



WHAT  
THE  
BIBLE  
REALLY  
SAYS  
ABOUT

HOMOSEXUALITY



By Pastor  
Ralph Ovadal

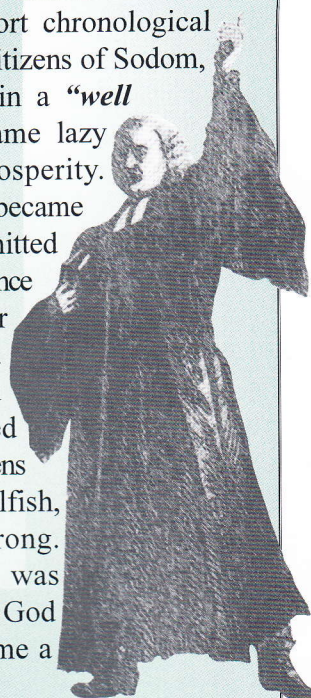


he Bible, Old Testament and New, has much to say about homosexual acts such as sodomy. The Bible is clear that God has declared such acts to be sin. For instance, God calls the homosexual acts committed by the men of Sodom **“very grievous”** (Gen. 18:20). He also calls those perverse sexual acts **“filthy,” “wicked,” “ungodly,”** and **“unlawful”** (II Peter 2:6-8). In the book of Jude, verse 7, God explains that the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed for **“fornication”** with **“strange flesh.”** In this, God contrasts homosexual sex acts with sexual relations between one man and one woman in His created, holy institution of marriage where the two become **“one flesh”** (Gen. 2:24). God has forbidden and cursed all fornication, the joining of human beings as **“one flesh”** in a sexual union outside of marriage (I Cor. 6:9-11). In I Corinthians 6:15-20, He condemns the sexual acts men commit with women prostitutes because the two become **“one flesh”** outside of marriage. Homosexual acts are especially evil in that they are **“fornication . . . [with] strange flesh.”**



hroughout the Holy Scriptures, the homosexual wickedness of Sodom is referred to and used as a sort of benchmark for evil. Of course, because the Scriptures use the phrase *to know* when speaking of that famous incident when a crowd of sodomites demanded to have sex with two men visitors staying in Sodom, some have tried to say the sodomites only wanted to

get acquainted with those visitors, who were in reality angels! This is ridiculously poor biblical scholarship. The Hebrew verb *yada* which translates to the English verb *to know* is used in several scriptural contexts, including to denote sexual intercourse as in Genesis 4:1: **“And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain . . .”** No, the sodomites attempting to break down Lot’s door did not simply want to shake hands with his visitors! That is as foolish as saying that Sodom was destroyed because its inhabitants did not care for the poor! That particular claim is founded in a distortion of Ezekiel 16:48-50. In this biblical passage, God’s people were being warned that they were acting worse than the people of Sodom had by the very fact that they were God’s chosen people and yet were committing abominable sins! The verses contain a short chronological account of how the citizens of Sodom, which was located in a **“well watered”** area, became lazy and selfish in prosperity. Eventually, they also became **“haughty”** and committed **“abomination,”** a reference to sodomy and other homosexual acts. At that point, God judged and destroyed the town. Yes, the citizens of Sodom were selfish, and that was wrong. However, Sodom was clearly destroyed by God because it had become a sodomite culture.





till, some pro-homosexual champions claim the Bible does not condemn homosexual acts. Yet, it does so from cover to cover. The Bible condemns homosexual acts in the strongest of terms and even by describing the acts themselves, such as in Leviticus 18:22: ***“Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.”*** Leviticus 18:22 and Leviticus 20:13 both graphically forbid sexual acts between two men. Romans 1:26 forbids sexual acts between two women, labeling “lesbianism” unnatural, saying that women who do those things ***“change”*** the ***“natural”*** for that which is ***“against nature.”*** So much for the “born that way” argument. Romans 1:27 condemns sexual acts between men and men. Verse twenty-seven begins with ***“And likewise also the men . . .”*** I Corinthians 6:9-11 is a warning against the deception that one can live in open rebellion to God’s law and still be a Christian headed for heaven. In that passage, sodomites are accurately and plainly called ***“abusers of themselves with mankind.”*** I Timothy 1:8-11 instructs on the lawful use of the law to punish persons who commit acts such as murder, perjury, and sodomy. Here homosexuals are graphically described as ***“them that defile themselves with mankind.”*** Both of those descriptive phrases, like all New Testament references to those guilty of committing sodomy, are faithfully translated from the word *arsenokoites*, the Greek word which describes homosexual sex acts. Greek was the language in which the New Testament

was originally written. Of course, until recent times, no one attempted to claim that the Bible does not condemn and outlaw homosexual sex. That may be in part because one must play the part of a fool to do so (Rom. 1:22).



Consider for a moment a few more of the desperate excuses which have been concocted of late to justify sodomy and other homosexual acts. There are some who smugly overlook all the biblical condemnations and prohibitions of homosexual acts other than those occurring in the book of Leviticus where those acts are called “abomination.” They then state, “So what if God calls homosexual acts an abomination in the Bible; He also calls the eating of shellfish an ‘abomination.’” Such people hide the truth that the ban on eating of shellfish was part of the old covenant ceremonial law which was abolished by God when Jesus Christ instituted a new covenant through His shed blood (Luke 22:20). They also may be ignorant of the fact that the word rendered *abomination* in the Old Testament comes from six different closely related Hebrew words. When referring to the ceremonial law’s ban on eating certain foods, abomination is rendered from the Hebrew word *sheqets* which means *filthy*. In accordance with the ceremonial law, the Hebrews were to consider shellfish filthy, that is unclean, food. On the other hand, the Hebrew word which describes homosexual acts is *toebah*. *Vine’s Complete Expository*

*Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words* (c.1984) accurately states that *toebah* “. . . defines something or someone as essentially unique in the sense of being ‘dangerous,’ ‘sinister,’ and ‘repulsive’ . . .” The Bible tells us that God judges sodomy to be *toebah*.

**W**hen it comes to those two verses in the book of Leviticus which condemn men sodomizing each other, there are some homosexual apologists who disingenuously state that those verses only condemn “cultic sexual acts between men” but that those verses do not condemn “loving gay relationships.” That particular argument goes up in smoke rather quickly in light of the rest of the Bible and also when one considers that the Leviticus prohibitions on homosexual acts are smack dab in the middle of prohibitions on other perverted sexual behavior such as bestiality and incest. If God is only condemning “cultic homosexual acts” in the Leviticus passages, then it would follow that He is also only condemning “cultic sex with animals” and “cultic incest.” Of course, there is no such thing as legitimate sexual relations between a person and an animal or between a parent and a child any more than sexual relations between man and man or woman and woman are legitimate. God, in His Word, condemns all sexual activity other than that between a man and a woman in the holy estate of matrimony.



s already noted, God’s Word is crystal clear and extremely strong in the condemnation of homosexual acts. In Judges 19:22, homosexuals are referred to as “*sons of Belial*”; and in Judges 20:13, they are called “*children of Belial*.” The word *Belial* denotes individuals who are ungodly and wicked. That is exactly how God views those who engage in homosexual acts.



o it is true; from cover to cover, the Word of God condemns homosexual acts such as sodomy. This should not be surprising since those acts are a complete repudiation of God’s created order and represent a graphic rebellion against the Creator and Lawgiver of the universe. Homosexual acts go even beyond the sin which “*is common to man*” (I Cor. 10:13) and launch off into sin which is “*unnatural*” (Rom. 1:26-27). Consequently, homosexual acts are incredibly destructive to the individual who commits them (Rom. 1:27-28, Gal. 6:7) and to the nation which allows and condones them. With regard to the latter, God’s Word has made it clear He will judge and destroy a nation which allows homosexual acts.



t may be popular in today’s culture to defend and promote sexual perversion in the name of “tolerance” and “diversity”; but the truth is, God hates such acts and judges them severely. Homosexuals do not need, and must not be given,

encouragement to continue in their destructive, sinful behavior. In accordance with the "Laws of Nature's God" (*Declaration of Independence*), homosexual acts must be recriminalized by the civil government (I Tim. 1:8-11, Rom. 13:4). Upholding true law in such a way is also showing true love. Ecclesiastes 8:11: ***"Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."*** Homosexuals should be told that they, as all sinners, are lost and headed for hell unless they repent, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and are saved (Rom. 10:13). Christians must stand against the New Sodom which has sprung up in our midst. At the same time, we must share the gospel with the sodomites and pray that some will be born again and justified by faith in Jesus Christ (Jn. 3:3, I Cor. 6:11). Now you know what God's revealed Word, the Bible, says about homosexual acts. For your own sake, I hope that you will not try to change the meaning of His words or add to them. Proverbs 30:6: ***"Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."***

**PILGRIMS  
COVENANT CHURCH**

**P. O. Box 314  
Monroe, Wisconsin 53566  
(608) 328-4841  
[www.pccmonroe.org](http://www.pccmonroe.org)**