

Sunday, April 14, 2013—Same Sex Marriage: What Saith the Scriptures?

Introduction

- Galatians 1:4—is there anyone here who doubts that the world that we live in evil? Evil is all around us and seems to be increasing daily.
 - Romans 1:30—according to the Apostle Paul unsaved men are inventors of evil things.
- A few weeks back, before Easter when the Supreme Court was hearing testimony about the legality of same sex marriage, I received a phone call from of our saints very upset about the issue. They had posted something on Facebook up holing the Biblical definition of marriage and opposing recent statements that had been made by a form prominent local pastor on the issue. This saint was upset over the barrage of hateful comments they received from having posted on the matter. That same week I was also asked by a few colleges at work, who know that I am a pastor where I stood on the issue. I decided right then and there that when I returned from Spring Break was going to preach on the issue.
- What is going on in our country? How have we gone from a country that was founded with 13 states that all possessed laws banning homosexual relationships to being on the threshold of legally sanctioning same sex marriage? How should we as Bible believing Christian’s view and respond to these developments?
- In order to try and answers these questions I would like to consider the following points:
 - How Does the Bible Define Marriage?
 - Is Homosexuality Sin: Are People Really Born Gay?
 - What in the World is Going On: How Did We Get to This Point?
 - Hate the Sin Love the Sinner
 - Engage or Disengage: That is Question?

How Does the Bible Define Marriage?

- Genesis 2:18-20—marriage was God’s idea. The concept of marriage did not originate with mankind but in the mind of a creator God. Man did not and could not conceive something as wonderful as marriage on his own.
- Genesis 2:19-21—God did not make man and woman and in hopes that they would discover or find each other. God made woman out of man and brought her unto the man. As a woman Eve was created to be a help meet for Adam. Adam after naming all the animals in verses 19-20 realized that in all of God’s creation he was the only one that did not have a help meet and was alone. Therefore, when Adam sees Eve he calls her Woman because she was taken out of Man.

- Genesis 2:24-25—contains God’s definition of marriage. One man and one woman for one life time.
 - A man shall leave his father and mother.
 - Shall cleave unto his wife.
 - They shall be one flesh.
- This definition of marriage established in Genesis 2 is transdispensational definition of marriage. This is how God defines marriage in every dispensation.
 - Matthew 19:5-9—during the dispensation of law God’s definition of marriage was the same.
 - Ephesians 5:31—the Apostle Paul today during the dispensation of grace defines marriage as a union between man and wife.
- Proverbs 18:22
- Any union that does not fit the Bible’s definition is not a marriage in the eyes of God. It is unscriptural for two men or two women to be united in marriage.

Is Homosexuality Sin: Are People Really Born Gay?

- One of the mantras of the homosexual community is to claim that they were born gay and had no choice in the matter. According to Marshall Kirk and Hunter Madsen authors of *After the Ball: How American Will Conquer Its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the 90s* advise homosexual activist to claim they were born gay:
 - “We argue that, for all practical purposes, gays should be considered to have been born gay. . . to suggest that homosexuality might be chosen is to open the can of worms labeled ‘moral choices and sin’ and give the religious intransigents a stick to beat us with.”
- Leviticus 18:22—the underlying Hebrew word translated “abomination” means “a disgusting thing” thing according to *Strong’s Concordance*.
- The English word “abomination” carries the following meanings according to *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary*: 1) Extreme hatred; detestation. 2) The object of detestation, a common signification in scripture. 3) Hence, defilement, pollution, in a physical sense, or evil doctrines and practices, which are moral defilements, idols and idolatry, are called abominations.
- Leviticus 20:13—same sex relations are a violation of God’s law because they violate that natural created order. For Israel living under the law this behavior was a capital offense punishable by death.

- Romans 1:19-25--it's not that the gentiles didn't know who God was its that they did not want to retain God in their knowledge (Rom. 1:28). As a result God gave them up to uncleanness i.e., "the impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living" to "dishonor" or treat with contempt their own bodies between themselves.
- Romans 1:26—for the cause of changing the truth of God into a lie (verse 25) God gave them up to vile affections.
 - Vile—1) Base; mean; worthless; despicable. 2) Morally base or impure; sinful; depraved by sin; wicked; hateful in the sight of God and of good men. (*Webster's 1828*)
 - Affections—3) A bent of mind towards a particular object, holding a middle place between disposition, which is natural, and passion, which is excited by the presence of its exciting object. Affection is a permanent bent of the mind, formed by the presence of an object, or by some act of another person, and existing without the presence of its object. 4) In a more particular sense, a settle good will, love or zealous attachment; as, the affection of a parent for his child. It was formerly followed by to or towards, but is now more generally followed by for. 5) Desire; inclination; propensity, good or evil; as, virtuous or vile affections. Rom. 1. Gal. 5. (*Webster's 1828*)
- "Even their woman"—you can always gage the moral state of a society by what their woman are willing to accept and tolerate. The woman in this verse changed the "natural" use into that which is "against nature."
 - Natural—comes from an underlying Greek word which means: 1) produced by nature, inborn, 2) agreeable to nature, 3) governed by (the instincts of) nature. (*Strong's Concordance*)
 - Nature—the nature of things, the force, laws, order of nature 1) as opposed to what is monstrous, abnormal, perverse. (*Strong's Concordance*)
- Romans 1:27—here we see men leaving the "natural" use of the woman burning in their lusts one toward another. Notice that the Scripture calls the relationship between two men "unseemly" i.e., "not fit or becoming; uncomely; unbecoming; indecent." (*Webster's 1828*) It is unclean, vile, unseemly, and indecent for any two members of the same sex to engage in a sexual relationship.
- The meaning of these verses is clear it is unnatural and a violation of God's created natural order for two woman or two men to engage sexual relationship with each other. How do we know this to be true? Members of the same sex are incapable of producing offspring.
- Genesis 1:20-25—God created all the life in the biosphere to reproduce after their own kind. Two male lions cannot produce offspring any more than two adult humans.
- Genesis 2:24—this understanding is embedded into the Bible's definition of marriage. Only a father (man) and mother (woman) are capable of producing offspring that will one day need to

leave and form a new family unit. This is the order of things. This is the way God set things up when he created. Any violation of this order is unnatural.

- Romans 1:31-32—without natural affection
- II Timothy 3:1-3—without natural affection
- According to the Bible homosexuality is sin. It is unnatural and a choice. People are not born gay they chose to act in an unnatural manner.

What in the World is Going On: How Did We Get to This Point?

- II Timothy 3:13—evil men and seducers are actively engaged in the process of deceiving people. We should not expect things to be getting better anytime soon.
- In 1991, only 17% of the readers of *Seventeen* magazine thought that homosexuality was okay. By 1999 that number had increased to 54% of the magazines readership. How is that possible? Marketing. The 1990s saw an intentional marketing champagne designed to more homosexuality into the mainstream of American life.
- “In February 1988 some 175 leading activists representing homosexual groups from across the nation held a war conference in Warrenton, Virgin to map out their movements future. Shortly thereafter, activists Marshall Kirk and Hunter Madsen put into book form (*After the Ball: How American Will Conquer Its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the 90s*) the comprehensive public relations plan they had been advocating with their gay-rights peers for several years.” (Kupelian, 23)
- The goal outlined by Kirk and Madsen, “depends centrally upon a program of unabashed propaganda, firmly grounded in long-established principles of psychology and advertising.” (Kupelians, 24) Their war goals was simple force acceptance of homosexual culture into the mainstream, to silence opposition, and ultimately to convert American society.
- This was to be done through a systematic three step process: 1) desensitization, 2) jamming, and 3) conversion.
- Desensitization—“inundating the public in a continues flood of gay-related advertising, presented in the least offensive fashion possible. If straights can’t shut off the shower, they may at least eventually get used to be wet. . . If you can get (straights) to think (homosexuality is just another thing meriting no more than a shrug of the shoulders—then you battle for legal and social right is virtually won.” (Kupelian, 25-26)
- This can be seen in calling their movement “gay rights.” Using the word “gay” instead of “homosexual” masks the controversial sexual behavior involved. Second, describing their battle as one over “rights” implies homosexuals are being denied the basic freedoms that other citizens enjoy. Consequently, by using the terms “gay rights” and persuading politicians and the media to

adopt the term activists seeking to transform America framed the terms of the debate in their favor. Kirk and Madsen describe this process as hammering in the wedge narrow end first. (Kupelian, 25)

- Jamming—“is psychological terrorism meant to silence expression of or even support for dissenting opinion.” This is why those supporting the Biblical definition of marriage are commonly called and cast as bigots, homophobes, and intolerant. Thanks to this constant jamming, direct quotes from the Bible regarding homosexuality are routinely condemned as “hate speech.”
- Conversion—deals with subverting the will of the individual to accept and embrace what the previously did not. Kirk and Madsen write, “Whereas in Jamming the target is shown a bigot being rejected by his crowd for his prejudice against gays, in Conversion the target is shown his crowd actually associating with gay in good fellowship. Once again, it’s very difficult for the average person, who, by nature and training, almost invariably feels what he see his fellows feeling, not to respond in this knee-jerk fashion to a sufficiently calculated advertisement.” In addition, according to Kirk and Madsen, “it makes no difference that the ads lie. . . because we’re using them to ethically good effect, to counter negative stereotypes that are every bit as much lies, and far more wicked ones.” (Kupelian, 27-28)
- II Timothy 3:13—the American people have been willfully deceived by a slick market campaign designed to undermine the authority of God’s written word.