

A doctor's chart on  
the health of the  
human  
condition.



We are not as bad off as we think.

**We are much  
much worse!**

*We first must sense the darkness  
of our soul if we are to see the  
full light of the Gospel.*

*Common ground for religious  
discussion with nonbelievers.*

1. All people have an awareness of God at some level.
2. All people tend to suppress or confuse this awareness of God.
3. All people have faith in something enabling them to make sense of life.
4. **All people experience shame from social/spiritual alienation (darkness).**

The question: **Do they suppress this as they do the knowledge of God?**

***The argument of Romans 1-4***

*God's judgment on man's nature (Rom.1:18-27)*

1. Man knows that God is there.
2. Man suppresses that knowledge.
3. Man exchanges light for darkness.
4. Man **reflects** his decisions in his behavior.

*God's judgment on man's religion (Rom.2-3:20)*

*God's judgment on Christ (Rom.3:21-26)*

*God's justification of man by faith in Christ (Rom. 3:27-4:25)*

***A person's heart condition is  
reflected in their behavior.***

*Romans 1:24-28  
The inner predisposition*

*Man exchanges      God gives over*

*Romans 1:29-32  
The outer manifestation*

*Romans 1:24-28  
The inner predisposition*

*Romans 1*

"<sup>24</sup> Therefore God **gave them over** in the **lusts of their hearts** to impurity, that their bodies might be **dishonored** among them. <sup>25</sup> For they **exchanged** the truth of God for a lie, and **worshiped and served the creature** rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen."

*Man exchanges  
Creator for  
Creation*

*God gives over  
to a worldly  
heart*

“<sup>26</sup> For this reason God **gave them over** to **degrading passions**; for their women **exchanged** the natural function for that which is unnatural, <sup>27</sup> and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.”

*Man exchanges  
the natural for  
the unnatural*

*God gives over  
to degrading  
passions*

“<sup>28</sup> And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, **God gave them over** to a **depraved mind**, to do those things which are **not proper**,”

*Man exchanges  
knowledge for  
suppression*

*God gives over  
to depraved  
mind*

### *Romans 1:24-28 The inner predisposition*

*Man exchanges  
Creator for  
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*God gives over  
to a worldly  
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*Man exchanges  
the natural for  
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*God gives over  
to degrading  
passions*

*Man exchanges  
knowledge for  
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*God gives over  
to depraved  
mind*

### *Romans 1:29-32 The outer manifestation*

“<sup>29</sup> being **filled with all unrighteousness**, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;”

***They not only practice evil, they also approve and promote it.***

“<sup>32</sup> and, although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also **give hearty approval to those who practice them.**”

*Hadden Robinson*



“God is not looking for perfect people to pastor His church, but for dirty, rotten, sinners who know the grace of God in Christ.”



*Mark 2:17*

“I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.”

*1 Corinthians 1:28*

“the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that no man may boast before God.”

*Key points*

1. **The natural man suppresses knowledge of the glory of God.**
2. **The natural man suppresses knowledge of his sinful condition.**
3. **Paul is describing the condition of fallen humanity (as a whole) of which we are a part.**
4. **Homosexuality is a sign of an unnatural culture of exchange and not just the problem of homosexual individuals.**

*Dangerous diversions*

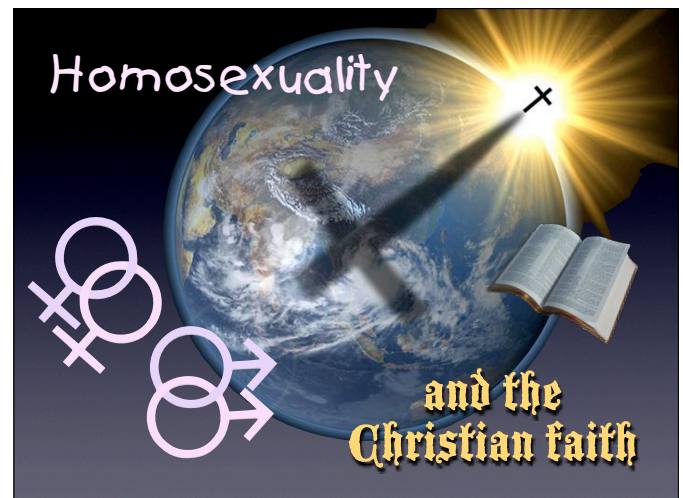
1. **This is about THEM not about me.**
2. **Homosexuality is a curse on gay people not on the human race including all of us.**
3. **Our nature can be reformed by the Word, the power of God, & discipline.**
4. **As a part of God's elect, redeemed, and enlightened I am not a part of the depravity described here.**

**God's answer to the human condition**

**is not reform  
through discipline  
but rebirth through  
death.**

*Romans 6:3*

“Or do you no know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?”





## Definition

### What is homosexuality?

Traditional  
(Biblical) culture

Sexual passionate  
acts with members  
of the same gender.

Technological  
(modern) culture

Sexual attraction  
to members of the  
same gender.

## Observations

Christian are  
confused

Gay activist's are  
combative

I hear so often—"But  
homosexuality is a choice, a  
sinful decision, a disorder, a  
psychological mistake."

But I find such judgmental  
beliefs to be the result of  
fearful ignorance, the defense  
tactics of **holy homophobia**.

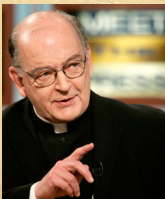
*"Teen View" author*

*Jerry Falwell*



"AIDS is not just God's  
punishment for  
homosexuals; it is  
God's punishment for  
the society that  
tolerates homosexuals."

*Richard John Neuhaus*



"In the gay community,  
it would seem, the  
maxim is: love the sin  
and love the sinner, but  
hate anyone who calls it  
a sin or him a sinner"

### ***Five points to understanding homosexuality and Christianity.***

- Christians face a difficult challenge.
- Homosexuality involves the whole human race in its fallen condition.
- The issue is bigger than homosexuality.
- Some harsh facts about homosexual behavior.
- Speak the truth in love is needed.



A.

### A difficult challenge

**Evangelical Christians are torn between a desire to be sensitive and yet faithful as they try to address this issue in the public square.**

**Homosexual acts are a moral issue in Scripture.**



#### Old Testament

##### Law of Moses

Lev.18:22  
Lev.20:13

##### Examples

Judges 19:22-30  
Ezek.16:50

#### New Testament

##### Jesus is silent

##### Church history

##### Paul

Rom.1:18-28  
1 Cor.6:9-11  
1 Tim.1:8-10

Until the modern era, the church has consistently condemned homosexuality.

Dear Dr. Laura Schlesinger

Thank you for doing so much to educate people regarding God's Law. I have learned a great deal from your show and try to share that knowledge with as many people as I can. When someone tries to defend the homosexual lifestyle, for example, I simply remind them that, as you recently pointed out, **Leviticus 18:22** clearly states it to be an abomination and cannot be condoned under any circumstances – End of debate.

I do need some advice from you, however, regarding some other elements of God's Laws and how to follow them.

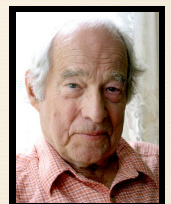
1. **Lev.25:44** states that I may possess slaves, both male and female, provided they are purchased from neighboring nations. A friend of mine claims that this applies to Mexicans, but not Canadians. Can you clarify? Why can't I own Canadians?
2. I would like to sell my daughter into slavery, as sanctioned in **Ex.21:7**. In this day and age, what do you think would be a fair price for her?
3. I have a neighbor who insists on working on the Sabbath. **Ex.35:2** clearly states he should be put to death. Am I morally obligated to kill him myself, or should I ask the police to do it?

4. My uncle has a farm. He violates **Lev.19:19** by planting two different crops in the same field as does his wife by wearing garments made of two different kinds of thread (cotton and polyester). He also tends to curse and blaspheme a lot. Is it really necessary that we go to all the trouble of getting the whole town together to stone them? **Lev.24:10-16**. Couldn't we just burn them to death at a private family affair like we do with people who sleep with their in-laws. **Lev. 20:14**.

I know you have studied these things and thus enjoy considerable expertise in such matters, so I am confident you can help. Thank you again for reminding us that God's word is eternal and unchanging.

*Rev. William Sloane Coffin*

"In reality, there are no biblical literalists, only selective literalists. By abolishing slavery and ordaining women, millions of Protestants have gone far beyond biblical literalism. It's time we did the same for homophobia."





Romans 1

"<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them over to **degrading passions**; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is **unnatural**, <sup>27</sup> and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing **indecent acts** and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. <sup>28</sup> And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a **depraved mind**, to do those things which are **not proper**,"

**Some questions  
that leave Christians uncomfortable**

- Is not homosexuality **natural** for many people?
- **Jesus** never mentions homosexuality but does talk about loving relationships. Why not follow Jesus?
- Why do conservatives seem bent on **legislating** their personal morality on everyone else?
- Should not gay people enjoy the same civil **rights** (marriage) as anyone else?
- Why should a group that is so creative, peace loving, and productive be **rejected** just because of who they choose to love?

*Many well known gay and bisexual people are talented, productive, sensitive, and caring. They don't seem to be God hating, spiritual rebels, who want to destroy all that is good.*

Hans Christian Andersen	Henri Nouwen	Alexander the Great
Susan B. Anthony	Philip Johnson	Rosie O'Donnell
Joan Baez	Angelina Jolie	Ellen Degeneres
James Dean		
Francis Bacon	Billy Jean King	Tyrone Power
Elton John		
Leonard Bernstein	Rock Hudson	Hadrian
Robert Reed		
Little Richard	Bill Blass	Czar Alexander I
Lily Tomlin		
Leonardo da Vinci	Tennessee Williams	Michael Feinstein
Aaron Copland	Barry Manilow	Scott Wittman
Andy Warhol		
Anderson Cooper	Martina Navratilova	

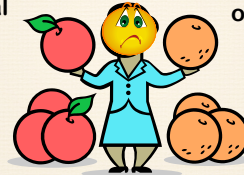
**Evangelical Christians are caught  
between two spiritual virtues**

Sensitivity to  
the heartfelt  
experience of  
the homosexual  
community



To ignore this  
brings the label of  
"holy homophobia."

Sensitivity to  
the traditional  
understanding  
of the Scripture



To ignore this  
makes one a  
Christian heretic.

**The stereotype evangelical  
Christian**



"God hates you  
and so do I!"

Sensitivity to  
the traditional  
understanding  
of the Scripture



To ignore this  
makes one a  
Christian heretic.

**B.**

The whole human race is  
involved.

**Homosexuality is a visual  
aid to the fallen human  
race and its unnatural  
condition of being  
separated from God.**