

Homosexuality: Why the Bible Calls it Sin

By: Rev. Kelvin N. Broadus
Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit

It has been impressed upon my heart by the spirit of God to write this “essay” to bring clarity and understanding to the design of His creation, so that many may come to the true knowledge of why homosexuality is considered a sin by God. Much of the essay will speak in terms of design and function so that many of the masses may be able to see through the devices that the enemy uses to encourage hate, wrath, and insensitivity. Yet many will still become offended, as expected whenever humans are told their desires are sin.

One vital point to understand, though, is that the message is not a message of hate. The message is no more a message of hate than saying that any sin is sin. Sin is a term that identifies that a person is missing the mark of the creator’s design. Sin is what occurs whenever any of us operate in a different manner than that which we were designed to operate. Sin is not exclusive to any sexual orientation; in fact, sexual sin is not exclusive to any sexual orientation. Heterosexuals sin sexually against God’s instruction just as much as, if not more than, homosexuals, and often demonstrate fewer other moral convictions. Sin is really any action, activity, or lust for things that is outside the way that God designed it. To fully understand, however, we must be willing to see not only the Biblical instruction, but also the biological design and function, and take an honest evaluation of the findings without the emotional connection that clouds revealed truths.

We are created...

The first thing we must understand is the fact that we are a creation. In the book of Genesis, the Bible indicates that God created man. Every creation is created with a specific design with specific functions and purposes.

Genesis 1:26-28 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

God created man in His image to rule over the earth and all that is within it. This scripture indicates that he created male and female and told them to reproduce. This is the first reference and instruction for sexual activity, to reproduce. In order for reproduction to occur, there must be male and female. Not only does God want this sexual/reproductive relationship to be male and female though, but he also wants it to

be husband and wife. In Genesis 2, when the Bible goes more into the detail of the creation of man and woman, Adam and Eve, it states the following:

Genesis 2:23-24 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman, for she was taken out of man.'" ²⁴ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

As indicated, a male is designed to leave his father and mother, as in husband and wife - male and female, to find his wife (the use of the term wife signifies God's institution of marriage), and once he finds his wife they will become one flesh (through physical reproduction and mental and spiritual unity and lifelong commitment). Outside of this God-ordained institution, as purposed by God, NO sexual activity (male-female, male-male, female-female, human-animal, etc.) is pleasing to God because it violates the purpose and function for which it is created.

For the purpose of example, let's look at a computer programmer and his program. When the program creator creates the program, each tool has a specific purpose and function and the programmer expects the program to operate according to the way he designed it. Anything that it does outside of that design is considered a glitch and the programmer will continue to work on it until its due date to remove all of its glitches. Once the glitches are removed it is now pleasing to the programmer and ready to go onto the shelves. If for some reason the glitches remain, he will even use an additional tool (such as a "patch" to cause the program to be able to discontinue the glitch, and if it operates with that "patch" as it is designed, it too can go on the shelf. There are some though that will still not operate according to their design that will reject the patch, and those will be discarded when the testing period is over.

This example demonstrates mankind with God. God is the programmer and we are the program. God has created us to function according to His design (which is explained in our instruction booklet, the Bible). The glitches represent sin, and yes, sometimes those glitches are actually present in the new programs due to a security breach in the first program that was created, as we are made from copies of that original. The patch is Jesus, who was sent to give us the ability to overcome the sins/glitches, and if we operate in Him we will be able to go to the shelves (Heaven). If we disregard Jesus, we will be discarded (Hell) when the testing period (our life on Earth) is over. Though there can always be better analogies, the point is still the same. Because of our design, any sexual activity outside of the marital bond is considered sin and not acceptable in God's sight. Homosexuality is no exception, which is why the word declares the following scriptures.

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 man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

Note: Though the Levitical law was replaced with grace through Christ, it doesn't mean that this which was declared as detestable is no longer detestable in God's sight; it means that the punishment (man putting them to death in this case) has been removed. Grace, as given in **Hebrews 10:26**, doesn't mean that we should just keep doing it because the earthly punishment was removed, but that if we "accidentally" (or against our spiritual desire) fall to that temptation we can be forgiven. Grace is directly connected to forgiveness, not voluntary sin.

God even goes later in His word, under the new covenant, the Covenant of Grace, to reaffirm His disapproval of homosexuality in the following scripture.

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

Note: Please pay attention to the fact that homosexuality is not being singled out here. There is no conspiracy in the scripture for any particular group. Even the greedy and slanderers (gossips), drunkards, idolaters (those who "worship" money and fame) will not inherit the kingdom of God and are considered wicked. Why? Because it is not the way God designed us to behave.

As indicated before, it is considered sin because of the design, and the violation of the design is something that is done by all, not just any particular group of people. A look at the biological functions of the sexual organs can provide greater clarity into God's declaration of what is considered sexual sin.

Biological Justification

The study of science has revealed (and come to understand) much of the common occurrences throughout nature (God's creation) and throughout nature there are certain functions that each force or object has. Biology focuses on the purposes and functions of the various parts of living creatures, including plants and animals. As we study the biological functions of our organs and the maternal and paternal instinct and design of our species, we can understand why the only homosexuality, fornication, adultery, bestiality, and so forth are considered sin and unacceptable to the God that created us, and how the whole condemnation of sexual sin is so much larger and broader than the homosexual orientation.

The male penis has a two-fold biological function. The first function is to discharge liquid waste that has remained after the nutrients have been extracted from the liquid substances that we ingest. This occurs through urination. The second function is to procreate, which occurs when the penis ejaculates semen-carried sperm into the vagina as a result of sustained arousal, or sexual intercourse. This biological function, as discussed in the Biblical guidelines, is reserved to be performed within the realms of Biblical marriage, which exists between a male (husband) and female (wife) that are committed to a life-long relationship.

Likewise, the “vagina” also has a two-fold biological function. The first function is also to discharge liquid waste, both through the urethra (located in the upper portion of the vulva within the Labia Minora) which releases urine and through the vaginal canal itself which releases the menstrual fluids. The second function is that of reproduction, which occurs through the receipt of sperm enriched semen. The vagina provides the structure to receive the sperm which works its way into the womb and unites with an egg, fertilizing it to create the first stages of human life. As noted before, this is function, according to Biblical guidelines is reserved to be performed within the realms of Biblical marriage.

The final organ to discuss is the anus, which is used in homosexual intercourse between male and male. The human anus is one sole biological function, which is to excrete solid waste material that remains after food has been digested. It has no biological function that is sexual, and was never intended to be used in a sexual manner. This is why it is referred to as perversion, which pervert literally means “to divert to a wrong end or purpose.” (Merriam-Webster Dictionary) When used outside of its function, it is being perverted. Only sexual organs are designed with the function of sexual activity, and then only in the biological setting for which they are created.

In terms of the maternal and paternal instinct, our biological species is designed to raise our offspring into a status of adulthood, just as the whale (the largest mammal) and gorilla (most similar to man) stay with their young. This helps to ensure the continuance of our species. The biologically-engineered pleasure of the sexual act encourages this maternal/paternal unit to keep desiring to reproduce, to even further encourage the continuance of the species.

So then the question arises whether even the married couples should only have intercourse to reproduce... The answer is that this is the primary purpose of intercourse. In fact, the only reason why God’s word allows married couples to have intercourse outside of reproduction is for the strengthening of the marriage bond to drive out lustful temptation.

1 Corinthians 7:5 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.

The Apostle Paul, appointed as apostle by Jesus (Yeshua), was actually saying here that the husband and wife should partake of sexual intercourse because of their lack of self-control in refraining from lust and temptation. Reproduction was still the primary purpose, but to stay above the temptation of sexual sin (whatever the form, be it adultery, lust, homosexual intercourse, etc.) the husband and wife were told to have intercourse in order to quench their desires. For those who were not married, they were to refrain altogether and if they could not contain themselves, Paul said it was better that they get married (**1 Corinthians 7:9**) than to be overcome by the lustful urges and sin. This way, the sexual act would be done in the proper function for which it was created.

Ultimately though, the biological function of the sexual organs, supported by the natural instinctive design of the human maternal/paternal unit, only further explains what the natural purpose was, and demonstrates why the perversion of these organs is sin (misses the mark of its purpose). It isn't man's lack of desire for a woman that is referred to as sin. It isn't the companionship of a man with another man, or woman with another woman, that is referred to as sin. Companionship is synonymous with friendship. The real part of the concept of homosexuality that is referred to as the sin is the sexual activity between those of the same sex, and the lust thereof. Yet one doesn't even have to be homosexual to sin in this way for heterosexual intercourse when performed outside of the God-approved marital bond and the lust thereof is identified as sin just the same. This is the reason that some became eunuchs, in order to remove their sexual urges by any means necessary to force them to be aligned with God's standard of acceptability, which is found in the function and purpose of the design.

Obedience to God

The final attribute to accepting homosexuality as sin or not, is really based on the determination of whether we are going to believe and obey the Holy Scriptures to the best of our ability, with true sincerity, or whether we are not. It is the obedience that comes from faith, which either says "I'm going to accept this Holy scripture as true and change myself to submit to and live by it" or "I just want to do what I want to do" If it is not in accordance with what the scripture says, it is not truly following the faith, but rather simply seeking the appearance of faith without the commitment. The question then is, why seek a religion or faith that you feel is wrong? Either a person agrees with it or disagrees with it, but if one is going to agree with it and believe it is true, he/she should follow it and conform to it as true instead of trying to change it to justify and fit himself. That is really one of the basic roots of faith, to live according to what it says instead of one's own natural way.

Along with this, we must understand that the concept of being born again. So often one will justify his/her sin of homosexuality by saying "this is how I was born." Let's say, for instance, that this is true. Even if it is true, it has no bearing on it not being sin.

This is why Jesus said we have to count the cost of following Him. This is also the reason why we must be born again. The whole meaning of being born again is that we become a new spiritual creature that is no longer bound by the sin we are born in. This concept is actually much bigger than homosexuality. Everyone is born inheriting the sin that first entered through Adam. For a heterosexual man to state he was born to have sexual desires for a woman would be true, it is a part of his fleshly nature and completely “natural”, but if he wants to live for God and inherit the kingdom of God, he must refrain from it outside of marriage. The churches are filled with heterosexuals who have sex outside of marriage, and it is just as much sin as homosexual intercourse, no more, no less. The heterosexual who is committing sex outside of marriage, or even lusting for sex outside of marriage, is just as guilty of committing sin. The gossip who says he/she was born with a desire to talk is just as guilty because God declared gossip as wicked. The drunk who tries to justify his drunkenness by saying it runs in his family is also just as guilty, not because of what this essay or any person says, but because of what God declared in His word.

We are called then, to evangelize to those who abide in sin, any sin, in love because we want all to be saved. It is true, unfortunately though, that there is great hypocrisy in the church in this aspect. Many in the church approach homosexuality with great hatred, even trying to ban them from seeking God, while welcoming the fornicators, adulterers, gossips, drunkards, and crooks. In order for the gospel to be served purely, there should be no favoritism or acceptance of any one practice of sin over another. Too much attention is directed to homosexuality over other practices that God declares as sin. To serve God though, is to conform to Him and to live according to His ways, and not our own. To serve God, we must declare all sin as sin, and flee from it, for the wages of sin is death. (**Romans 6:23**).

On that note, let us welcome all into our churches and fellowships to hear the Word of God, not out of acceptance of the sins that are committed, but as true, loving, and caring people of God to provide the knowledge of God’s ways to those that are lost. Hate is not of God! Let us not share hateful, prejudice opinions with those that hold to and justify the sinful ways of which they were born, but let us share the pure Word of God! Let us adhere always to demonstrate love and respect to one another. Jesus taught us that many would not be able to accept the Word, yet it is not our place to judge, only to share what that Word says. Every man and woman then has the right and the free will to choose, God or flesh, eternal life or damnation, but whatever he/she chooses, the love of Christ (not condemnation and hate) is still to be continually shown and remain in hopes that one day the prodigals will come back home, or be born again into the newness of the way and design that the King created us to be.

May God be glorified in all!