

GOD
&
Sexuality

RAY COMFORT

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A YOUNG WOMAN was driving along a narrow tree-lined road late one moonless night when her car ran out of gas. Nervous about being alone, she immediately locked the doors, called roadside assistance, and asked them to send someone as quickly as possible.

She turned on the radio for company, and as she closed her eyes and waited she quietly whispered a prayer that God would keep her safe.

Suddenly there was a loud bang on the driver's window, and to her horror a man was yelling something she couldn't understand and was furiously trying to open the door!

She screamed, and to her relief he stopped pounding on the car and disappeared. She sat hyperventilating at what had just happened, when the man suddenly returned with a rock in his hand. This time he smashed the window and unlocked the door, then violently grabbed the terrified woman and pulled her out of the vehicle *just as a train smashed into the car!*

In a moment of time, she realized that what she thought was a raving lunatic turned out to be a courageous and life-saving hero.

Perhaps you believe you are gay, or maybe you are sympathetic toward homosexuality and you think that what people do sexually is their own business. Whatever the case, I want to convince you that you are sitting in a car on a railroad track with a train coming, and you don't know it. I'm aware that sounds like I'm a raving lunatic, but please be patient with me because I believe you will suddenly see that those who are warning you are in reality trying to save your life.

In an attempt to convince you, I'm going to have you "get out of your car" (so to speak) so you can see where you are parked. I'm also going to point out the approaching light, let you feel the trembling ground, and hear the sound of the whistle. If you want to then get back into the vehicle, that's up to you. But you have nothing to lose by reading on so let's do it, and see if you will become convinced of your danger. All I ask is that you are open-minded and honest.

Exiting the Car

Each of us is born with a limited perspective. A member of a tribe living deep in the Amazon jungle may think that his tree-surrounded world is

all that exists. But place him in the heart of New York City on a Friday night, amid 10,000 yellow taxis and buildings that disappear into the clouds, and his worldview will change in an instant.

We are all born with a limited perspective of God. To some, He is a bearded man in the sky who has a big stick He's waiting to hit us with if we do something wrong. To others, He's a friend we can lean on when troubles arise. In Psalm 50:21, God spoke to sinful humanity and said, "These things you have done, and I kept silent; you thought that I was altogether like you; but I will rebuke you..."

Our Creator is nothing like us. For example, we can think only one thought at a time. If you don't believe it, try adding 13, 16, and 73 then dividing the total by 3, while reciting "Humpty Dumpty." Though there may be rare exceptions, most of us are limited to one thought at a time.

We are also limited to being in one place at a time. In addition, we are limited to the dimension of time; we have to wait for it to pass.

Neither can we create anything from nothing. Try making a frog or a dog, from nothing. How about a tree or a flea, a fly or an eye? We can't

create even a tiny grain of sand from nothing. But God created everything we see and what we can't see (air, gravity, etc.) from nothing.

He also has all knowledge in His mind. Ponder that one thought. He has *infinite* thoughts, all at once. He's never surprised, has an idea, or suddenly "thinks" of something. He is omniscient—possessing all information about everything. Such a thought is mind-boggling to us.

Moreover, He dwells everywhere. If you go two billion light-years into space, He's there—in every direction. He is omnipresent.

Neither is He limited by time. You will see ample proof of this if you examine Bible prophecy. As the Bible's thousands of fulfilled prophecies show, God alone knows the details of the future. He created the dimension of time and will one day withdraw it. When you die, you will leave time and enter eternity. That's where God dwells—in eternity. He has neither beginning nor end.

Add to these thoughts that He can do almost everything. Almost, because the Bible says He cannot lie nor can He do evil—all of His judgments are "true and righteous altogether."

Spend a few minutes meditating on these thoughts, about the One who made your brain and gave you the ability to think.

It's essential that you be willing to expand your awareness of God's true nature, because what you do with your precious life will be governed by your perception of God. If you think He doesn't see your thoughts or actions, or that He's passive about evil, then you will live your life in whatever way you please. God won't be in the equation. You will remain in the small world of your car, with your eyes closed and the radio on full volume thinking that all is well.

The Railroad Track

We have established that God is nothing like what we imagine Him to be. But it's not just His greatness that we need to be concerned about. Residents of a village may admire the immensity of a great mountain that overshadows their homes. But if they learn that at any moment the mountain may fall on them and their loved ones, their admiration will rightly turn into fear.

As we have seen, the most intelligent of human beings can't create a grain of sand from nothing,

so simple logic tells us that something much greater than us must have made all things. But the knowledge that changes us from admiring God's incredible greatness to genuinely fearing Him is what the Bible calls His "holiness." That word is foreign to most of us. The dictionary says that holiness is "the state or quality of being holy." The word means that God is morally perfect and that holiness radiates from Him like blinding rays from the noonday sun. However, even knowing that doesn't help us to see our danger. We need to take a close look at the Ten Commandments, which reflect God's holy character. They are His standard of holiness, or goodness, and will help us to see where we are positioned morally with God.

So let's continue with some introspection. Ask yourself if you have obeyed the Ten Commandments, the moral Law. Most would answer, "Well, I've broken one or two, but nothing too serious, like murder, etc." So, let's go through them and see how you do:

The First says, "You shall have no other gods before Me." Is God first in your life? Do you love God above all else? Many years ago I purchased

a TV for my three kids, but the next evening when I arrived home from work I found that they didn't even bother to greet me. They were too busy watching television. They had set their love on the gift rather than on the giver, which was a wrong priority in their affections. In the same way, if we love anything—our house, car, music, sports, loved ones, or even our own life—more than we love God, we are setting our affections on the gift rather than on the Giver, which is a violation of the First Commandment. In fact, the Bible says that we should love God so much that our love for our family and our own life should seem like hatred compared to the love we have for the God who gave them to us. It's not that we love them any less; it's that we should love Him that much more.

The Second Commandment says, "You shall not make for yourself any graven image." This means that we shouldn't make a god to suit ourselves, either with our hands or with our imagination. Have you made a god in your mind that you're comfortable with—where you say, "My god is a loving god who would never send anyone to Hell"? Perhaps your god doesn't mind

“white” lies or fibs here and there, or sex outside of marriage—in fact, he doesn’t have any moral dictates. In reality, that god doesn’t exist; he’s a figment of your imagination. If your god is not the One revealed in Holy Scripture, then you have made an image of God to suit yourself, something the Bible calls idolatry. Scripture warns that no idolater will enter the kingdom of Heaven (1 Corinthians 6:9).

Have you ever taken God’s name in vain—using it flippantly, like “OMG,” or in place of a four-letter word to express disgust? Even Hitler’s name isn’t despised enough to use as a curse word. If you have taken the holy name of the God who gave you life and used it in that manner, that’s called blasphemy, and the Bible says, “The LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain” (Exodus 20:7). Have you kept the Sabbath holy? Always honored your parents? Ever hated someone (which the Bible says is murder of the heart; 1 John 3:15)? Jesus warned, “Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Matthew 5:28), and adulterers will not enter the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians

6:9,10). Have you ever taken something that didn't belong to you, regardless of its value, or told a lie, or jealously desired something that belonged to someone else? The Bible says, "Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD" (Proverbs 12:22), and warns that all liars will have their part in the Lake of Fire (Revelation 21:8).

Hopefully, you are beginning to see that you are sitting on the railroad track, but that won't really concern you until you see the immediacy of your danger.

The Trembling Ground

I want you to stay with me because we are going to look at something that will potentially offend you. It may solidify your thought that I am a raving lunatic. However, keep in mind that sometimes the emotion of fear is your friend. It keeps you from stepping off a 1,000-foot cliff or putting your hand over an open flame.

We are going to see if you can feel the closeness of the train. If you are the average person, you have lived your life with few serious thoughts about God. You haven't loved Him as you should. Instead, you've made up your own god and snug-

gled up to this idol. Then, because you have no fear of your god, you don't feel bad about lying, stealing, blaspheming, and doing other things that you know are morally wrong. Your god doesn't mind; besides, everyone else is guilty too. However, what you don't realize is that you have been storing up God's wrath (something we will look at a little later). Neither do you realize that God Himself has proclaimed the death sentence upon you for your sin, and that when you die, you will stand before Him in judgment.

Death is a clue that our Creator means what He says. He cursed creation because of man's sin, and because of that curse, all living things on the earth will die. Think of it. All the plants and animals, every bird and fish—everything dies. So will you and I, and after death we will stand before our morally perfect Creator. Here is the question you need to answer with absolute honesty, or you will deceive yourself: On the Day of Judgment, will you be innocent or guilty of breaking God's Law? If you are honest, you know you will be guilty.

This may sound strange, but the worst thing you could do at this point is to try to clean up

your life—by trying to keep the Ten Commandments, doing good deeds, saying the right things, and thinking only pure thoughts. But should a judge let a murderer go because he says he will now live a good life? No. The criminal is in debt to justice and therefore must be punished.

Maybe you think that God is good and will overlook your sins. But if you were guilty of terrible crimes in a civil court and said to the judge, “Judge, I am guilty but I believe you are a good man and will therefore overlook my crimes,” the judge would probably respond by saying, “You are right about one thing, I am a good man. And it’s *because of my goodness* that I am going to see that justice is done, that you are punished for your crimes.”

The very thing that many people are hoping will save them on Judgment Day—God’s goodness—will be the very thing that will condemn them. If God is good, He *must* punish murderers, liars, thieves, etc., and His place of punishment, or “prison,” is a terrible place called Hell.

If you hear that a man received a \$5 fine for a crime, you could conclude that his crime was insignificant. But if he received multiple death

sentences, you could conclude that his crime was heinous. In the same way, we can catch a glimpse of how abominable sin must be in the sight of an utterly holy God by the punishment given for it.

I hope that you sense the ground beneath your feet beginning to rumble, and that you are feeling a self-preserving fear, because what I'm going to say will make little sense if you don't realize your danger.

The Bible says that God is rich in mercy, and that He made a way for you to be forgiven. To make clear what an incredible thing He has done for humanity, let's look again to civil law. You are standing in front of a judge, guilty of *very* serious crimes. All the evidence has been presented and there is no doubt about your guilt. The fine for your crime is \$1,000,000 or life imprisonment, but you don't have two pennies to rub together. The judge is about to pass sentence . . . he lifts his gavel, *when someone you don't even know steps in and pays the fine for you.* Justice has been served, the law has been satisfied, and you are now free to go. What's more, the one who paid your fine showed how much

he cares for you. His payment was evidence of his love.

That's what God did two thousand years ago. He sent His Son, Jesus of Nazareth, to pay the death penalty for sinners. Jesus was God manifest in human form: "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself" (2 Corinthians 5:19).

Jesus suffered and died on the cross on behalf of guilty sinners, so that they could live. We are guilty. He paid the fine. *It is that simple.* The Bible puts it this way: "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us . . . But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Galatians 3:13; Romans 5:8).

It was no small thing for Jesus to die for sinners. The only thing that would satisfy the demands of Eternal Law was the shed blood of the sinless Son of God. Jesus suffered unspeakable agony, so that we wouldn't have to be punished for our sins. Then three days later He arose from the dead, defeating death. His sacrificial death and resurrection mean that we need no longer be in debt to the Law, and God can now legally grant us everlasting life if we obey the gospel.

Just as a parachute doesn't benefit us until we put it on, so the gospel will be of no benefit until we obey the command to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 13:14). So what should you do? Simply repent (turn from your sins) and put your trust in Jesus as your Savior and Lord. Don't put it off; you may not have tomorrow—150,000 people die every 24 hours. Youth is no guarantee of old age.

Does the fact that you have sinned against God scare you? Can you feel the ground trembling? You should, because you have *angered* Him by your sin. The Bible says His wrath abides on you and that you are an enemy of God in your mind through wicked works (John 3:36; Colossians 1:21). But let fear work for your good, in the same way that a fear of jumping out of a plane mid-flight would make you put on a parachute. Let your will to live open your heart to the gospel of salvation.

The Approaching Light

We are like a criminal who has been stealing on a moonless night. The darkness has been his security. Suddenly, a police spotlight exposes his

unlawful deeds, and ten sharpshooters have his pounding heart in their sights.

What we have shed light on is your moral state before God. Look at what the Bible says about this light:

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God. (John 3:19–21)

The Scriptures warn many times that the Day of Judgment is on its way and on that terrible Day God will shine His light into the heart of every person who has ever lived. Eternal Justice is coming down the track, and the light is drawing closer and closer every moment. God is patiently waiting for you to get off the track:

Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not

knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who “will render to each one according to his deeds”: eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. (Romans 2:4–11)

The Whistle

It would be easy to drown out a distant train whistle with loud music, just as it's easy to drown out the warning of an alarmed conscience. All you have to do is ignore it, or harden your conscience by throwing yourself further into sin.

But think of what that approaching whistle was to the woman in the car: it was her friend, not her enemy. Its sound was being repeated over and over by the train driver who could see the danger she was in.

God is so gracious in stirring your conscience. It's your friend, not your enemy. It's warning you that your sins are terribly wrong in His eyes, and will have grave repercussions.

Back to the Issue of Homosexuality

I have just shared the gospel with you. This is God's message of salvation for all of humanity. It's for liars and thieves, for idolaters and the covetous (those who are greedy for gain), for those of us who are guilty of fornication (sex before marriage) or adultery, and for those involved in homosexuality. This message is a fearful warning that God is holy and that He means what He says about the Day of Judgment. As Christians we are instructed to "warn" every man.

Here is the warning from Scripture:

Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals,

nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. (1 Corinthians 6:9,10)

Notice the first four words of this passage: “Do not be deceived.” Think about why God would put those words there. It’s because these aren’t verses about the wonderful truth that God cares for sparrows and people, or that He promises to supply all of our needs. This is about who will make it to Heaven and who will end up in Hell. Nothing is more important, so make sure that you aren’t deceived about this issue . . . because there are many people in the world who are trying to deceive you.

God’s wonderful design is for sex to be enjoyed exclusively within marriage between one man and one woman. Sex was designed to be the most intimate expression of love that two human beings can have for each another. The Bible says that it is so intimate, the two become one flesh as they express their love. It is in this intimate union that they miraculously create another human being after their own kind, fulfilling

God's command to "be fruitful and multiply." Without this procreation, possible only between a man and woman, mankind would cease to exist.

God's design for sex, and for marriage, also has a deeper significance. Scripture tells us that marriage is a picture of the union between Christ (the "Bridegroom") and His bride, the Church, and He is coming back for His virgin bride to consummate the union. The Scriptures say, "For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ" (2 Corinthians 11:2). That's God ultimate plan for you: to enjoy the gift of sex within the bounds of a godly marriage, and to be His bride forever, enjoying the riches of His goodness and pleasures throughout eternity. Anyone who tries to convince you otherwise—that sex and marriage are whatever you want them to be—isn't telling you the truth.

A young man who was delivering an important package stepped into an elevator with two lesbians who exited at the 27th floor to pick up an application for a marriage license. He was heading for the 28th floor when the elevator

suddenly faltered. He quickly called the emergency operator and was told to leave the elevator immediately because it had a very serious malfunction. He was then instructed to stand guard at its door to make sure no one entered, while a technician was dispatched to fix it. The young man told the operator that he couldn't possibly stand guard by the door because he had an urgent, life-or-death delivery. So he hastily wrote a large warning sign which he secured to the door, and ran up the stairs to the next floor to deliver his package.

Just then an older man heard the two lesbians talking as they headed back to the elevator. As they were engrossed in their conversation, he quickly and discreetly removed the warning sign from the door and walked away smiling. The girls then unsuspectingly got into the elevator and amid terrified screams fell to their death.

How would you describe the man who removed the warning sign? Would you call him "evil"? I would, and I would also describe as evil those who call themselves Christians and yet remove the warning sign of Scripture. The Bible clearly warns that adulterers, fornicators, thieves,

and the covetous will not enter Heaven. But even though homosexuals are on the list of those who won't enter, these "well-meaning Christians" give them a pass, allowing them to enter into the defective elevator and plummet to their deaths. Worse yet, they do it in the guise of "love."

God's Word clearly says that neither fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, nor sodomites will inherit the kingdom of God. To claim that they will is to remove the warning sign. It is a terrible betrayal! Those who would do this don't truly care about homosexuals. But we care enough to vigilantly stand guard and warn you of the danger—even if it means that you think we are "homophobic" and unloving. We are horrified at the fate of thieves, liars, adulterers, fornicators, and homosexuals.

Born This Way

Usually when a homosexual says that he was "born this way," he's saying that he can't help being gay; it's just natural for him. But that's like a fornicator saying that he was "born this way" because he keeps wanting to have sex with every woman he sees. Or like an adulterer saying that

he can't help his behavior because he naturally longs to have sex with women other than his wife. In one sense the homosexual is right: he was born with a sinful nature that loves to sin.

The Bible speaks of some men “having eyes full of adultery.” We are like moths to a flame when it comes to sexual sin—especially lust, which God considers to be committing adultery in the heart (see Matthew 5:27,28). Even though we love the darkness and we “drink iniquity like water,” God holds us morally responsible and warns that fornicators, adulterers, and homosexuals will not enter Heaven. Tragically, they will go to Hell, along with idolaters, thieves, and others. We were *all* born with a propensity to follow after sin, and that's why we all need to be born again (see John 3:1–7).

It wasn't too long ago that there was no argument about what was right and wrong. But society's moral standards are like shifting sand. What one generation frowns upon, the next embraces. Only a generation ago, homosexuality wasn't just frowned upon as being immoral, it was illegal. I was speaking with an atheist friend about how even adultery used to be a crime. Though it's

rarely prosecuted these days, in 2014 adultery was still illegal in 21 states.¹ My friend was horrified when I said that I wouldn't be surprised if the time came when pedophilia would be legalized and treated as normal human behavior. Moral relativity (believing that there's no ultimate right or wrong) is a predictable slippery slope.

Acceptance of pedophilia has already begun. High-profile atheist Richard Dawkins said in 2012 that pedophilia isn't that bad.² A judge in Australia said that he thought it would be accepted as normal in society.³ If they haven't done so already, Hollywood will probably produce a movie about a loving man who is naturally attracted to boys. The liberal media will keep pounding that pedophiles are born that way (since they don't choose who they're attracted to), and anyone who doesn't accept them in society is bigoted and intolerant.

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1. Jolie Lee, "New Hampshire Senate votes to repeal anti-adultery law," USA TODAY Network, April 17, 2014.
 2. Katie McDonough, "Richard Dawkins defends 'mild pedophilia,' says it does not cause 'lasting harm,'" Salon, Sept. 10, 2013.
 3. "Outrage as Australian judge says incest, pedophilia 'may be accepted' by society," July 11, 2014.

Though man's morals are built on shifting sand, God's are written in stone. They never change, and Scripture warns that they will judge us on Judgment Day, and that's what will matter in the light of eternity.

Look again at the context of the list of those who will not enter Heaven:

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. *And such were some of you.* But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:9–11, emphasis added)

The apostle Paul says that some of the Christians to whom he was writing had once been fornicators, adulterers, homosexuals, and so on. But they had been washed and sanctified. God had made them clean in His eyes. This is called “imputed righteousness.” He washes away our

sins, removing them “as far as the east is from the west” (an infinite distance), and He clothes us with the righteousness of Christ and separates us from the sinfulness of the world. So as Christians we don’t look down on homosexuals, adulterers, or fornicators with a holier-than-thou attitude, because Christendom is made up of forgiven sinners: “For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures . . .” (Titus 3:3). We were once sitting in that car with the music turned up loud not realizing our danger. But God delivered us from certain death, and gave us a new heart with new desires.

Are you convinced that you too are in mortal danger? Then it’s now up to you. You can obey the gospel: repent and trust in Jesus and let God transform you so that you will love righteousness. Or you can do nothing and sit in the vehicle listening to the music of this world until death comes for you, and you find to your horror that we spoke the truth in love.

So What Should You Do?

Think of a man who has cheated on his wife. His faithful spouse is more than willing to take

him back, so what is the attitude in which he should approach her? It should be one of tremendous humility, asking for forgiveness, and determining in his heart never to *even think* of committing adultery again. That's how you should approach God about your sin.

When King David was caught in sexual sin, this is what he prayed:

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight . . . (Psalm 51:1–4)

So have the same humble and contrite attitude and tell God you are truly sorry for your sins. Then pick up a Bible and obey what you read. The reality of your conversion will be dependent on the reality of your repentance. Turning from sin isn't a one-time thing. It is continual.

Don't allow even secret sin into your heart. If you have unlawful sexual thoughts that you know God would frown upon—lust, sexual imaginations, thoughts of fornication, pornography, adultery, or homosexuality—confess and forsake them. A wise preacher once said that you can't stop birds flying over your head, but you can stop them from making a nest in your hair. This is what Scripture says to do with sinful imaginations:

[Cast] down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God . . . (2 Corinthians 10:5)

Notice the words “knowledge of God.” Beware of falling into the subtle and very common trap of creating your own god so that you can indulge in sin. The Bible gives us the true knowledge of God, and that should spark the fear of the Lord—which is “the beginning of wisdom.” We need to fear Him because the Scriptures say “by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil” (Proverbs 16:6). If you don't fear God you will welcome the pleasure of secret sexual imaginations, and if you do that you are like a 400-pound man who sneaks into a dark closet with

a box of chocolates, shuts the door and secretly eats them all, thinking he's fooling everyone when he is just killing himself. Don't deceive yourself. Sin and death are bedfellows. You can't have one without the other:

But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. (James 1:14,15)

Once you are a Christian, you will still be tempted to sin, but keep in mind that temptation isn't sin; giving in to it is. Jesus was tempted in many ways, but He never sinned. Not once (see Hebrews 4:15). His being tempted wasn't sinful. So if you are tempted to sin and resist the temptation, you haven't committed a sin. And once you are born again, you have the power of the Holy Spirit to help you overcome sinful thoughts.

Keep in mind that the reason we should stay away from sin isn't to try to gain Heaven—something we could never do. Eternal life is a free gift that we receive only when we repent and put

our trust in Jesus alone (see Ephesians 2:8,9). The reason we should keep our lives free of sin is out of gratitude to God for our eternal salvation. If we don't, we are proving to be hypocrites—pretenders—and no hypocrite will enter Heaven (see Matthew 24:51). Remember the dumb moth; stay away from the flame. Love God and prove your love by obedience to His Word. Serve Him by reaching out to the unsaved. Be a “hero” by warning others of the danger they're in. Tell sinners the truth in love about who will enter Heaven and who won't:

... that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ... (Ephesians 4:14,15)

Q&A

ON HOMOSEXUALITY

What's wrong with gay marriage?

The institution of marriage was instigated by God as a moral union between one man and one woman for the purpose of procreation, and reflects the relationship between Christ and His Church. Gay “marriage” is not a moral union instigated by God for the purpose of procreation. It is a civil merger between two men or two women. Someone may “marry” the Eiffel Tower as a woman did in 2008, but this has nothing to do with the moral union of marriage. The same applies to same-sex “marriage.”

Do Christians believe gays should be stoned?

Definitely not. Why should Christians in the United States (or elsewhere) want to institute the laws of another nation, from another era? Each country and civilization has its own laws.

Do Christians hate homosexuals?

Christians are commanded to love everyone. If

someone professes to be a Christian and has any hatred, then he doesn't know God: "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love" (1 John 4:8).

Isn't Romans 1 speaking of "vile affections" rather than loving homosexual relationships?

Scripture says that homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9,10), whether their relationship is vile or loving. Homosexuals must repent, just like everyone else.

The Bible says it's an "abomination" for a man to lie with a man (Lev. 20:13). This clearly isn't a serious sin because it also says it's an "abomination" to eat certain fish (Lev. 11:10).

It's not the word "abomination" that should be looked at here. It's the punishment prescribed in each case, because in any judicial system the punishment given for a crime reveals the seriousness of the particular transgression. Eating non-kosher fish has no punishment; however, "if a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman," it was so serious under Hebrew law that "they shall surely be put to death."

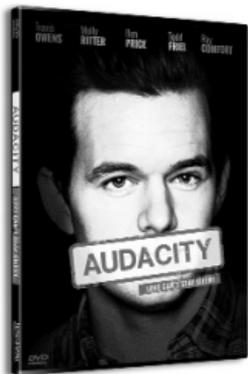
Was Sodom's sin being inhospitable, and not homosexuality?

The Bible says, “Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire” (Jude 1:7). The Amplified Bible says of the same verse that the men of Sodom “gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice and sensual perversity.” They may have lacked hospitality, but the reason God rained fire and brimstone on the city was because of their sexual perversity.

The word “homosexual” wasn't even in the Bible until the mid-1900s.

A man lying with a man as with a woman wasn't called a “homosexual” in the 400-year-old King James Version because the word “homosexual” didn't exist yet. The term “homosexuality” wasn't coined until the late 19th century.

For additional resources and information about Ray Comfort's ministry, visit www.livingwaters.com.



AUDACITY

From Living Waters, creators of the award-winning TV program “The Way of the Master” and the hit movies “180” and “Evolution vs. God,” comes the powerful film “**Audacity**.” Executive produced by TV co-host and best-selling author Ray Comfort (*Hell’s Best Kept Secret*, *Scientific Facts in the Bible*), this film delivers an unexpected, eye-opening look at the controversial topic of homosexuality.

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Watch it free online at AudacityMovie.com.

For most, the words “God and sexuality” go together as comfortably as “police and burglary.” But did you know that the world began with a naked couple being commanded by their Creator to have sex? Or do you think that the existence of both male and female throughout the millions of Earth’s creatures (with the corresponding, amazingly complementary apparatus) was the random result of a cosmic accident? While animals were given instinct to procreate during particular mating times, God designed humans to enjoy physical intimacy year-round.

Many people are very familiar with the gift of sex, but are not so well informed about the Giver. This short booklet will help you understand God’s wonderful design for sexuality—and for you.

RAY COMFORT is a best-selling author of more than 70 books. He also co-hosts an award-winning television program (with actor Kirk Cameron).

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