behavior 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 clearly understand this reality, it raises the question, do any of us have the right to condemn the love of same sex couples who through no fault of their own, have been born with a natural attraction to the same sex, or for some 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, that are in a committed caring relationship who love the Lord Jesus Christ and who are not breaking any laws, especially when it is understood that they cannot be sexually attracted to a person of the opposite sex, for such a thing would be repulsive and repugnant to them.

Since the Bible appears to be 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 a better response would be to judge the morality of sex, both in a homosexual relationship and in a heterosexual relationship by its inner worth, its affection, its selflessness and its commitment toward each other.

**Gays, lesbians and celibacy:** if it is accepted that homosexual and lesbians have been born with a natural attraction to the same sex, or for some medical, biological or genetic reason have a very real sexual orientation and natural attraction toward people of the same sex gender

that is 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, does any human have the moral right: -

- To tell them that they must remain celibate and consign themselves to a life of isolation and loneliness, especially since this is virtually impossible for most?
- To condemn others to a life of guilt and in many cases emotional and mental torment which for some leads to suicide.
- To force a person to live without a deep loving and committed relationship for the rest of their life?

Statistics show that the majority of homosexuals who live a life of abstinence, choose to do so, 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 both 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 a person is, 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 suiciding

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 major part of life. This is easy to understand, when we consider that the four strongest driving forces in human nature are, self-survival, food, the desire to be loved and sex. These, doctors and psychologists conclude their findings, saying that, for a homosexual person to be emotionally and mentally healthy, they like heterosexuals, need to develop an intimate and committed relationship.

The physiologist, medical practitioners and doctors go on to say, when heterosexual and homosexual men and woman enter into a lifelong relationship, they do not commit themselves to such a relationship, simply to have sex. Committing oneself to another for life is far more than that, it's about sharing life with another person and having a best friend that you can grow up together with, sex is added value that enhances the intimacy of such a relationship, not the purpose for it.

**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. their reasoning is no-doubt 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).

**Various historians point out the following facts, 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.
- Woman 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, that 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.

With all this information in mind, maybe, instead of automatically judging and condemning all genuine homosexual couples living in a same sex relationship who love the Lord Jesus Christ and casting them out of our churches, it might be more godly to judge them according to the love that is hidden in their heart that is manifested outwardly through the following.

- Their commitment and self-sacrificing support, kindness and gentleness.
- Their forgiveness, sharing, faithfulness, compassion and mutual respect.
- Their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and their love for him.

**Condemning and entire community:** no-one condemns the entire heterosexual community for having sexual relationships, because some heterosexual men rape woman, 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 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 choose to have sex with another heterosexual (a common practice in Roman orgies and amongst the Greeks at the time of the apostles), and is almost always in the context of rebellion against God, idol worship, rape and violence. It seems somewhat unjust to place those who through no fault of their own, have been born with a natural attraction to the same sex gender, or for some medical, biological or genetic reason have in their nature a very real sexual orientation and natural attraction toward people of the same sex gender, which cannot be changed, to place them in the following two categories.

1. Heterosexuals who choose to act contrary to their own nature by bedding a person of the same sex, because, unlike homosexuals, these people can return to their true sexual orientation anytime they choose.
2. Those who are violent, rape women, indulge in orgies, are idol worshippers and rebel against God.

Perhaps instead of placing homosexuals who love the Lord Jesus Christ and do what is good and right into one of these two categories a better Christian response would be to extend to them the same courtesy we extend to all heterosexuals and rather than judge them according to what they do in the bedroom, judge them according to the goodness and kindness of their heart and how they treat others according to the royal law of love.

- If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. (James 2:8).

And Jesus command: -

- You shall love your neighbor as yourself. (Matt. 22:39).

Especially since the Bible appears to be silent on these types of unique relationships, in the same way that it is silent on masturbation, yet according to Psychological studies everyone practices it at some stage of their life and many into old age.

Maybe, like a day in the past came: -

- When it was accepted for a white person to marry a black person.
- When a black man and woman were accepted into the Christian church.
- When children born out of wedlock were accepted into God’s kingdom.
- When women that had sex before marriage were permitted to join in church fellowship.

A day will come when those in the LBGT community will be individually measured by the same standards and their love for the Lord Jesus Christ as heterosexual Christians are, rather than being automatically condemned and rejected from church fellowship.

**Consider for a moment:** when we reject and condemn to eternal hell-fire those who love the Lord Jesus Christ simply because they through no fault of their own, have been born with a natural attraction to the same sex, or for some medical, biological or genetic reason have in their nature a very real sexual orientation that is naturally attracted toward people of the same sex gender, we maybe 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.

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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. 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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