

## Same-Sex Marriage A Christian Perspective

The Christian's objection to same-sex marriage is based on the fact that homosexual activity is contrary to God's will as expressed in the Holy Bible.

### God Established Marriage

Shortly after the creation of man the Bible says that there was no suitable helper for man among all the animals so God created woman from man. Then God united man and woman in the estate of marriage. They became one. God said,

*For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.* Genesis 2:24

In this union of man and wife God specifies that sex is appropriate, but not outside of marriage.

*Since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.* 1 Corinthians 7:2-5

### What About Sex Between Consenting Adults?

Men and women are driven by their sexual desires and seek to justify their having sex outside of marriage by saying, "We love each other and both agree to have sex." But they have left God out of the picture. God created both man and woman and established marriage for their mutual security and blessing. He says, that since there is so much immorality each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The word here translated as "immorality" is *porneias* in the Greek, from which we get the word pornographic. It is also translated as fornication. In street language it is called shacking up.

### Are All Forms of Sex Permissible?

It is obvious from what has already been said that sex is only for a man and his wife. The conclusion is that sex between two men or between two women is contrary to God's will. Indeed, God has made this clear,

*Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.* Corinthians 6:9-10

God does not tolerate thieves, drunkards, slanderers, swindlers, homosexual offenders, sexually immoral (fornicators) and adulterers. These words were written to the people of Corinth who practiced various forms of homosexual behavior. The following is a continuation of the above quote,

*And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.* 1 Corinthians 6:11

Although they were guilty they repented and were assured of God's forgiveness. Christ went to the cross to suffer our guilt that we might have God's forgiveness.

Bestiality is also forbidden,

*Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it. A woman must not present herself to an animal to have sexual relations with it; that is a perversion.* Leviticus 18:23

In a society that glorifies sex and is looking for greater sensations, God's laws appear to some as restrictive, preventing people from satisfying their desires. God's laws are meant for man's good to protect him from doing harm to himself and others. Yes, we need to be protected from our own desires. Diseases, broken relationships and emotional problems come to those who do not control their sexual desires.

### The Positive Power of Sex

Sex in marriage strengthens the bond between husband and wife. When sex is practiced outside of marriage for pleasure the emotional bonding is eroded so that later in marriage the bonding power of sex is reduced. The divorce rate for those who have had sex before marriage is greater than for those who have waited for marriage.

### Why Oppose Same-Sex Marriage?

Because homosexual behavior is wrong and harmful to the individuals and to society, it should not be institutionalized. We need to support a higher standard for our society.

*Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.* Hebrews 13:4

### Are Christians Homophobic?

Some in the homosexual community try to intimidate Christians and others who oppose their lifestyle by calling them *homophobic*. It is their way of trying to silence others. Those who recognize homosexual behavior as a repulsive, unhealthy lifestyle are not *homophobic*. Christians feel badly for those who are addicted to it.

### The Lord Has Shown Us a Better Way.

*Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways.* Psalm 128:1