

## Session 1: The Homosexual Lifestyle, It's Implications and Biblical Values

### I. LEGALIZATION OF SAME-SEX MARRIAGE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS WORLDWIDE

- A. Since 2017, *twenty-three countries* have legalized gay marriage. The Netherlands was the first in 2000. In June 2015, the Supreme Court of the United States legalized same-sex marriage. Many have called this one of the most important decisions in the history of America. This ruling will be to marriage what the Roe vs. Wade decision was to abortion in 1973.
- B. All nations are being tested by how they respond to this issue of legalizing gay marriage and their view of God's Word and His ordinances. It is truly a Psalm 2 moment that lays the foundation for further wickedness, animosity towards God and His people in the future (Psalm 2:1–6).
- <sup>1</sup> Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth [national rulers] set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord [the Father] and against His Anointed [Jesus], saying, <sup>3</sup> “Let us break Their bonds [boundaries of God's Word] in pieces and cast away their cords [righteous restraints] from us.” <sup>4</sup> He who sits in the heavens shall laugh... <sup>6</sup> “Yet I have set My King [Jesus] On My holy hill of Zion.” (Psalm 2:1-6)*
- C. *The consequences of this decision* is significant for all people, impacting social institutions including public education, civil liberty, and individual state's rights. Private business owners, universities, multinational corporations, non-profit organizations (including churches), and social institutions will come under great pressure to support the gay agenda, violate their conscience and surrender their religious liberty.
- D. Directly after the Supreme Court ruling, the LGBTQ community said *their work had just begun*. One of their future initiatives would be promoting transgender rights in schools, corporations and more.
- E. *Homosexuality* has now become to many *the biological equivalent of race* and thus *deserving of protection* against racism. People not affirming the gay agenda can be accused of being racist and bigoted, and thus guilty of crimes worthy of imprisonment. Since the Bible denounces homosexuality as a sin, those that hold the authority of the Bible on this issue will be practicing hate speech, allowing for further persecution. (Mat. 24:9)
- F. This issue has brought *confusion, perversion and persecution* in the nations that embrace it. Here is a small sampling of troubling events that have occurred in the past few years in North America.
1. **Technology and Business.** In April 2014, Brendan Eich, CEO of Mozilla (created Firefox) resigned because of a 2008 contribution he made to support *Proposition 8*, Californian legislation that sought to ban same-sex marriage. The outcry for his resignation shows mainstream support for gay rights, particularly in the technology world. Amazon.com's C.E.O., Jeff Bezos, donated more than \$2.5 million in support of it.
  2. **In Public Offices.** *The City of Atlanta* fired top fire chief & eighteen-year veteran, *Chief Cochran* Jan., 2015, when they discovered the discipleship material he had authored stated the Biblical view of marriage.

# LEGALIZING THE HOMOSEXUAL LIFESTYLE AND IT'S IMPLICATIONS

SHILIN - BREAD OF LIFE

JULY 12TH, 2017

— BRIAN BEESON

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3. **Government Legislation and Business.** On March 2016, North Carolina signed a law that for public buildings people could only use the bathroom of their birth gender, causing the NBA and the NCAA to move events and Pay Pal to scrap plans for global operations center location in Charolette, costing NC over \$3.76 billion in lost business in the next decade. The economic and corporate pressure on NC's lawmakers forced them to repealed the bill (2017). Similarly, the state of Texas has considered similar legislation while fourteen major corporations have voiced resistance, including: Apple, Amazon, Google and Microsoft.
  4. **In Business and Corporations.** On April 2016, Target decided to allow any customer at any time and for whatever reason to use bathrooms or fitting rooms of the opposite sex in its stores based solely upon subjective "gender identity." So whatever a person "felt" their gender was at that moment, that bathroom they could use. The implications of this are huge. The backlash on social media caused Target to lose 1.5 billion dollars in the next fiscal year while 1.5 million people boycotted their stores.
  5. **In Media and Pop Culture.** September 2016 - Time magazine wrote an article entitled, "My Brother's Pregnancy and the Making of a New American Family," featuring a transgender man (biological woman) giving birth. Pink News featured the same story, showing him with chest hair and scruffy beard nursing.
  6. **In Public Education.** In 2016, the state of California became the first state to teach K-12 students LGBTQ curriculum, including concepts of: "gay", "bisexual", "gender identity", "heterosexism" and "homophobia," etc... Washington DC schools adopted such curriculum also starting at Kindergarten.
  7. **In Public Education.** May 2017 - An elementary school in Canada is cancelling Mother's and Father's Day events in an effort to celebrate diversity and inclusivity after a traumatic incident with one of its students who had two parents of the same gender. Some LGBTQ advocates prefer the name "Guardians Day".
  8. **In Private Business.** In March 2017, the state of Oregon fined Aaron and Melissa Klein \$135,000, garnishing their bank accounts and assets. In 2013, they refrained from baking a cake for a same-sex wedding as it violated their religious beliefs.
- G. This decision to legalize same-sex marriage will continue to have vast implications for our generation and those of our children. It will go far beyond the examples listed here. It is a time of international crisis for the nations.
- H. Isaiah mentioned that *in the end times*, people would change the laws (ordinance) bringing increased sin on the earth. Rejecting the Bible's definition of marriage and sexuality requires us to put ourselves over God's Word and redefine what is good and righteous. Isaiah shows us there is a progression to sin. First societies sin often (transgressing). Then comes changing laws (ordinances) so what is righteous is called "wicked" and what is wicked, "righteous". Finally, societies break the covenant with God and the curse will come upon the earth.
- <sup>4</sup> The earth mourns and fades away... <sup>5</sup> The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. <sup>6</sup> Therefore the curse has devoured the earth... (Isa. 24:4-6)
- I. Before the Lord returns, four main strongholds will be strongest in the earth (Rev. 9:21). Believers should resist these trends, expose them as sin, while valuing and respecting all people, regardless of their beliefs or lifestyles.
- <sup>21</sup> ...they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts. (Rev. 9:21)

## II. THE BIBLE'S VIEW TOWARDS MARRIAGE AND HOMOSEXUAL ACTIVITY

A. The Bible speaks against homosexuality by what it says in general about sex and marriage. The Biblical vision for the union of the different genders in marriage is one of its main themes. It is everywhere.

1. The book of Genesis (1–3)
2. Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce (e.g. Matthew 19:3–9) presents marriage between a man and a woman as the only divinely designed place for sexual relations.
3. Throughout the Bible heterosexual marriage is the human construct most often used to reveal truths about God's relationship to his people, as in Ephesians 5:23–32.
4. The Bible begins with a wedding between a man and a woman (Genesis 2:22–25) and ends with one (Revelation 19:9; 21:1–9).

B. Secondly, the Bible speaks against homosexual activity by calling it an abomination, sinful and shameful.

C. Moses wrote regarding homosexual activity (Lev. 18:22; 20:13). He did so in mentioning four main sexual sins: *incest* (18:6–18), *adultery* (18:20), *homosexuality* (18:22) and *bestiality* (18:23). The Lord said that any nation that engages in these sexual sins will defile the land, be judged and removed (Lev. 18:24–30).

<sup>13</sup> *If a man lies with a male...both of them have committed an abomination. (Lev. 20:13)*

<sup>24</sup> *Do not defile yourselves with any of these things; for by all these the nations are defiled, which I am casting out before you. <sup>25</sup> For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it [judgement], and the land vomits out its inhabitants. (Lev. 18:24-25)*

D. Jesus reiterated homosexuality was a sin when speaking of “sexual immoralities” (Greek πορνεία). NASB footnotes *sexual immoralities* in Mark 7:20–23, referring back to prohibited sexual acts found in Leviticus 18. These prohibitions regarding sexuality in Leviticus are *moral* and *universal* (Lev. 18:1–30; 20:10-21; Mat. 5:17).

*“... <sup>21</sup> For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries [πορνεία, sexual immoralities], fornications, murders, <sup>22</sup> thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. <sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from within and defile a man.” (Mark 7:20-23)*

E. Paul also addressed this topic in three separate letters (1 Corinthians 6:9, 10; 1 Timothy 1:8–11; Romans 1:18–32). Some say this is not in reference to committed homosexual relationships, but Paul uses two Greek words that are from the Greek Septuagint, clearly referencing Lev. 18 and 20.

<sup>9</sup> *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...<sup>10</sup> nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. (1 Cor. 6:9–10)*

<sup>27</sup> *...men...burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful... (Rom. 1:27)*