

The LGBTQ+ Problem

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Homosexuality (LGB) is a Form of Sexual Immorality

- 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" (fornication [NKJV])
 - 2) "adultery"

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- Homosexuality falls under "sexually immoral" because of what God told the Israelites in the Old Testament:
 - *"You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination. And you shall not lie with any animal and so make yourself unclean with it, neither shall any woman give herself to an animal to lie with it: it is perversion" (Lev. 18:22-23).*
 - *"If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them . . . If a man lies with an animal, he shall surely be put to death, and you shall kill the animal. If a woman approaches any animal and lies with it, you shall kill the woman and the animal; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them" (Lev. 20:13-16).*

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- But homosexuality also falls under "sexually immoral" in the New Testament:
 - *"Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire" (Jude 1:7; see Genesis 19:1-28).*

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False Arguments Concerning Sodom and Gomorrah

- Those who claim homosexuality is not a sin often point to **Ezekiel 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 Sodom and Gomorrah

- God provides even more details in **Romans 1:24-27**:
 - “²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.”

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False Arguments Concerning Sodom and Gomorrah

- 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 Sodom and Gomorrah

- 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.

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We Must Abstain From Homosexuality (LGB)

- *"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? 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" (1 Cor. 6:9-10).*
 - The NKJV footnotes define the word here translated "*homosexuals*" as "catamites, those submitting to homosexual," and defines the word translated "*sodomites*" as "male homosexuals." Thus, engaging in homosexuality, in any form, will keep us from entering Heaven.

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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**).

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Transgenderism is a Sin (TQ+)

The Old Testament proves this point:

- *"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them" (Gen. 1:26-27).*
- *"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).*

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Transgenderism is a Sin (TQ+)

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).*
- *"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'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate" (Matt. 19:4-6).*
- *"But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate" (Mark 10:6-9).*

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- 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 the 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.

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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**.

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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; Isaiah 44:2, 49:5; Job 31:15, 33:4; Psalm 100:3, 139:13-14; 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**).