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A Message for Gays and Lesbians

And Those Who May Think They Are, or Who Are Leaning That Way

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This page is designed to shed the light of God's love on the social, political, and religious controversies that swirl around the issue of homosexuality. However, real born-again Christians do not harass gay or lesbian persons mentally or physically. The October 1998 murder in Wyoming of Matthew Shepard was a crime as well as a sin of the worst order. All persons connected with the real Christian right should abstain from such activity and should encourage all others to do so, also. True, the Bible clearly labels homosexuality as a sin. However, this fact must never be justification for mental and physical harassment of any degree. If you have something to say to gays and lesbians, say

"God loves you and the power of the Holy Spirit can deliver you from this abnormal lifestyle."

The Old Testament law of Moses is very clear on the sinful nature of homosexuality. For Chapter 18 of Leviticus, the NIV uses the subheading *Unlawful Sexual Relations*. While subheadings may not be Divinely inspired, they do represent the thinking of the translators regarding the general context of the passage. These laws about sexual regulations are not all mixed in with injunctions regarding such things as harvesting, wage payment, or cattle breeding. They are assembled together in one place with Verse 22 speaking specifically of homosexuality: "Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable." In Verse 24-25 of Lev. 18 (NIV), God goes on to explain why general sexual impurity, of which homosexuality is one element, is so "detestable": "Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, because this is how the nations that I am going to drive out before you became defiled. Even the land was defiled so I punished it for its sin, and the land vomited out its inhabitants." Scripture can't get any plainer than this, on any issue.

The New Testament position on homosexuality is just as strong as the Old Testament. The Apostle Paul wrote this as part of a general denunciation of the sins of mankind, as recorded in Romans 1:26-27 (NIV): "Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion."

Perhaps you are dissatisfied with your sexual orientation and would like to be straight. Or, perhaps you are straight now but feel urges to try homosexual activity. Or, perhaps you are perfectly happy the way you are, but want to see what this is all about.

Consider these facts:

1. God loves [agape] you, and I love [philos] you, too.

You've probably heard Bible-bangers use this phrase and you've said, "Yeah, right!" in a sarcastic frame of mind. However, the English word "love" is not adequate to describe the emotions which are involved when *love* is used. In the Greek which was spoken in Bible times, there are three main words to express the concept of "love": agape, philos, and eros. Let's look at them one at a time.

Agape [uh-GAH-pay].

This is God's love for us and our love for God.

Philos [FEE-loss].

This is fellowship love we have for our friends.

Eros [AIR-oss].

This is sexual love.

2. God is our manufacturer, and has provided a user manual we call the Holy Bible.

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Any responsible manufacturer knows the operating parameters of his/her product.

Therefore, he/she outlines the guidelines for use and maintenance which are necessary for proper, trouble-free operation.

3. Failure to operate a mechanism according to the specifications in the user manual will cause problems.

Sometimes these problems will develop over a long time. Never adding or changing the oil in your new car is an example. You may be able to drive tens of thousands of miles before the engine will stop.

Sometimes, these problems will occur in a shorter time. If you never put gas in your new car, it will go about 300 miles before stopping.

And sometimes, failure to observe the manufacturer's specifications will cause your new car to stop instantly. Throwing your car into reverse at 65 mph will tear out the transmission, or lock up the wheels, or throw you into a skid which results in a major crash. Or, all of the above.

Failure to add gas and change oil -- or putting your transmission into reverse -- aren't wrong because the user manual says they're wrong. On the contrary, the user manual says they're wrong because they are wrong. What gives the manufacturer the authority to decide for customers at large what is right and wrong? The answer is obvious.

All thinking people know the Bible forbids homosexual relationships. After all, He told Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiple, in the book of Genesis. He would never give the human race a command that was physiologically impossible to fulfill!

However, He fully endorses sex between married persons.

Consider these concepts:

God didn't manufacture you in direct violation of His own user manual. You were not born a homosexual. You became one after birth.

Satan has used his demons to contaminate your normal, God-given sexual desires. From ancient times, demons have had an intense interest in all illicit sexual behavior. Most idolatrous and pagan forms of worship involve illicit sexual activity, including the classic temple prostitutes. [I am defining "illicit" as any sexual activity which is outside the bounds and bonds of marriage.] Demons have no sexual preference as long as it is illicit: rape, fornication, adultery, homosexuality, incest, child molestation, group sex, bestiality, obscenity -- they love it all. It's hard to tell what is cause and what is effect. Where illicit sex is already practiced, they flock to that site as observers and catalysts. Where it is not happening, they attempt to infest those vulnerable to evil supernatural powers with lust.

You became homosexual . . .

. . . when one or more of Satan's demons detected your susceptibility to demonic influence. This susceptibility could have been brought on by any one, or a combination of causes. Perhaps you were drawn into homosexual activity by a same-sex friend who was also troubled by a demon. Or perhaps a demon convinced you were a man in a woman's body or vice versa.

That's enough talk about the problem.

There is a solution.

This solution is not based on the teachings of a particular church, denomination, or sect. It's simply based on what the Bible teaches on the power of good and evil. According to the Bible's Plan of Salvation, God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the holy angels want to have you with them in Heaven for eternity. But Satan and his demons want to damn your soul to Hell with them forever.

This conflict between holy power and evil power produces spiritual warfare. You and I, -- all humans -- are in the crossfire.

The solution: enlist Holy power to overcome the evil power.

My prayer is that you will seriously consider this solution before you zap to another part of cyberspace.

Don't take my word for it. Listen to an expert ...

Robert Kronemeyer, in his 1980 book, *Overcoming Homosexuality*, says:

"With rare exceptions, homosexuality is neither inherited nor the result of some glandular disturbance or the scrambling of genes or chromosomes. Homosexuals are made, not born 'that way.' Buried under the 'gay' exterior of the homosexual is the hurt and rage that crippled his or her capacity for true maturation, for healthy growth and love. After a quarter-century of clinical experience, I firmly believe that homosexuality is a learned response to early painful experiences and that it can be unlearned. For those homosexuals who are unhappy with their lives and can find effective therapy, it can be overcome."

Reported by Cal Thomas in *World*, Sept. 13, 1997

What the Bible says about homosexuality:

May God bless you.