

Homosexuality from a Christian Godly Perspective.

(A sermon to help us have a Biblical worldview in relation to homosexuality which is now a highly touchy subject, and to have God's heart and truth with regard to sexuality for mankind)

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Title: Homosexuality from a Christian Godly Perspective.

Opening

Homosexuality or Lesbianism as an alternate lifestyle has become one of the most volatile and important issues facing the church of Jesus Christ and we can no longer ignore the subject. Please note they are the same terms - just different in sexual anatomy, so for this sermon they can be seen as the same thing when I use the word homosexual. Hence I am going to address this from a godly, Christian perspective, as I am an ambassador of the Kingdom of God and so my opinion on the matter does not count and nor do yours. Just what God says is what counts. I am a dispenser of truth, and truth is only found in God and should I not share the truth I would disqualify myself as a minister of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Tragically this has become one of the most trying social issues of our day and also one of the most controversial in many societies. One of the main reasons for this is that there are homosexual, political lobbying groups advocating it and saying that it is a great alternate lifestyle. For some it is about equal rights' issues and for others it is a religious and moral issue. There are many discussions, debates, arguments and even rallies, and sadly sometimes violence occurs from the interaction on this issue.

Sadly, the truth on this matter has become blurred even among some Christians and even in so-called Christian churches where they don't just endorse homosexuality, but even ordain them as ministers of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Because of the sensitivity of this subject in this day and age and in our culture, I'm going to try and lay a secure foundation first of truth, irrespective of what your view or belief system may be in regard to this subject and only then will I be able to launch into the topic. So this will be a bit of a lengthy sermon, but I trust nonetheless that you will be better equipped and blessed through the balance and truth that God brings through His Word.

Introduction:

May I ask what kind of a culture are we living in?

1. There are three kinds of cultures in regard to absolutes.

The first culture that we are living in is a **Theonomose** culture (theo – God; nomous – law). Therefore it means a law governed by God or being subject to God's authority. This is where the law of God is so embedded in our hearts that we all think in the same way. And in most Western cultures today this is no longer the case, and in fact around the world.

The second culture that we are living in is a **Heteronomous** (Hetero – another; nomous – law). This is where the mainstream of the culture is dictated by the leadership at the top. Marxism for an example was a picture of a Heteronomous culture where those at the top controlled the masses. When Hitler ran Germany it became a Heteronomous culture. Islam is a heteronomous culture and this can be clearly seen in Saudi Arabia, Iran and the like. Here you will see the leaders at the top dictating when the people must fast and when they can eat and what they can eat and cannot eat and what they may wear and what they may not wear. Who they can be associated with and who they may not be associated with or seen with and even when they are to wash their feet and hands before they worship. This is what you call a heteronomous culture.

Do you want to live in a Heteronomous culture? No

So are we a Theonomose culture or Heteronomous culture?

Neither of the two.

Then the third culture is an **Autonomous Culture** (auto – self; nomous – law) which means that each individual person dictates his/her own moral law or prerogatives.

So can you tell me what type of a culture do you think that we are living in today?

Answer: Yes, I would agree with you that we are living in an autonomous culture!

THE THREE CULTURES IN REGARD TO ABSOLUTES.				
No	Different Cultures	Definition of the culture	Now in the 21st Century	Cultural beliefs.
1	Theonomous theo – God	Law governed by God or being subject to God's authority.	This is no longer the case in the world today.	Christianity.
2	Heteronomous hetero – another	The mainstream of the culture is dictated by the top leadership.	Dictatorships are found in some countries.	Islam. Marxism.
3	Autonomous auto – self	Each individual person dictates their own moral law or prerogatives.	The western world today.	New-agers. Atheists.

Now I would like to ask you if you are willing to give me the privilege of my autonomy when I disagree with your belief or view or are you going to switch to heteronomous dictatorship mode and then try to dictate what I must and must not believe or else I am in trouble? Do you see this is the sociological dilemma that we are sitting with today on the topic of homosexuality and lesbianism? We live in an autonomous culture, but then the minute people don't agree with us, they want to switch to a heteronomous attitude. You see in an autonomous culture the one will always clash with the other and will at all times be at odds with one another and that is the sociological problem that we are sitting with today.

Now the problem is that sociologically we are now in a conundrum because we have two views and belief systems that are incompatible and will never see eye to eye and if there is not mutual respect for each other's beliefs, you will always be at war with one another.

Christians are the main people who have been targeted as those who reject the legitimacy of the homosexual lifestyle and are routinely branded as homophobic, intolerant and even hateful. In many circles now, there is a tremendous amount of intimidation regarding this touchy issue and this should never be the case from whichever side of the fence you sit in this regard. For those of you who are not aware, Islam and Judaism, as well as Christianity, do not regard homosexuality as an alternate lifestyle, but as sinful behaviour that will be judged by God, yet it seems that only the church of Jesus Christ is targeted because of an evil political agenda which we will not get into today.

2. There is a lack of knowledge worldwide between right and wrong.

Tragically the world has lost its way when it comes to mortality. Many people in the world today do not know the difference between right and wrong: hence the lawlessness of society worldwide today. And one cannot find the basis of truth in one's experience, emotion or lifestyle, but this has to be found in the book of truth which is the Word of God known as the Bible.

We need to know what it says and choose to submit to its teachings, as that is what brings life, and anything outside of that brings death. God is by His nature good, holy, perfect, loving, patient, merciful, gracious and many other good things. God issued forth commandments which thus become our moral duties to follow for our own good and not to constrain us or make our lives miserable. Even these basic moral duties have been thrown out by most of the world leaders and even so-called Christian churches of today, and that is why this world is in such a mess.

Some of the moral duties by which God calls us to live are as follows:

Exodus 20:13–17

¹³ “You shall not murder.

¹⁴ “You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ “You shall not steal.

¹⁶ “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷ “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

For those of you who do not realise or know this truth that we are not under the law, but we are under grace. However the law still applies and we are not called or given license to violate it in any way, because God put it in place to be obeyed because it is in our obedience that we are protected from much harm and misery in our lives. When we do not obey God's commands, we are morally guilty before Him and we need forgiveness. However, forgiveness is not forthcoming unless there is repentance and acknowledgement of sin. So it is not so much about feeling guilty as it is about being guilty regardless of how we feel. Tragically many people nowadays do not feel guilty because of an insensitive conscience and one that has been sold out to sin. However, if I've broken God's law in any way, I'm guilty regardless of my feelings. This means that I cannot think that a specific lifestyle or behaviour is acceptable because I think it feels good. Let me give you an example! If I according to my feelings, did not feel that murder is wrong and justified murdering someone when they angered me, does it now mean because I am angry, that murder is okay? Now the truth of the matter is that murder is wrong

because God said it is wrong and hence my feelings or emotions on the matter are of no consequence and totally irrelevant. Likewise on the subject of homosexuality, and for that matter any other sexual sin outside of marriage.

Sadly, God is no longer taken into account when it comes to lawmaking, and that is why the concept of moral obligation nowadays no longer makes any sense. Let me just add that I feel terribly sorry for the lawmakers in countries today that choose not to consult God and His Word, for they will be judged most harshly by God unless they repent and come back to God and His ways.

Many people are now propagating that God does not exist and this would mean that right and wrong does not exist either. If right and wrong did not exist and you believe that lie, then you also have to believe that there is no such thing as discrimination irrespective of what that discrimination might be. That would mean that anyone can have a view and discriminate against anyone else and you could not make any moral judgment, for there is neither right nor wrong. So if you do believe that there is right and wrong, then you have to take into account what God says and you cannot know what He says on the subject without going to the Scriptures. Also remember that you and I are nothing, because God is the one who determines what is right and wrong and we either choose to obey Him as the Author of life or we choose to disobey Him.

Now let us have a look at the theological issue and what the Christian culture should look like - or a Theonomous culture should look like.

3. There remains the question whether racism is wrong.

May I ask you all a question yet again before we look into this further?

Is racism wrong?

Answer: Yes of course.

The reason that racism is wrong is because one's race and ethnicity is sacred and we have no right to violate one's race or ethnicity because it is a sacred gift from God and no one has the right to violate another's race or ethnicity. So we have no right to desecrate another person's race.

4. There is no question that racism is wrong and likewise that sexuality is sacred.

So then can you tell me how can we desecrate sexuality, but not desecrate race?

Now the reason Christians react against the issue of homosexuality or lesbianism is because sexuality is sacred and you cannot violate it. Sex is a sacred gift from God. None of us can justify an **aberration** (a departure from what is normal, usual, or expected) in somebody else's life, more than I can justify my **proclivities** (a tendency to choose or do something regularly; an inclination or predisposition towards a particular thing) to go beyond my marital boundaries. Every able man here is tempted with sexual sin every single day. The reason for this is that the male human body reacts to what we see and then what we saw is entertained in our imagination and which then gives us the false hint that stolen waters are going to be sweeter. The problem is that they never are and never will be, for they leave you in the end emptier than

before. So a **disposition** or a **proclivity** does not justify expressing that disposition or proclivity and this goes across the board for all and any sexual behavior.

Marriage is the most sacred relationship that you can ever enter into, as it was ordained of God between one man and one woman and any sexual behavior outside this covenant is sinful and will never carry the blessing or approval of God. God intended that marriage be the most sacred relationship that you can ever enter into, and so having any sexual relations outside of this is sinful no matter how nicely you may try to sugar-coat this desacrelise it.

God created the mystique and the majesty and the charm and the complementary nature of womankind in a way that made it possible for only her to meet the man's emotional and sexual needs. That is why that complementary nature cannot be found outside of a one-man one-woman marriage covenant, for that is the design from God. Anything outside of this is perverted, immoral, detestable and unnatural and will never fill the sexual and emotional need God placed within mankind.

Sexual relations according to God's plan are reserved purely for marriage and for those of you who have had the definition of marriage blurred in your understanding, it is between one man and one woman and this will never change even if man may try to change the definition. So all sexual activity outside of marriage is a sin whether it be either premarital sex, extramarital sex, homosexuality, lesbianism, fornication or bestiality, etc. God intended that all sex be for marriage and marriage alone between one man and one woman and anything outside of this is wrong, ungodly, and sinful and God will judge that behaviour.

You can see that in the Greek there are 4 words for love and only in a marriage relationship can these 4 loves meet, merge and blend to make the perfect love relationship.

In Greek there are 4 words for love:

1. **Agape** - unconditional love or God's love.
2. **Eros** - sexual love or romantic love.
3. **Philia** friendship love or brotherly love.
4. **Storge** - protective love or parental love or family or affectionate love.

Now the beautiful thing is that marriage is the only situation that pulls all four of these together into one. You cannot remove any of these from the love within marriage or you will distort the true meaning of a loving marriage.

That is why the marriage covenant between one man and one woman is sacred, and trying to redefine marriage means that you are desacrelising what God put in place and is an abomination, evil, ungodly and wicked, and you are now playing with God and you will go to hell unless you repent and change if you propagate this lie.

Now that is why all departures from this marriage commitment are wrong and sinful. However, trying to make only one behaviour aberrant to the sacredness of marriage is wrong and unacceptable in the sight of God. Thus all sexual departures away from this are sinful and wrong and not acceptable before God. So please, please do not just take homosexuality as aberrant, for that is wrong in the sight of God, for any aberration outside of the four kinds of love being fulfilled is wrong and the only time it can be filled is in a healthy covenant marriage commitment.

We cannot, and have no right to interpret the Bible through the lens of our own sexual orientation or disposition or proclivity. We have to interpret our sexuality through the lens of the Bible.

We all as Christians need to start from the premise that the Word of God is flawless and perfect in every way and we need to live according to God's ways are not our ways.

This means that whatever God says, we need to obey and joyfully follow.

So a theological or Christian position is that marriage is a consummate relationship between one man and one woman in the procreative act in the sacredness of a commitment for life. If you claim to be a Christian and depart from this truth, then you are lying to yourself and others and you are certainly not a Christian, but a heathen and not my brother or sister in Christ.

5. There is much spoken against homosexuality in the Bible.

Yes, as all of us know if we have read the Bible, it clearly forbids homosexuality. In fact there are six places in the Bible where homosexuality is addressed – three in the Old Testament and three in the New Testament. All six of these passages unequivocally condemn homosexual acts. And then to bring further clarity on the matter, there are many passages dealing with marriage and sexuality which bring greater clarity on human sexuality and the bounds within sex can be enjoyed.

Leviticus 20:13

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.”

Leviticus 18:22–25

²² “ ‘Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.”

²³ “ ‘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.”

²⁴ “ ‘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.”

The penalty was prescribed to Israel by God for any act of homosexuality along with adultery, incest and bestiality and this was that the offender be put to death. This would mean that any of these sexual sins would be seen as serious and detestable in God’s sight and I assure you that His view has not suddenly changed from the Old to the New Testament.

The third horrifying story of homosexual behaviour is found in the story in Genesis 19 where men of Sodom attempted to gang-rape Lot’s visitors. Most of us know that God destroyed Sodom because of this wickedness.

If this does not seal it for you, then let us look at the New Testament that also forbids homosexual behaviour.

Romans 1:20–27

20 For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine

nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their **thinking became futile** and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools **23** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

24 Therefore **God gave them over in the sinful desires** of their hearts **to sexual impurity** for the **degrading of their bodies** with one another. **25** They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

26 Because of this, **God gave them over to shameful lusts**. Even their **women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones**. **27** In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were **inflamed with lust for one another**. Men committed **shameful acts with other men**, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

1 Corinthians 6:9–11

9 Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men **10** nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Timothy 1:8–11

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. **9** We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, **10** for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine **11** that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

So the Bible is very clear when it comes to homosexual behaviour and in fact all other sexual sins, for any sex outside of a one-man, one-woman marriage relationship is regarded as sin. God's plan for human sexual activity is reserved for marriage and any sexual activity outside of this, whether it be extramarital sex, premarital sex, homosexual sex or the like, is forbidden by God. Sex is designed for marriage and marriage alone.

Genesis 2:24–25

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

²⁵ The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

God even goes so far as to mention that the marriage between a man and his wife is a symbol of the relationship between Christ and His church and when we go against this into a homosexual union, it is a mockery of God's plan and will.

Jesus never mentioned the word homosexual behavior. However he did mention sexual immorality which involved any sexual behaviour that is outside the plan and will of God. He did confirm that marriage was between one man and one woman when he quoted the passage found in Genesis that we read in Mark 10:6–8. Two men can never become one, for men only have an exit for those of you that have not realised. I do not want to become crude but it is unnatural and rather obvious and it is shameful to fight to have this approved, as the Bible

clearly mentions it is detestable, shameful, indecent, perverted and unnatural. In the Bible it is clear that it is a depraved mind that delves into sexually immoral behaviour whatever that kind may be. Let me be quite blunt. Are any of you here willing to put your hand into a septic tank and call that great and lobby for it as a healthy practice? When we think of it in the natural, all of us will say absolutely no ways, but that is basically what homosexuals do and that is why God says that it is detestable, shameful, perverted and it is an indecent act coming from a depraved mind. All of us know that it is illegal for you and I to enter through an exit. You must understand that our exits are a garbage disposal unit and hence it is detestable and unnatural even within marriage.

One of the other main reasons is that they cannot procreate and replenish the earth which was one of God's desires and plans. I personally believe that it is part of the One World Government plan to diminish the world population and this is one of the most brilliant ways to bring it about. Homosexuals on average only live to the age of 46, whereas a heterosexual male lives to about 76 years of age.

Just to let you know that homosexuality was as widespread in ancient Greek and Roman society as it is today, so it is nothing new. We need to stand up and speak out against all forms of sexual behaviour outside of marriage and not just brand one immoral behaviour as sinful, as any sexual behaviour outside of marriage is sinful including shacking up together, as that is fornication which is sex before marriage.

Would you not agree that all self-destructive behaviours are wrong and should not be encouraged? Homosexual behaviours are one of the most destructive and harmful behaviours to engage in. Sadly, Hollywood and the media try to portray and put a happy face on homosexuality and promote it as a happy lifestyle when in actual fact the truth of the matter is that it is a dangerous, dark and twisted lifestyle. It is very similar to an addictive, destructive lifestyle like alcoholism.

Dr. Thomas Schmidt in his book "Straight and Narrow" gives some startling research. There is almost compulsive promiscuity among homosexuals with 75% of homosexual men having more than 100 sexual partners during their lifetime, with more than half of them being strangers. Only 7% of homosexual woman and 8% of homosexual men have lasting relationships for more than three years. Male homosexuals on average have over 20 partners a year. There is basically no lifelong faithfulness among homosexuals. Generally speaking, homosexuals are three times more likely to be problem drinkers in relation to the general population. 47% of male homosexuals have a history of alcohol abuse and 51% have a history of drug abuse. 40% of homosexual men and 37% of female homosexuals have a history of major depression compared with only 3% of men in general. The suicide rate among homosexual men is six times higher than that of heterosexual men.

The male and female bodies are perfectly complementary and are designed for sexual intercourse in a way that two male bodies most certainly are not. Most homosexual activity is incredibly destructive to the human body, resulting eventually in prostate damage, chronic incontinence, diarrhea, ulcers and ruptures, without mentioning the fact that sexually transmitted diseases are rampant because the anus is full of bacteria. It also increases the risk of anal cancer and weakens the anal sphincter and can cause anal fissures. 75% of homosexuals carry one or more sexually transmitted disease apart from AIDS. There are many more diseases but I'm not going to get into that for you can research that yourself, but let me be quite frank that it is frightening if you have to go into the statistics. Did you know that the life expectancy

of a homosexual male is about 46 years of age (and this does not include those who die of AIDS), as compared to 76 years for other men in general? If you include those who die of AIDS in the statistics, the life expectancy drops down to 39 years of age. And you want to tell me that this is a lifestyle that God has ordained? I don't think so! So apart from Scripture and the Bible and moral principles, it is truly a horrible, self-destructive, injurious lifestyle to engage in when one looks at the statistics.

So those that have homosexual inclinations or disposition or orientation or proclivity are called to keep themselves pure just as any unmarried individual and stay away from such sexual temptations. So if you are unmarried you should practice abstinence from all sexual activity. Remember that this starts in renewing your mind and keeping it pure. Stay away from pornography and fantasizing and keep your thought life clean. If you have gone outside of the sexual arena of your life, marriage or what God prescribes. then you will probably need counselling and help and maybe even deliverance from past experiences, but repent and then stop it immediately so that God's hand of blessing can come over your life again.

1 Corinthians 6:12

¹² "Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything.

To find out what God thinks on this matter we have to go to the Bible.

1. We either choose to obey or disobey God's will found in His Bible.
2. God's will is based on the Word of God and not on our opinion.
3. God clearly forbids homosexual behaviour as an unnatural lifestyle.
4. This means that homosexual behaviour is wrong and is not an alternate lifestyle and this includes, adultery, fornication, paedophilia, pornography, bestiality and any sexual immorality.

6. There is no question that our freedom of choice does not legitimize our choice.

We all have been given one of the most sacred gifts and that is the prerogative of choice. However, we need to understand that our prerogative of choice will always remain this gift. However, our prerogative of choice will not change the outcome of our choice. We need to know that the consequence of our choices are bound to the choice we make and God does not give you the privilege of determining the outcome.

Genesis 4:7

⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

Any change or departure from the Biblical mandate of sexuality (and this is confined to marriage between one man and one woman) is wrong and sinful before God and cannot in any way be approved by God or any Christian for that matter. So if you approve of any sexual aberration outside of the Word of God, you are not a Christian and are certainly not my brother or sister in Christ.

So any change or departure from the biblical mandate or biblical view of marriage is unacceptable in the sight of God no matter who we are.

Now you do get some people who have a homosexual disposition or orientation, but never live out that orientation or disposition for the sake of their love for Christ, just as those who are married are called not to have an adulterous affair, but to be faithful to their marriage.

So whatever your orientation or disposition may be is not the issue, but what you do with it is the issue. Many people now believe that those that are gay are born that way because of propaganda, but this is a lie from Satan and sadly many people have fallen into this wicked trap of believing this lie. Some defenders of homosexuality are desperately trying to prove that their genes are the cause and not their upbringing or choices. This however is a very foolish argument and unwise because it does not matter if you were genetically disposed to some behaviour or not, because it will never change the fact that now your behaviour or choice is not morally right. If you have to say that you are predisposed to alcoholism. this would not make it right just like if you had to say that you are dispositional or predisposed to paedophilia, it would not make it right. So even if it were completely genetic, this would not make it right, just like a birth defect like a cleft palate which we would always try to correct. So even if they had to prove this genetically (which they will not); it still does not change the fact that it is morally wrong because it is unnatural and God also said so.

Now you might find yourself with homosexual desires or a disposition or proclivity to homosexuality and it might be agonisingly difficult to fight against these desires. We need to understand however, that this is no different to someone burning with desire for someone of the opposite sex. You might even have a disposition towards paedophilia or rape or whatever sexual aberration. So my question to you is: “Are you not called to fight against these ungodly desires or should you just let them take over your life?” Then my question would also be: “Would you be happy with someone choosing that lifestyle taking care of your little baby children?” You see we must be consistent with our reasoning.

Now it does not matter what orientation or disposition you have, if you live it outside of a one-man one-woman marriage it is wrong and is an abomination before the eyes of God and you will be judged by Him most severely.

7. There is a calling for Christians to respect and love all of mankind.

We live in a pluralistic society and we are called to love all of mankind back into right relationship with God and not to condemn them for their autonomy of choice.

We as Christians are to accept other people with different viewpoints irrespective of what the viewpoint or belief system might be. However just because of that it does not mean that we agree with their belief systems or are willing to let go of our belief system. We are called to love all of mankind irrespective of their belief systems for that is our Saviour's mandate and example. However we cannot say that we agree with sin when God calls us to abhor it.

We are, however, called to love all people and are not called to judge anyone outside the church, meaning that everyone can live out whatever sexual lifestyle they choose outside of the church, and we are not to discriminate or judge them, but love them and be willing to share the truth of the good news of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ should they want to hear it, but we will never condone their lifestyle as legitimate and holy, for then we disqualify ourselves as children of God.

Galatians 5:16–17

¹⁶ So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. ¹⁷ For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

We however, are called to love those that have a disposition or belief system that is contrary to God and His Word. So just because we disagree with someone else's belief system does not mean that we do not love them or that we hate them but rather that we don't agree with them and that is all. We as Christians are called to love and encourage them to make choices in line with God and His Word and not to lobby, judge or criticize them. The reason for this is that we are then not showing love and will never win them to Christ.

Matthew 5:28

28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Proverbs 6:25

25 Do not lust in your heart after her beauty
or let her captivate you with her eyes.

1 Corinthians 6:18

18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

Job 31:1

31:1 "I made a covenant with my eyes
not to look lustfully at a young woman.

Homosexuality is a sin, but then again so is homophobia.

We cannot be deceived into believing that sin is not sin because it feels good. When you defend your right to a particular sin because you have always felt that way, it does not mean that God legitimizes your sinful behaviour.

So irrespective of what sexual sin that someone may battle with, the root of that sin is what needs to be dealt with in their life. This sexual sin could be pornography, paedophilia, bestiality, homosexuality, fornication or whatever it may be. These are sinful and need to be addressed. However, that is not the root. For some the root of homosexuality is pride or lust or sexual addiction or rebellion against God, or brokenness due to abuse and that is the root that needs to be addressed.

Now let me be straight with you. Sin is sin and we cannot try to sugarcoat it as God's church. Some sins are harder to battle than other sins, but we are still called to resist the temptation of falling into that sin even though it may make you temporarily feel better.

If you struggle with same-sex attraction you have to battle and fight that temptation just like any other person would battle against the temptation of falling into adultery or whatever other sexual sin it might be.

This is a hard and heavy cross to bear, but you can know that God will help you carry this burden. Now as Christians who do not struggle with same-sex attraction, we are not to make

the weight of their temptation even more unbearably worse by making out that homosexuality is bigger or different from any other type of sexual sin. Sin is sin and must be resisted and repented of and abhorred no matter what it is, as it separates you from God and when it comes to sexual sins, it is also against your own body.

RE-CAP:

1. There are three kinds of cultures in regard to absolutes.
2. There is a lack of knowledge worldwide between right and wrong.
3. There remains the question whether racism is wrong.
4. There is no question that racism is wrong and likewise that sexuality is sacred.
5. There is much spoken against homosexuality in the Bible.
6. There is no question that our freedom of choice does not legitimize our choice.
7. There is a calling for Christians to respect and love all of mankind.

CLOSING:

So never forget that same-sex attraction or homosexual desires or a disposition or a proclivity towards this, does not justify expressing that disposition or that proclivity and that goes across the board for all sexuality.

This sermon was preached by Dr. Ian Loughor-Clarke at Haenertsburg Christian Church on the 1 November 2015. (c) Dr. Ian F. Loughor-Clarke, Haenertsburg Christian Church. For more sermons from Ian go to <http://www.haenertsburgchristianchurch.co.za> Except where otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the *International Version Bible*, Copyright © 1985 by The Zondervan Corporation. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
