

# THE INSTRUCTOR



*"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)*

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## "HOMOSEXUALITY IS A SIN"

When I was growing up "homosexuals" were known as "queers". *Queer* (as an adj.) is defined as a "differing in some odd way from what is usual and normal..." The slang definition is "sexually deviate: homosexual..." When used as a noun the slang definition is "one that is queer; esp. homosexual..." (Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dict.) . NOTE: *Homosexuals are "sexual deviates!"*

Current "political correctness" accepts homosexuality and promotes it although it is neither natural nor right.

Sodomites (which include homosexuals) were condemned in the Old Testament. Deut. 23:17 says: "There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor sodomite of the sons of Israel." (Also see 1 Kgs. 14:24; 15:12; 22:46 & 2 Kgs. 23:7).

From the beginning God's plan for sexual relations was between a man (male) and a woman (female) and was within the bonds of marriage, which God approved. (See Gen. 2:23-25; Mt. 19:4-6; 1 Cor. 7:5; Heb. 13:4). NOTE: In God's plan there is no allowance made for *homosexuality!*

God *condemned* homosexuality prior to the giving of the Law of Moses. (Carefully read Gen. 19:1-29; 2 Pet. 2:6-8 & Jude 7).

Under the Law of Moses God *condemned* homosexuality! He said: "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination." (Lev. 18:22; cf. v. 29). God also said: "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

Homosexuality is *condemned* under the Law of Christ! In Rom. 1:26-27 Paul said: "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet." V. 32 says: "...That they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them." NOTE: Homosexuality is not natural. It "is against nature"! It

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## Editorial... MUST WE KEEP THE SABBATH TODAY? (No. 21)

In our previous articles in examining the question, "MUST WE KEEP THE SABBATH TODAY?", we have discussed such questions as: (1) *What Day is the Sabbath?*; (2) *Who Gave the Sabbath Law?*; (3) *To Whom Was the Sabbath Law Given?*, (4) *When Was the Sabbath Law Given?*; (5) *Why Was the Sabbath Law Given?*; (6) *What Did Sabbath Keeping Require?*; (7) *What Was the Penalty for Violating the Sabbath Command to do no Work?*, and, (8) *Is the Sabbath Law Still in Effect?*

In our prior studies we also considered *the two covenants* (i.e., two testaments, two laws). Without question, we showed from the Scriptures that the *first covenant* (which contained the sabbath command) was given at Mt. Sinai and it was given to the Israelites. It was *not* given to *all nations!* It was provisional and temporary! *It is no longer in effect as law! It is not bound on Christians and never was!*

The *new covenant* was given by Jesus Christ and it was intended for *all nations!* (See Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 8:6-13; Mt. 28:19-20; Luke 24:46-47; Mk. 16:15-16; etc.) A study of such passages as Mt. 5:17-18; Col. 2:14-17; Eph. 2:14-16; Rom. 7:4; Heb. 7:12; Gal. 3:24-25; 2 Cor. 3:6-16 also *proves* that the sabbath law is *not* binding on Christians!

In our past studies we also examined 38 "arguments" that are sometimes made by "Sabbatarians" in an effort to prove that the sabbath law is binding on Christians. When examined in the light of the Scriptures the "arguments" set forth by "Sabbatarians" do not *prove* that Christians must keep the sabbath.

As we continue our examination of *Sabbatarianism* please note the following.

I If the commandment to "**Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy**" (Exo. 20:8) is a *moral* commandment and is binding on people today, then *all people* who do not keep the sabbath *are immoral!* NOTE: Do Sabbatarians consider *all* non-sabbath keepers as *immoral?*

II. In Exo. 35:2 the *sabbath* is spoken of as "**an holy day**". (Other things such as the tabernacle, vessels in the tabernacle, perfume, anointing oil and the firstling of a cow, sheep or a goat are spoken of as being holy. Cf. Exo. 40:9 Kings 8:4; Exo. 30:34-37; 30:25 & Num. 18:17). However, a number of things (such as the tabernacle, ark of the testimony tables & vessels, candlestick & vessels, altar of incense, altar of burnt offerings & vessels, the place where the sin offering was killed, the altar, the atonement and part of the tabernacle. (Cf. Exo. 30:25-30; Lev. 6:25; Exo. 29:37; 30:10 & Exo. 26:33), are spoken of as being "**most**

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**holy**! Please observe the fact that the *sabbath* is *not* spoken of as being "*most holy*"! QUESTION: Does the fact that a number of things are spoken of as being "*most holy*", but the *sabbath* is *not* so described prove that those things were superior to the *sabbath* and are to be "observed" in some way in this age? Of course not!

III. There are seven different expressions in Nehemiah 8 that refers to the *law* that God gave through Moses to the Israelites. They are as follows.

1. "...The book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded to Israel." (Verse 1)

2. "...The law..." (Verse 2, 7, 9)

3. "...The book of the law..." (Verse 3)

4. "...The book..." (Verse 5)

5. "...The words of the law." (Verse 9)

6. "...The law which the Lord had commanded by Moses..." (Verse 1)

7. "...The book of the law of God..." (Verse 18)

OBSERVATION: The above expressions refer to *one* and the *same* law, not to seven different laws!

IV. What does the expression "*the law*" embrace? It embraces the following.

1. The Book of GENESIS. In Gal. 4:21-22 Paul said: "Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear *the law*? For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman." NOTE: We find this written in Genesis 16:15 and 21:2-3.

2. The book of EXODUS. In Romans 7:7 Paul said: "...For I had not known sin, but by *the law*: for I had not known lust, except *the law* had said, *Thou shalt not covet.*"

NOTE: We find the expression, "Thou shalt not covet" in Exodus 20:17.

3. The Book of LEVITICUS. Mt. 22:36-39 says: that a lawyer said to Jesus. "**Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. And the second is like unto it, *Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.* On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**" NOTE: We find "...Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" in Leviticus 19:18.

4. The Book of NUMBERS. In Mt. 12:5 Jesus said: "**Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?**" NOTE: In Numbers 28:9-10 we find that offerings (including two lambs) would be offered on the sabbath. The priests would offer more offerings on the sabbath than any other day. When they did this they were blameless although no work was to be done on the sabbath.

5. The Book of DEUTERONOMY. In Mt. 22:36-39 Jesus quotes a commandment that is found in "*the law*" in Deuteronomy 6:5.

6. The Book of PSALMS. In Mt. 10:34 "Jesus answered them, **Is it not written in your law, I said, *Ye are gods?***" The only other time this expression is found in the Scriptures is in Psalms 82:6.

7. The Books of the PROPHETS. In 1 Cor. 14:21 Paul declared: "**In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people;...**" NOTE: This is a quotation from Isaiah the prophet (28:11)! So "*the law*" embraced the prophets also. (To be continued)

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is "vile!" Homosexuals engage in "uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves!"

In 1 Cor. 6:9-11 we learn that the "effeminate" and those who are "abusers of themselves with mankind" (homosexuals-NASV) shall not inherit the kingdom of God! They are listed along with fornicators, adulterers, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers and extortioners! NOTE: If homosexuals (as well as the others listed) will turn away from their sin of homosexuality in repentance and obey God they can be washed, sanctified and justified. The Corinthians were! (See 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Acts 18:8; 2:38; 17:30-31; Mk. 16:15-16 and Gal. 3: 26-27).

No, homosexuality is not inherited! No, homosexuality is not a sickness, but a choice! It is error! It is dishonorable! It is against nature! It is vile! It is a sin! God does not make thieves, drunkards, murderers or homosexuals. Neither does He make perverts of any kind. A holy, righteous God is not responsible for wicked, ungodly lives.

Stating that "Homosexuality is merely a different sexual orientation, a natural life style, and is not wrong" does not justify such. Calling those who oppose homosexuality names such as "homophobes, gay-bashers, bigots, etc." does not and will not change the fact that homosexuality is wickedness! We call on all homosexuals to repent!

(CRS)

## SENTENCE SERMONS

We should be more concerned about making our years count than in counting our years.

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If one's faith is too weak to obey God it is too weak to take one to heaven.

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One ounce of facts is worth more than a ton of opinions.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is much better to dig for facts than to jump to conclusions.

\* \* \* \* \*

Discontentment makes rich people poor, while contentment make poor people rich.

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