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# Gay Sex in the Bible

*A person with a history  
of same sex attraction explores  
what the Bible says about  
gay sex and gay romance*

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## Introduction

There is no doubt that misunderstanding of same sex attraction is common in the Christian community. I think there has also been misunderstanding of Christianity in the gay community.

When I was in the gay community I didn't think too much about the Bible, but I did read a book that attempted to reconcile gay sex with Scripture. It seemed to make sense to me at the time. My experience with Metropolitan Community Church also made me familiar with challenges to the mainstream understanding of the Bible. My story in the gay community is at [www.GayTestimony.com](http://www.GayTestimony.com).

About a year later, I had a powerful experience with Jesus. I wandered alone into a Basilica in Montreal and as I was in the silence, something changed. No one was praying over me or "brainwashing me." The experience led me to pursue chastity. I have not had sex with anyone since then, although there were some episodes with masturbation and porn. By the Grace of God, I've been free of all that for over 5 years. I've learned that sex is not like food or water, you don't die without it. In fact, chastity has set me on an amazing daily journey into the heart of God. The Lord loves us all so very much.

Recently, the Bible has been re-framed by theologians who advocate gay sex and romance. This seemed contrary to what I felt in my heart the day I surrendered to the Lord. They had many complicated theories about various sections of the Bible. Occasionally, when they ran into an irrefutable Biblical statement against gay romance, they said that the Bible is from "copies of copies of copies." The 1946 discover of the "Dead Sea Scrolls" which predate Christ by 200 years, vindicated the accuracy of the transcribers over the centuries. What is astonishing to scientists is that the codex of the Old Testament from 1000AD, which was previously the oldest copy, was impeccably accurate, with the Scrolls that were written 1200 years earlier. The copies of copies were immaculate, even divinely so.

I provide this booklet to share my thoughts on Scripture as an attempt to help others experience the Love and Grace of God.

## What's been happening with the Bible?

Episcopal (Anglican) "bishop" John Shelby Spong in his book *"Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism"* is a leader in the rational that the Bible is in favour of gay sex. He also believes that Jesus is not Divine, Hell is an invention of the Church, he doesn't believe in prayer, thinks abortion is fine, etc.. But he sold quite a few books, and the press loves a guy in a collar who wants to change Christianity. I don't like fundamentalism in any form, whether it comes from the "right" or the "left." I think his position Mr. Shelby's approach fundamentalist in its denial of pretty well every moral teaching in the Bible Rev Candice Chellew-Hodge a Lesbian United Church of Christ minister says:

... We can't relate these ancient Scriptures to our own lives... I'm going to ...do a radical surgery on the Scriptures ... re-write Luke's gospel so that we can see how it can directly relate to our own lives ... before anyone gets offended ... I'd ...like to remind you that I'm following in the footsteps of some guy named Jesus... he rewrote the Hebrew Scriptures every time he opened his mouth and gave a sermon, so I think I'm in good company...

<http://whosoever.org/audio/wordofgodcame121006.mp3>

The first problem is that Jesus didn't rewrite the Old Testament Scriptures, he *completed* them. The other problem is that she is thinks that Jesus was only a man with no more authority over Scripture than her. Scripture itself predicted this:

I am afraid ... your minds may somehow be led astray ... For if someone comes to you and preaches a ... different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough. (2 Cor 11:4)

For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. (2 Tim 2-5)

Rev. Candice says her favorite Scripture is "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" (Rom 8:35-39) However, although God always loves us no matter what, there is something that can deprive us of his "Sanctifying Grace" and that is sin. (Gal 5:19-21).

Meanwhile many Gay and Lesbian biblical scholars are admitting that there is no way to affirm gay sex using the Bible.

"The Bible is negative toward same sex behaviour. There is no getting around it. Paul wouldn't accept it for a minute."  
(*Walter Wink, Gay affirming scholar*)

"The exegetical of what the Bible says is straightforward. We know what the Bible says. I think it is important that we reject the straightforward command of Scripture and appeal to another authority."  
(*Luke Timothy Johnson, gay affirming Scholar with lesbian daughter*)

The fact is Paul spoke against Homosexual practice. (Online Gay, Lesbian, Transgendered Encyclopedia)

Here I will explore some of the Biblical theories in favour of gay romance.

## Isn't the Old Covenant Law of Justice replaced by a New Covenant Law of love and inclusiveness?

I got an email that said:

...the New Testament is a document of love - all of the old ways (before Christ) were shown to be no longer valid. To me, that includes any admonition against same-sex love. I have stated this argument many times and have yet to receive a valid rebuttal. The catholic church of today refuses to recognize the message of inclusive and perfect love as taught by Jesus Christ...Just as "an eye for an eye....." no longer applies since Jesus' deliverance of the human race, SO any old

testament teachings against man with man sex are no longer true - that is true to the message of the Jesus I know - the Jesus of complete love.

God is mercy and Love, and the New Covenant is most certainly about Love, but that does not vilify the Old Testament. If that was the case the Church would not have included the Old Testament when it chose the books that make up the Bible in 397 A.D. In Mat 5:17 Jesus said:

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. (Mat 5:17)

This does not sound like Jesus wanted to abolish the Old Testament. Jesus was completing it. When Moses said "An eye for an eye..." he was actually softening the hearts of the Jews. Before that, the rule was to kill someone who took out your eye. Moses was saying, "Don't do any worse to the person than they did to you." That was a moral step forward among ancient Hebrews. Those apparent harsh laws of Moses were actually softening the law. Jesus fulfilled the law in Mathew 5:38 by introducing the law of *love*. Jesus *completes* the law of the prophets.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus was taking the 10 Commandments to a new level. He took the law of retribution, an "eye for an eye," and challenged us to address the source of people hurting us, our *lack of charity*. (Mt 5:38) He took the law that forbid murder and challenged us to conquer the source of murder, *anger*. (Mt 5:21) He took the law of adultery, and he challenged us to conquer the source of adultery, *lust*. (Mt 5:29) He wanted us to avoid lust at all costs, tearing out our own eyes, cutting off our own hands if they caused us to sin. Even there, Jesus was taking the law to a new level because those used to be punishments inflicted upon someone who broke the laws of sexual morality. He took the law of divorce and said marriage

is a lifelong thing. (Mt: 5:33) Jesus wanted us to internalize the law of the Torah. He didn't want us to ignore it.

What that means is that He wrote the law upon our hearts. By turning to Him in an authentic way, He will give us a deep sense of right and wrong and He gives us the strength to live that out. That is why I invite my gay friends to turn to Jesus and spend time with him. He is pure love and his intimacy far surpasses anything available in a same sex relationship. He allows us to see his will. He gives us the power to carry that out.

Some gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transsexual (GLBT) people have leaned hard on this "love" aspect of Jesus. I am very happy that some people in the GLBT community are still thinking about Jesus' love. I pray that this attention to Jesus increases in the GLBT community. Please spend time in prayer with him. I think that is the only source for the healing of our sexual natures.

**Jesus loves us just the way we are -  
and he loves us too much to leave us that  
way!**

Jesus is most certainly about love. He loves everybody in the GLBT community every bit as much as he does every person sitting in Church. He loves each of us equally and that is 100%.

## **Jesus never talks about homosexuality in the Bible**

Jesus lived in a time when homosexuality was understood to be wrong. Jesus did not often reaffirm what was already stated clearly in Scripture.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill." (Mat 5:17)

His words were usually written down when he had something new to say. There was nothing new to say about homosexuality. If he did have something new to say about it, you can be sure that it would have been written and recorded, especially since it would be such an incredible departure from every reference point of the Jews or even the Pagan societies at the time.

There is no such radical departure on homosexuality. In fact, Jesus makes a radical departure in the other direction and straightens the Jews out on marriage, restoring the "one man, one woman," model that God gave us in Genesis. He affirmed that adultery is wrong, (Mat 5:27-28), that any sexual contact or lust outside of marriage is a sin. (Mat 5) And that Marriage is between a male and a female. (Mat 19:5-6). If we follow the logic, it is very clear that Jesus had no intention of changing the conventions of the day that sex between people of the same gender was wrong.

We also have to assume that the apostles knew Jesus' teaching. If we deny that then we are denying the infallibility of the Bible, in which case we would not even have to discuss the Bible's relevance at all. Some try to neuter the word of God so that it is irrelevant in today's world. I tried that too when [I was in the same sex community](#). Churches that preach that message end up empty and irrelevant very quickly (Anglicans, United etc). The books of Jude, Paul, Peter and others are explicit in their condemnation of gay sex. These faithful servants died for Jesus and they knew that it would be a scandal to teach anything contrary to his words.

## The different types of "love" in the Bible

The English language has one word for many types of "love"; not so in the language of the Bible. There are at least four Greek words for "love" in the Bible.

- **Philia**; brotherly love;
- **Agape**; God's love;
- **Eros**; romantic love;
- **Storge**; the love of parents for a child

Our advocate of gay sex above said "the Jesus I know - the Jesus of complete love." Jesus' love is **Agape**, which is God's Love. Although Jesus is all for "**Philia**" (brotherly love) between people of the same sex, there is no example of Jesus or any apostle advocating "**Eros**" (romantic love) between people of the same sex in the original Greek manuscripts of the Bible. In fact the New Testament is very clearly against same sex "**Eros**" (Rom 1:24-27; 1 Cor 6:10; 1 Tim 1:10) and its consequences are described in Jude 1:6. I have trouble understanding how the person who wrote the email above can say "any Old Testament teachings against man with man sex are no longer true" in the New Testament.

## What about two men who love each other and have sex, the Bible doesn't say anything against that does it?

I got an email that said:

There is no passage to condemn same sex marriage so why not just command all same sex couples to marry and problem solved. I'm wondering what it is you HAVE seen in the Bible that's different from what I've seen..... Did you ever find where same sex romantic love is listed in the Bible as a sin at all yet?

[Leviticus 18:22](#) says:

Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.

[Leviticus 20:13](#)

"If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable.

When a man lies with a woman it is generally because of love or marriage. The Bible is expressly saying that a man should not lie with a man, even if he feels the same love that a straight man would feel about a woman.

Our friend responded:

Ah but Lev 18:22 in its HEBREW and Biblical context doesn't hint at love as a sin. Look again. It says a man must not lie with mankind as with womankind in TO'EVAH. And this Hebrew word was idolatry. So the real sin here was not men with men in love ... but all male same sex acts in idolatry.

"You shall not lie with man as with woman" is an entire phrase followed by a punctuation mark. It is a complete thought. And then the line "It is an abomination" (or detestable) ... the Hebrew word TO'EVAH is translated to abomination, in Greek it is "to ebah" which is an active participle in the sentence.

There is no evidence anywhere in history that it was interpreted as "idolatry" in this context. It is made clear throughout the entire section, which lays out all kinds of sexual sin, concluding with Lev 18:26 says "**any of these abominations** (TO'EVAH Hebrew or "to ebah") referring to all the sins in the chapter which included incest, bestiality etc, which has nothing to do with idolatry. Using that translation of the word is like interpreting someone saying "I am fine" to mean they had been "fined" for a parking ticket.

## What about Sodom?

Some advocates of gay romance say that the destruction of Sodom was about "unwelcoming", not homosexuality. On the other hand, others have said that the sin of Sodom was "rape," not gay sex (love). I got an email that said:

"I have done my own research and the sin Sodom was about rape [of Lot's guests]".

Scripture says "Now the people of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord." This was before the night that they came for Lot's

guests. In fact the men of Sodom never even raped anyone that night. The Angels blinded them so they could not even find the door to get in to Lot's house to do the rape (Gen 19:11).

I believe the sin of Sodom is more than just being unwelcoming to the guests. Many towns and countries were unwelcoming to the Jews and they didn't get blown up. The sin of Sodom was not about this isolated incident. God told Abraham that a judgment would come upon Sodom. This was even before the night of the "attempted rape" of Lot's guests. (Gen 18:20)

Isaiah 3:9 says that the people of Sodom **proclaimed** their sin. I can't imagine someone proclaiming the act of "unwelcoming" but at every gay pride parade, well meaning people are proclaiming their "right" to have same sex relationships.

The look on their faces bears witness against them; they **proclaim** their sin like Sodom, they do not hide it. Woe to them! For they have brought evil on themselves. O my people, **your leaders mislead you**, and confuse the course of your paths. (Is 3:9-11)

This makes me think of the latest Canadian Supreme court decision in favour of Gay Marriage, for the Federal Government and the Supreme Court are most certainly our leaders. In the Bible, after condemning the proclaiming of sin like Sodom, the next passage reminds me of the *pride parades I marched in*.

are haughty and walk with outstretched necks, glancing wantonly with their eyes, mincing along as they go, tinkling with their feet; ...In that day the Lord will take away the finery of the anklets, the headbands, and the crescents; the pendants, the bracelets, and the scarfs; the headdresses, the armlets, the sashes, the perfume boxes, and the amulets; the signet rings and nose rings; the festal robes, the mantles, the cloaks, and the handbags; the garments of gauze, the linen garments, the turbans, and the veils. Instead of perfume there will be a stench; and instead of a sash, a rope; and instead of well-set hair, baldness; and instead of a rich robe, a binding of sackcloth; instead of beauty, shame. (Is 3:16-23)

I received an email in response to the Biblical account of Sodom that said:

I hate to tell you this but the men of Sodom ... attempted it [rape] and were unsuccessful, you obviously never known a rape victim, but find one and ask, I assure you they will agree that attempting the act is every bit as horrific and against God as actually committing it. The people of Sodom earned their punishment in just the attempt alone.

I agree with this writer that the intent to rape is unconscionable and extremely abusive. I have several friends who have been through that nightmare. However, whether "attempted rape" is the source of the destruction of Sodom is another question. There are good reasons to think not.

Peter describes Sodom's sin as 'licentious, lawless deeds.' (2 Peter 2:7) The word 'lawless' is particularly interesting because Jewish law found in Leviticus never specified the 'intent' of rape as a crime. However, gay sex is expressly forbidden in Jewish law. (Lev 18:22) Peter uses the word 'deeds' to describe Sodom's sin. This infers a concrete action, not just intent. This passage says "indulge their flesh in depraved lust." To indulge the flesh points to more than intent to rape. The passage says Lot was tormented 'day after day' by lawless deeds he 'saw and heard.' This appears to be more than simple intent and appears to refer to more than one isolated incident. I think Jer 23:14 and Isaiah 3:9 also support this.

They strengthen the hands of evildoers, so that no one turns from wickedness; all of them have become like Sodom to me, and its inhabitants like Gomorrah. (Jer 23:14)

The New Testament says "Likewise Sodom and Gomorrah in the same manner ... indulged in sexual immorality and... unnatural lust." (Jude 1:7) This seems to clearly identify what went wrong in Sodom. The term "unnatural" is further described in Romans 1:24-27:

Therefore, God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the degrading of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator,

who is blessed forever! Amen. For this reason, God gave them up to degrading passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and in the same way also the men, giving up natural intercourse with women, were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind and to things that should not be done...

Some gay theologians have said that this passage refers only to people for whom gay sex was "unnatural" and that people who are naturally "gay" are OK. So let's, for a moment, consider that to be true, that the passage exempts 100% purebred homosexuals (on the Kinsey scale, if there is such a thing). Where would that leave the bisexual? If these theologians were right, then this passage would be very critical against bisexual people. The Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) has this defense posted on its website, yet asserts that bisexuality is a perfectly valid orientation. The theologians and gay friendly churches that justify gay sex using this defense also say it is perfectly OK for someone to have a bisexual orientation, which their interpretation of this passage damns. Why should I take their interpretation of Rom 1:24-27 seriously if they don't?

I don't think of "degrading their bodies among themselves" as something from which "purebred" 100% homosexuals are exempt. "Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error." This describes *acts* not *intentions*. If an *action* is condemned, it does not matter who does it, whether they are straight, gay, bi, transgendered or whatever. I don't think we can shrug off gay sex with this very sloppy theology. It reminds me of some of the blatant justifications for sin that I used to use. The human mind has an almost inexhaustible capacity for self justification. The Catholic word is "concupiscence" which basically means we were born with original sin and we have an attraction a natural inclination to sin.

I got an email that said :

With reference to Romans 1:20-27 ... First, that this passage could be interpreted as condemning homosexual intercourse, or as condemning pre-marital sexual intercourse, or as

condemning adultery. The last two ideas could, of course, raise the issue of 'gay marriage', and thus either exist as a contradiction (unlikely), or that the acts were either pre-marital or heterosexual in nature, or that they were adulterous.

There is no serious Bible scholar who would try to say that unnatural sex refers to adultery especially when set in context with the other Sodom passages above. The word "unnatural sex" is never used anywhere to describe a state of marriage or the sin of adultery in the Bible. The Greek word they use for "nature" is "*Phusikos*" which means "**physical nature.**" This is driven home when it said. They "received in their bodies," they practiced "mutual degradation of their bodies." (Rom 1:25)

One of the most bizarre emails I've received said:

... Sodom. I had always interpreted this as meaning that sexual relations with an Angel were a sin ... I interpret that the Angels are men, and that having intercourse with an Angel is the sin, rather than the men having intercourse with men.

The Bible says "Now the people of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord." Gen 18:20. This was before the night that the Angels came on the scene. In fact, the reason that Abraham went there in the first place was that the Lord was going to destroy the town because of their sin. (Gen 18:20-33) So no, it wasn't about Angel sex.

## **Isn't the Bible's condemnation of sex only about prostitution?**

I got an email that said:

I understand that for centuries conservative faith traditions have taught that homosexuality is a "sin". This is an incorrect teaching... scripture talks nothing about homosexuality... it does talk about prostitution.

There is no serious Bible scholar that would say scripture says nothing about homosexuality. In Sodom, they were not asking for money to

have man to man sex. In 1 Tim 1:10 the Greek word used is "arsenokoithV (arsenokoites) *ar-sen-ok-oy'-tace* from arrhn - arrhen and koith - koite; a sodomite:--abuser of (that defile) self with mankind. It references back to Sodom in which no money was exchanged.

## **Isn't Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13 part of the old "Holiness code?"**

The new pro gay video "The Bible tells me so" says:

"Leviticus also says it's an abomination to eat shrimp"

The Holiness Code applies only to Jews. Leviticus 18, is distinctly about sexual moral issues, it includes other nations *not* under the law.

You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, ... nor ... as they do in the land of Canaan...Do not defile yourselves by any of these things by which the nations whom I am driving out of your way have defiled themselves. Because their land has become defiled, I am punishing it for its wickedness, by making it vomit out its inhabitants.

The New Testament completes the law of Levites in Mark 7:19, "Thus He declared all foods clean." Some of the punishments of Leviticus were completed by the law of Love. Although there are severe punishments in the Old Testament, the New Testament completes the law of justice with the law of love and clearly shows that there is to be no violence towards people who have anal sex. But just because there is no longer a death sentence or anything like that, doesn't mean that it's OK. If sodomy no longer is wrong because of the old 'Holiness Code' then Paul would not have included it in his list of sins to the Corinthians, and in his letter to Timothy. To dismiss the position of gay sex in the New Testament is to dismiss the New Testament. The difference between the shrimp example and the gay sex example is that the New Testament reaffirmed that gay sex is wrong and it said that Jesus made all foods are clean.

Although the New Testament ends violent punishment by introducing the law of love, it clearly restates that gay sex is a sin and any form of sin is not a good thing, because it separates us from God. Not because

God is walking away from us, but because we are walking away from God. In fact, the punishment is worse in the New Testament, because in the Old Testament the punishment was physical death, and in the New Testament the penalty of mortal sin is eternal death. That sounds strong but that is why I am spending so much energy to try to help people understand that gay sex is not a good thing for us in the eternal scheme of things. I don't say this to sound judgmental. I say it because [I was in the gay community](#) and I've had tremendous healing.

There is no amount of Old Testament worldly punishment that could match what Jesus describes as "hell." Hell is a word that the New Age and "Christian" gay sex advocates want to re-frame as old fashioned. They prefer the word "ignorance." Unfortunately, the Bible is clear on Hell also. It's real and it's not fun. I know because for many years I refused Jesus and I thought the Church was a cold stone building full of hypocrites. Now I realize I was the hypocrite. I spoke about love but I was more interested in lust.

## Doesn't the Bible have examples of same sex relations such as Saul and Jonathan, Naomi and Ruth, Paul and Timothy, and even Jesus and John?

There is no reasonable evidence in Scripture that these relationships are anything other than *Phila* (Greek for *brotherly love*). I suggest those who advance the theory of *gay sex between holy people* in the Bible are mistaking *Phila* for *Eros* (*romantic love*). Surely people in the gay community can imagine close same sex friendships without sex.

Regardless of these attempts to redefine Scripture, there is just no way around the explicit passages in the Bible that forbid gay sex (love). (Gen 19:1-29; Rom 1:24-27; 1 Cor 6:10; 1 Tim 1:10, Jud 1:7) Scripture condemns gay sex. Scripture says that Jesus was without sin. (Heb 4:15) So no, Jesus was not into gay sex with John. Some people in the gay community can't get their heads around the idea that someone can live a happy productive life and be celibate.

This theory about gay lovers in the Bible is basically saying that the Scripture contradicts itself by both condemning and condoning gay love (sex). This reduces the Bible to an archaic piece of historical literature. If that is the case, then there is no need to try to find a justification for gay sex in Scripture because, as an outdated piece of history, it would not hold humanity to a moral standard. However, the Bible itself says it is the Word of God and that we should not mess with it. (Rev 22:18)

The gay community has twisted the Christian concept of human rights to unhealthy goals. I think there is a difference between "Human Rights" and "Human Wrongs." I pray that gay men and lesbians turn from environments that are offering false comfort. In the book of Revelation, John describes the fallen Babylon. It is eerily similar to the vision that gay advocates have for our culture, and John's advice is stirring:

Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great ... Then I hear another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, so that you do not take

part in her sins, and so that you do not share in her plagues; for her sins are heaped high as heaven..." (Rev 18:1-4)

I pray that each of my gay friends will have a different kind of *coming out* than what they have been told about in the gay community. I pray that my gay friends *come out* of the gay community. It is not a healthy place emotionally, spiritually, or physically. God has better plans for you. I am very grateful that I no longer subscribe to their vision of society.

I got an e-mail that said:

"Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. "  
(Mat 7:1-2)

This is often used to try to silence those who publicly oppose sin. The passage is condemning hypocrisy; it is not condemning the action of publicly calling sin for what it is. Two verses later, Jesus says, "...first take the speck out of your own eye, then you will clearly be able to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye." [I spent 2 years in the gay community](#). I have taken this particular log out of my eye and I have been following the teachings of the Church on sexuality and I invite you to do the same. It is a great life.

There are plenty of Bible verses that show us that it is very important to publicly oppose sin. (Jn 7:14, Lk, 12:57, Psm 37:30, Prv 31:9, Lk 17:3, Lev 19:15-17, Is 22:2, 23:36, Mat 23, Mat 3: 2,7, Acts 13:10, Cor 2:15, 6:2-3, Jn 3:18-19, 12:48). Jesus said, "Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment" (Jn 7:24). Christianity has always been called to impact and influence society toward God's vision as it is laid out in Scripture.

## Doesn't Deuteronomy say "stone your kids if they stray from the faith?"

If the Old Testament is harsh like that, then why should we listen to it at all? Here is the passage Obama was talking about.

If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother and will not listen to them when they discipline him, 19 his father and mother shall take hold of him and bring him to the elders at the gate of his town. They shall say to the elders, "This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious. He will not obey us. He is a profligate and a drunkard." Then all the men of his town shall stone him to death. You must purge the evil from among you. All Israel will hear of it and be afraid. (Deuteronomy 21:18-21)

The first thing to notice is that this is a "son" old enough to drink and go out on his own. He is an adult, demonstrated by the absence of common discipline for children mentioned in other parts of the Bible (i.e., Prov 29:15). He was capable of making mature adult decisions, and chose not to. He was **not** a child. Also this was the Old Covenant. Christ completed the law of justice found in the Old Covenant with the Law of Love found in the New Covenant. The New Covenant reasserts some of the old laws and absorbs others in love. In the New Covenant, the death penalty is overshadowed by the Love of Christ. However, the sin of gay sex is reaffirmed in the New Covenant, as is the sin of "stubborn and rebellious profligation and drunkenness." The death penalty shall not be given out by Christians, but rather, the punishment is much worse after death, for the unrepentant soul.

Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. (1 Cor 6:10)

## Is the Bible silent on Lesbian sex?

I got an email that said:

"... and note no law for lesbians in the OT! So were lesbians OK in OT times?"

Generally, throughout the Bible, most discussions of laws applying to "man" are interpreted as "mankind." For instance, when God said "man cannot live by bread alone..." (Matthew 4:1-11) he was not talking about gender specific males. It's quite obvious that "unnatural sex" in Jude 1:7 and Rom 1:24-27 covers lesbian sex also. The Jewish

interpretation of the Torah is also clear. Even the liberal Wikipedia says this:

The entirety of the [Torah](#), such behaviour is widely viewed as forbidden by most [rabbis](#) based on a [Drash](#) interpretation of the Biblical verse "Do not follow the ways of Egypt where you once lived, nor of Canaan, where I will be bringing you. Do not follow [any] of their customs." (Leviticus 18:3). A [midrash](#), Sifra Aharei Mot 8:8-9, states that this refers to sexual customs, and that one of those customs was the marriage of women to each other, as well as a man to a woman and to her daughter. [Maimonides](#), in his [Mishneh Torah](#), summarizes the matter as follows:

For women to be *mesollelot* with one another is forbidden, as this is the practice of Egypt, which we were warned against: "Like the practice of the land of Egypt . . . you shall not do" (Leviticus 18:3). The Sages said [in the midrash of Sifra Aharei Mot 8:8-9], "What did they do? A man married a man, and a woman married a woman, and a woman married two men."

## The Gay Community as a whole has abandoned the Bible

The gay community, as a whole, has abandoned attempts to find a justification for gay "love" in the Bible, and they are settling instead with the theory that the Bible is an outdated historical document coloured by its cultural context. Given that Jesus and the apostles flew in the face of the culture of their time, to the point of death, there is no reason to believe they "caved into" social norms on homosexuality. The apostles said gay sex is wrong, (and that doesn't mean it is worse than other sexual sin).

Many in the gay community want to ban the Bible as "hate literature." This crowd also tends to be against censorship and want the Government of Canada to stop interfering with the importation of violent sex pornography. I find this paradox counter-intuitive.

I believe the Bible not what the gay community is proposing. Quite the opposite, the Bible is about God's love (**Agape**) for humanity and

practical ways to experience that love. The Bible leads to an eternity of love with our Creator. Please, I ask you to spend time with Jesus. He loves you and wants to help. He has helped me immensely.

## "God made me gay, it is cruel for him to ask me not to act it out"

I got an email that said:

... God does not make mistakes... God does not create someone black and then say... "you are "intrinsically disordered" because you're not white"... God does not create woman and then say "you are intrinsically disordered" because you are not male... Just as God does not create people gay and then say... you are 'intrinsically disordered' because you are gay. The church... which is led by man says that... and does that.

This is a complaint from some gay people who are struggling about what to do with their sexuality. There have been studies to which some in the gay community have pointed. (such as "INAH-3" by *Simon Levey*, "Twins and Other Brothers" by *Bailey & Pillar*, "Xq28 Genetic Markers" by *Dean Hamer*). None of these researchers has claimed "proof" of the *born gay* theory. There are many problems with these studies such as small samples sizes and inconsistent results. What these studies **have** shown, however, is that some people who *should have been gay* based on the theory, were not gay. So people's sexuality is not *dictated* by the conditions laid out in the studies. Probably there are multiple contributing factors. We just don't know - nobody does.

[my personal opinion is that some of us are born with a "predisposition" to homosexuality, just like some are born with a predisposition to alcoholism or depression. I think that is quite a bit different from being *born gay* as an immutable characteristic such as race or colour. Some people who are born with a predisposition to depression become depressed, some don't. Some become depressed but after tuning their life over to Jesus, experience amazing healing and freedom from

depression. Again this is just my opinion and I am in no way speaking for the Church here.]

Some people who are attracted to the same sex think that the mere fact that they feel that way means they should act on it. But just because a human *feels* a certain way doesn't mean we are condemned to act on it. For example, there are studies that say all men are hard wired to have multiple partners. But most of us would agree that it is not appropriate for men to live that out. Most well adjusted and happy men don't. Not all things that feel good are truly good for us. It was fun for me to do drugs, but God was calling me to a higher way of living. We live in a broken world. Catholics call it "original sin."

Jesus freed the woman who was going to be stoned for adultery, "Neither do I condemn you", but he also said "from now on do not sin again" (Jn 8:11). Jesus loves us completely. He calls us to a higher standard, and sometimes that feels uncomfortable.

**Jesus wants all of us to live outside our comfort zone.**

Abstaining from gay sex may seem uncomfortable, for a time, but it gets easier. For example, if I don't exercise for a long time. The first time I run, it will be painful, it will feel and unnatural. But in time, my body gets used to this healthier way of living. I may say to my personal trainer "you are cruel, how could you expect so much from me?" The personal trainer would say "It's because I want you to be healthy, and I know you are capable of this. It may be painful now, but it will bring much fruit in the future." This is what the Church is saying to the same sex attracted person.

I'm not saying same sex attraction is that simple. [I've been there](#). I am simply saying that it is possible to be free, thousands are, including me. ..If you are struggling, you can be free also. I am praying for you. There is freedom in Christ. I don't know what form of freedom that will take for you, whether it means hetero marriage, or singleness. But I know there is freedom. I have seen it with my own eyes. All humans have some sort of sexual struggle. We'd hardly be human if we didn't.

The question is "what are we going to do about it?" God can answer that question. Paul comfortingly reminds us:

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. (1 Cor. 10:13).

In a society that is sex-centred it's hard to imagine that I am much more than my sexual attractions. I don't think we are defined by who we are attracted to. We are spiritual beings living in a material world. This world is only the "[Matrix](#)." Come join "The Resistance."

For 18 years I have remained celibate. My motivation for staying celibate is not an orientation issue but rather a spiritual reason (I was much more into women than men). I'm sure a lot of well meaning Freudians would have fun with that one. They are so baffled by sexual abstinence that they think everyone who doesn't have sex is latent. Psychiatry is brilliant at taking apart the human mind, but not that great at putting it back together.

But the point is, I have not died yet, nor has my mind turned into a shriveled mushroom from not having sex. I'm happy, very healthy, and well adjusted. My song writing is better than ever, much better than the days when I was performing on Broadway. I have the most awesome meditations where I can just feel the Lord moving through my whole system. It's a beautiful life. The Psychiatrists are wrong about human sexuality. Sex is optional, honest. You don't die from not having sex. It's not like food and water.

## Sources of help

- [www.couragerc.net](http://www.couragerc.net) (Catholic)
- [www.sa.org](http://www.sa.org) Sexaholics Anonymous
- [www.Exodos-International.org](http://www.Exodos-International.org) (Evangelical)
- [www.newdirection.ca](http://www.newdirection.ca)
- [www.freetobeme.com](http://www.freetobeme.com)
- [www.ewm.org](http://www.ewm.org)

With some of these organizations, I might disagree with some of their approach but they are supporting chastity which is a great thing. You can also start your own group. Approach your priest or pastor and ask him for some space on a weeknight. I bet you will get it. I envision a world where Churches are actively seeking to help people with same sex attraction, to stay chaste.

God heals our sexuality in many different ways. He has a plan for each person. Perhaps some people will remain celibate; others will feel called to marriage with a person of the opposite sex. Many have had successful straight marriages and have had kids. Some will struggle with same sex attraction for their lifetime and will need much support to remain sexually chaste. Others will be completely freed. There is no prescription. But the common thread is that those who turn to the Lord get an amazing amount of support and freedom and God puts people in their lives to help. Jesus really does heal.

## Scripture verses on the validity of a consecrated single life (no gay or hetero sexual relationships):

Some people are called to a celibate life. Scripture often talks about this as a legitimate call from God. I'm living a celibate life. It's a good life.

### Matthew 19:10-12

...his disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." But he said to them, "Not everyone can accept this teaching, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let anyone accept this who can."

### 1 Cor 7:6-9

...This I say by way of concession, not of command. I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has a particular gift from God, one having one kind and another a different kind. To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is well for them to remain unmarried as I am.

But if they are not practicing self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to be aflame with passion.

#### 1 Cor 7:24-35

...In whatever condition you were called, brothers and sisters, there remain with God. ... I think that, in view of the impending crisis, **it is well for you to remain as you are**. Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? **Do not seek a wife**... Yet those who marry will experience distress in this life, and I would spare you that. ... but the married man is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided. And the unmarried woman and the virgin are anxious about the affairs of the Lord, so that they may be holy in body and spirit; but the married woman is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please her husband. **I say this for your own benefit, not to put any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and unhindered devotion to the Lord.**

#### 1 Cor 7:38-40

...So then, he who marries his fiancée does well; and **he who refrains from marriage will do better**. A wife is bound as long as her husband lives. But if the husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, only in the Lord. But in my judgment she is more blessed if she remains as she is.