

It seems as though revisionist scholars are simply unable to place their novel ideas about same sex relations within the context of Biblical and church history. It has simply been the case that the Judeo-Christian understanding of same-sex relations has always been that it is a sinful deviation from God's intention. The fact that those closest to the Biblical revelation had absolutely no doubt about what it meant clearly indicates what it meant and it is thus simple logic to say that the traditional view is correct.

The Church Fathers wrote of the problems with same sex relations at roughly the time the Scriptures were becoming the canon, surely if they were in error that would have been a major controversy, which it was not. Besides the precise references to homosexual behavior, which are always negative in tone, there is the larger issue of human identity which again always celebrates the complimentary and yet different natures of men on the one hand and women on the other. Both command and nature clearly indicate that sexual relations are to take place between one man and one woman. Furthermore medical evidence suggests the same thing; same sex relationships are dangerous and unhealthy, witness not only aids but anatomy.

Attempts to compare same sex behavior with other issues like slavery and the leadership of women don't fly, clearly the Bible presents many women as leaders and suggests that slavery should be abolished due to the intrinsic equality granted to all humans through the grace of God, see Philemon. Furthermore, it has been clearly proven that "committed" same sex relations existed at the time when Paul and others were writing, which after all only makes logical sense since human nature does not change over time, Paul and the others were far better traveled than any of us, they would have known about this.

The arguments for same sex relationships ignore the fact that numerous people who have engaged in same sex relationships have left that behind, witness the work of Exodus International whose rate of success in helping people change behaviors is quite impressive. Furthermore, as is evidenced from the situation with the United Church of Christ, the Unitarian Universalist Church, and the Episcopal Church USA, the promotion of same sex behavior clearly is accompanied by or a symptom of a dangerous loss of overall doctrinal integrity which leads to clear Apostasy in teaching.

While I appreciate the need to view passages within their proper context and indeed view that as a necessity to proper proclamation, one should never ignore the overall sweep of the Scriptural witness. It is ironic that those on the more liberal end of things accuse conservatives of literalism and then exercise it in trying to dissect out of Scripture its clear witness. Obviously the assumption of the Biblical witness is that homosexual behavior is simply wrong, that goes back to the creation narrative, is complimented by both the definition of marriage and its strong defense by our Lord. Attempts to undermine all this and the clear teachings of 95% of the world's Christians are ultimately grasping for straws. I would suggest the works of Dr. Robert Gagnon who in my opinion takes a thoroughly exhaustive approach to the issue of same sex relations and clearly proves they have no grounds for legitimacy.

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