

## **Homosexuality: The Word of the World vs. the Word of the Lord**

By Travis Vrana

In today's world, many different views and opinions have been expressed regarding the issue of homosexuality. I use the word "homosexual" because it is the correct description of a person who has intimate or sexual relations with someone of the same sex; the word gay means "joyful and happy", improperly used nowadays to reference homosexuality.

Some people hate homosexuals. Others defend homosexuality. Still others look towards science or refuse to make a determination. The reality is that these views are neither correct nor biblical. We are given no authority or right to hate homosexuals. A Christian cannot convert a sinner to Christ while acting with hate; neither can a Christian properly wear that name while holding on to hatred—hate will only breed more hate. Instead of hating, we should look to the Scriptures and allow it to define our stance.

The Bible is crystal clear in illustrating God's plan for sexual intimacy and marriage: a man and a woman. Nowhere in the Bible is there any approval of homosexuality. No Christian in the Bible continued in homosexuality with God's approval. No homosexual was ever permitted to hold a leadership position within God's church or community—such a position would indicate approval and acceptance. Paul reveals very clearly the feelings of God toward homosexuality in 1 Corinthians 6:9 —“Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.” While this passage demonstrates to us God's disapproval of homosexuality, it does not give Christians the license to hate homosexuals, degrade homosexuals, or keep the word of God away from them. If a homosexual person wishes to attend church or study the Bible, such should be encouraged! And, they should be able to study and attend without any resistance.

God's purposely designed the male and female bodies to be compatible (Genesis 2:24). By both His design and His words, we learn His feelings towards homosexuality. To the Israelites, God vehemently spoke against homosexuality, saying, "I am the Lord. You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination" (Leviticus 18:21-22). Whether scientifically, experientially, or biblically, the Christian can find no justification for homosexuality. God has judged sexual immorality before, with the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, using their destruction as an example for us (Jude 7). Before so quickly accept the word of the world, let us first examine the Word of the Lord.