

Jesus On LGBTQ Matters

At the church discussion group, an empty chair was filled
By Jesus. He sat next to me.

I was a bit surprised – but whispered in his ear,

‘Tonight’s about God’s oldest laws,

What are You doing here?’

His eyes were brown like mine and shone with light,

‘I am the end of the law’.

‘Is that even in the Bible?’ I asked.

You have a bookmark in the page, winked He.

I told Him, ‘Well – tonight we *started* with the ancient laws,
but they always bring it back you see,

To when God – your Father – created Heaven and earth...

He said gently, ‘Well, I might have been there too.’

‘So, **all** things were created by God’,

What you say is true.

God made a man, and a woman. And they were married...’

‘Were they?’ He said.

‘They set the marriage pattern if you will’.

He said I hope not. All that blaming each other...hmm, maybe you’re right!

This man’s voice had made the room quiet and still.

Then a student called across the sea of seats,

‘The Bible says, he created man, and woman.’

‘So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created
them; male and female he created them’.

‘Well, right!’

Aah, said Jesus, the poetry of Genesis!

‘He separated the light from the darkness’. He called them day and night.

‘Um... yes, but...hey...’

Although ‘there was evening and there was morning’. And that moment
when it’s neither night nor day – a special moment, wouldn’t you say?

‘And God named the dry ground land, and the waters seas’. He also made
the beach, and the estuaries. And the marshes.

‘Okay...’

Jesus turned to me and said, Hey, remember when you lost your glasses?

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‘Huh? Yes – I looked *everywhere*.’

Yes - you told your friend you’d looked high and low.

‘God is the Alpha and the Omega’. ‘The beginning and the end,’ and so?

‘So...and everything in between.’

From a young person at the back, ‘Yes! and everything in between!’

Murmuring rippled round the room. An older lady stood up, now keen.

‘The Bible says it’s clearly wrong for gays to have a mate!’

Someone said, ‘it also says it’s okay to have slaves!’

Jesus asked, **What did Wilberforce have to add to that debate?**

‘He talked about the ‘sum of misery’ caused’

You tell the truth. What did Wilberforce say about Bible truth?

‘We are all made in God’s likeness’, said a youth,

Another: ‘in Him there is neither slave nor free’.

A whisper: ‘nor is there male and female’ (that was me).

‘But Jesus wait! You said yourself marriage is only between a woman and man!’

Oh, did I?

‘Yes, the Pharisees asked you.’

Ah – them. They did like to scheme and plan.

‘But on marriage’

On divorce. A real hot topic of the day.

If they’d asked me about marriage I’d have had more to say.

Or gender. But no one asked – it’s not something they knew.

‘And we do now?’

Mmm – a bit more. Credit where it’s due.

Back then I did mention about eunuchs to give a clue.

‘So, if there is nothing much in the Bible about it, what are we supposed to do?’

He tapped his chin. **I wonder?**

Quiet light like the early dawn began to move across the chairs.

I’ll see you next time, He said to me, but check your other Bible bookmark.

It’s on the second shelf.

It was in Galatians chapter 5 - ‘For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: Love your neighbour as yourself’.