

Earnestly Contend for the Faith

Homosexuality, LGBTQ, the Bible and the Christian Faith

Jude 7, 1 Corinthians 6:11

1. What the Bible Explicitly Says about Homosexuality and LGBTQ

A. A First Conviction

I must be resolved to have my understanding of what is sinful and what is righteous be based upon what the Bible says and not on my own feelings or preferences (cf. Lev. 18:1-23).

B. Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19:1-11)

The narrative of the story clearly indicates that the sin of the men of Sodom was homosexual activity. Sodom had numerous other sins (Ezek. 16:49), for sure, but rampant and widespread homosexual activity was the defining one.

C. Sexual Prohibitions in the Law (Lev. 18:22, 29; 20:13)

The list of prohibited sexual activities given in the Law were to protect Israel from the things that they had been exposed to in Egypt and that were occurring in the societies that were being cast out of Canaan.

D. A Related Prohibition (Deut. 22:5)

The prohibition here is not merely to cross-dressing, but it is a general prohibition from blurring the lines between the genders.

E. Activities Resulting from Suppressing the Truth (Rom. 1:26-27)

Along with being the only explicit reference to lesbianism in the Scriptures, Paul is describing the activities that embody a society that has suppressed the truth of God and has therefore been given over to their lusts.

F. A List of Those Who Will Not Inherit Eternal Life (1 Cor. 6:9-10; cf. 1 Tim 1:10)

This list, while not all inclusive, provides various descriptions of the manifestations of unrighteousness in those who will not inherit eternal life.

2. What the Bible Implicitly Says Relates to Homosexuality and LGBTQ

A. The Creation of Man and Woman (Gen. 1:26-27)

B. Marriage is Established on the Basis of Adam and Eve (Gen. 2:18-25; Matt. 19:3ff)

C. The Blessing of Sexual Activity for Married Couples (Gen. 1:28; 4:1)

3. What the Bible Says About Sins Related to Homosexuality and LGBTQ

A. The Activity (Gen. 19; Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9)

B. The Attraction

It is becoming more and more common today, in the name of Christianity and the Bible, to say that 'being gay' or experiencing similar attractions is not sinful. The Bible classifies desires for something that cannot be righteously obtained as sinful, and we must as well (Ex. 20:17; Col. 3:5-7; Rom. 13:14; 1 Pet. 2:11).

C. The Ally (Rom. 1:32)

Today someone who is not a homosexual but is an advocate for the morality of homosexual activity is referred to as an ally. To be an ally is to sin.

4. What the Bible Says about Christians and Homosexuality or LGBTQ

A. Evangelize the Unbelievers (1 Cor. 5:9-10; 1 Tim. 1:15)

Christians are to be in the world but not of it (cf. John 17:15-16) and we are to proclaim the good news that Jesus Christ forgives sinners so that sinners can repent and believe in Jesus (1 Tim. 1:15).

B. Excommunicate the Unrepentant (1 Cor. 5:1-5, 11-13; cf. Matt. 18:15-20)

A professing believer who is unrepentantly continuing in sinful activity is to be put out of the fellowship. This action is one that shows a love for the Lord, for the church (1 Cor. 5:6-7), and for the individual who is being put out (1 Cor. 5:5).

C. Embrace the Repentant (1 Cor. 6:11)

The church is made up of sinners who have been washed and no longer walk in the lusts of the flesh.