

## The Bible and Homosexuality

### Romans 8:1-32

We must always keep sight of our goal as believers: To help people around us know Jesus and know God's word. To do this we need to be clear and understandable about what we believe, and we need to be compassionate and caring. All people matter to God and matter to us!

Senate Bill 6239, which would legalize same-sex "marriage" in Washington State, is an attack on the core issue of who we are as God's creation.

**Genesis 2:18-24** And the Lord God said, It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion who will help him...there was no companion suitable for him. So the LORD God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep. He took one of Adam's ribs and closed up the place from which he had taken it. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib and brought her to Adam. At last! Adam exclaimed. She is part of my own flesh and bone! She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken out of man. This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

**Leviticus 18:22** Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.

**Leviticus 20:13** If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination.

How does homosexuality depart from God's blueprint for sexual identity and intimacy?

Every single reference in Scripture about homosexuality condemns it without question. It is absolutely forbidden. It is a sin. If believers compromise and accept same-sex marriage as a normal part of our social structure, what happens to our belief that the Bible is inspired by God and without error?

Read **Romans 1: 18-23**. Summarize what is happening in this wicked society?

**Romans 1: 24-32**. 24 So God let them go ahead and do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. 25 Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies...26 That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. 27 And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved. 28 When they refused to acknowledge God, He abandoned them to their evil minds and let them do things that should never be done. 29 Their lives

became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, fighting, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. 30 They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They are forever inventing new ways of sinning and are disobedient to their parents. 31 They refuse to understand, break their promises, and are heartless and unforgiving. 32 They are fully aware of God's death penalty for those who do these things, yet they go right ahead and do them anyway. And, worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

Once the people had rejected God and His laws, there were three steps that led to moral decline:

1. Verse 24: What did their *desires* lead them to do?  
Where does sexual sin begin?

2. Verses 26-27: Once they began *experimenting* with sexual sin, what steps followed?

Sexual addiction—where sexual deviance becomes a way of life.

What are the consequences of abandoning God's moral laws?

3. Verses 28-32: when the brain is rewired (*consequence*) to evil, what does it take to change?

Why are homosexual issues not comparable to civil rights issues?

Read **1 Corinthians 6: 9-11 and 18-20**. Can the homosexual be forgiven and freed from that sin?

Homosexuals want to be granted special rights and force its acceptance by society and ban any public disapproval by calling it a "hate crime".

How might the "hate speech" issue affect the church or us as individuals?

**Proverbs 29:25 Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but to trust the LORD means safety.**

**Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.**