

# The LGBTQ+ Problem

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# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## Homosexuality (LGB) is Condemned

- The **only** situation where sexual relations are approved by God is within the confines of marriage.
  - *"Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous" (Heb. 13:4).*
- Any sexual activity outside of marriage is condemned and falls under one of two categories:
  - 1) *"sexually immoral"* (*"fornicators,"* KJV)
  - 2) *"adultery"*

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## Homosexuality (LGB) is Condemned

- Homosexuality was condemned under the OT.
  - God designed marriage heterosexually (**Gen. 2:18-24**).
  - Homosexuality was called a “perversion” and an “abomination” on par with bestiality (**Lev. 18:22-23; Lev. 20:13-16**).
  - God destroyed two cities Sodom and Gomorrah in part due to the citizens engaging in homosexuality (**Gen. 19:1-29; Jude 1:7**).
- Homosexuality is also condemned under the NT (**1 Tim. 1:10, ESV**).
  - Jesus reiterated God’s heterosexual design for marriage (**Matt. 19:4-6**).
  - Homosexuality is described as an act that goes against nature (**Rom. 1:26-27**).
  - Unrepented homosexuality will keep people out of Heaven (**1 Cor. 6:9**).

# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## False Arguments Concerning Homosexuality (LGB)

- As a means for justifying the sin of homosexuality, many claim homosexuals are "born that way."
  - The Bible clearly says homosexuality is a sin, and the Bible clearly says we are not born sinners (**Ecc. 7:29; Ezek. 18:20; Rom. 9:11; Matt. 18:3**).
  - Babies are born sin-free and remain so before being reaching a point where they are able to discern good from evil and become accountable for their actions (**Deut. 1:39; Isa. 7:16; Jonah 4:11; James 4:17**).
  - Once they reach a certain age / level of mental maturity, they become guilty of sin just like all humans (**Rom. 3:23**).
- If we claim homosexuals are "born that way," we are saying homosexuals are born sinners, contradicting the word of God which plainly teaches, "*God made man upright*" (**Ecc. 7:29**).

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## False Arguments Concerning Homosexuality (LGB)

- Some try to pass blame for their homosexuality by saying they can't control their homosexual urges.
  - It's not God's fault if we struggle with homosexuality (**James 1:13-15**).
  - It is no more "impossible" to control homosexual urges than it is to control heterosexual urges. If a person struggles with the temptation of homosexuality, self-control must be exhibited (**1 Cor. 7:5-7**).
- A person can certainly be impacted by his environment, traumatic experiences, the influences of people around him, etc., but we must take responsibility for our sins (**Psalms 51; 2 Cor. 5:10**).

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## False Arguments Concerning Homosexuality (LGB)

- Those who claim homosexuality is not a sin often point to **Ezek. 16:49-50** to argue that Sodom was not destroyed for their homosexuality.
  - *“Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. They were haughty and did an abomination before me. So I removed them, when I saw it.”*
- This passage does not provide the full picture. Consider **Jude 1:7**:
  - *"Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire."*



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## False Arguments Concerning Homosexuality (LGB)

- Since idolatry is condemned in the same context, many argue **Rom. 1:24-27** only condemns homosexuality when it is associated with idolatry.
  - If this argument had any merit, the other sins mentioned in the same context (fornication, murder, deceit, haters of God, etc. [**vs. 29-31**]) would also only be wrong when committed in association with idolatry.
- **Rom. 1:24-27** condemns homosexuality no matter the context. The very wording condemns the act of homosexuality by itself without ever pointing to idolatry:
  - 1) "*lusts of their hearts*" – Homosexuality was driven by sexual desire, not an idol.
  - 2) "*contrary to nature*" – The act of homosexuality itself is unnatural, not the idol.
  - 3) "*consumed with passion*" – They committed homosexual acts to satisfy their own lusts; they were not consumed with passion for the idol.

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## False Arguments Concerning Homosexuality (LGB)

- Throughout the Bible, God uses Sodom (and Gomorrah) as evidence to not transgress His laws.
  - *"By turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly" (2 Pet. 2:6).*
- Sodom fell to various temptations, and the Bible is clear that they were guilty of homosexuality.
- Let's recognize Sodom and Gomorrah as the *"great sinners against the Lord"* that God describes them as (**Gen. 13:13**), and resist the temptations to grow prideful, ignoring the needs of the poor, AND committing sexual immorality through homosexuality.



# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## But Jesus Didn't Speak About Homosexuality (LGB) . . .

- Jesus indirectly condemned homosexuality in **Matt. 19**.
  - *“Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’” (Matt. 19:4-5).*
    - Jesus makes it clear that marriage – thus, a sexual relationship – is for the married "*male*" and "*female*" (**see also 1 Cor. 7**).
- The rest of the New Testament teaches what Jesus wanted taught (**John 16:13; John 14:26; 1 Cor. 14:37**), so, contrary to what many want to believe, Jesus does, in fact, condemn homosexuality (**Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:10**).

# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## Transgenderism is a Sin (TQ+)

- Gender and sex are not distinct entities that we can alter.
  - **Gender** – “And the Lord God formed **man** of the dust of the ground” (**Gen. 2:7a**); “Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from **man** He made into a **woman**” (**Gen. 2:22a**).
  - **Sex** – “He answered and said to them, ‘Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them **male** and **female**’” (**Matt. 19:4**).
- The terms denoting gender ("**man**" & "**woman**") and sex ("**male**" & "**female**") are used interchangeably because God views sex and gender as identical constructs that he assigns.

# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## Transgenderism is a Sin (TQ+)

### **The Old Testament proves this point:**

- *"A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all who do so are an abomination to the Lord your God"* (**Deut. 22:5**).

### **The New Testament proves this point:**

- *"Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him? But if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her; for her hair is given to her for a covering"* (**1 Cor. 11:14-15**).
- *"But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female'"* (**Mark 10:6-9**).

# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## Transgenderism is a Sin (TQ+)

- Consider **1 Cor. 11:2-9**:

- *"But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God . . . For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man. For man is not from woman, but woman from man. Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man."*

- Paul appealed to this same order of creation when explaining that women must be in submission to men (**1 Tim. 2:11-14**).

- These passages show that we are called to represent the image of God and His order of creation today by fulfilling the distinct responsibilities He gives males and females both in regards to subjection and physical appearance.

# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## Transgenderism is a Sin (TQ+)

- Lastly, consider how both Paul and Peter present very specific commands and warnings concerning women and their physical appearance.
  - *“Women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness – with good works” (1 Tim. 2:9).*
  - *“Do not let your adorning be external – the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear – but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God’s sight is very precious” (1 Pet. 3:3).*
- God takes our physical appearance just as seriously today as he did when he gave the command to the Israelites in **Deut. 22:5**.



# The LGBTQ+ Problem

## Transgenderism is a Sin (TQ+)

- All humans are called to glorify God with our bodies and to respect our God-given identities as male and female (**1 Cor. 6:20; 11:2-12; 14:34-35; 1 Tim. 2:11-14**).
- When God created male and female, He declared it "*very good*" (**Gen. 1:31**).
- God designed and assigned us our psychical forms (**Gen. 1:26, 2:7; Jer. 1:5; Isa. 44:2, 49:5; Job 31:15, 33:4; Psalm 100:3; Zech. 12:1**).
- For us to cross-dress as the opposite sex is to imply that God made a mistake when creating us male or female, which is false.
  - "*For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well*" (**Psalm 139:13-14**).

# Conclusion

- Please, I urge you, if you are engaged in any of the sins discussed here, be like those at the church at Corinth who once engaged in similar sins:
  - "*such were some of you*" (**1 Cor. 6:11**)
- Put these sins in the past tense and put away this work of the flesh so God will not punish your eternal soul similar to how He punished the people of Sodom and Gomorrah:
  - "*But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death*" (**Rev. 21:8**).