

HOMOSEXUALITY, PRIDE, AND THE RAINBOW FLAG

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Proverbs 16:5

Genesis 9:8-17

1

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

By Presidential Proclamation, the month of June is now recognized as LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH.

In the society in which we live, you will be verbally attacked if you say or do anything that is even perceived to be "homophobic."

The LGBTQ+ movement is so progressive that "LGBTQ+" apparently is not descriptive enough. Meet LGGBDTTTTIQQQAAPP ...

2

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

This flyer was recently posted at a Canadian elementary school to promote an "inclusiveness training" seminar:



3

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

God's plan for the human family was instituted "in the beginning."

"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'" (Genesis 1:27-28)

"Gender identity" and "sexual preference" are man-made concepts, in direct opposition, and in rebellion to, God's plan.

"For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24)

4

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

Thus, from the beginning, the heterosexual relationship is the relationship established by God.

"And He answered and said, 'Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, "FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH"? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.'" (Matthew 19:4-6)

God's plan for the human family is one man and one woman, for life.

"For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband. So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man." (Romans 7:2-3)

5

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

What does the Bible say about homosexuality?

The sin was being practiced by most residents of Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18:20-19:29).

"Before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; and they called to Lot and said to him, 'Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them.'" (Genesis 19:4-5)

After rescuing Lot and his family, God destroyed both cities with fire and brimstone.

"Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven, and He overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground." (Genesis 19:24-25)

6

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

God's destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is referenced dozens of times throughout the Old Testament, always denoting impending judgment.

"As I live," declares the Lord God, "Sodom, your sister and her daughters have not done as you and your daughters have done. Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had arrogance ("pride" NKJV), abundant food and careless ease, but she did not help the poor and needy. Thus they were haughty and committed abominations before Me. Therefore I removed them when I saw it."

(Ezekiel 16:48-50)

*"I overthrew you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were like a firebrand snatched from a blaze; Yet you have not returned to Me," declares the Lord. "Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel." **(Amos 4:11-12)***

7

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

God's destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is referenced several times in the New Testament as well, as an example of God's judgment.

"Whoever does not receive you, nor heed your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake the dust off your feet. Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city."

(Matthew 10:14-15)

*"And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day, just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire." **(Jude 6-7)***

8

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

The Law of Moses specifically outlawed the practice of homosexuality.

*"You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination." **(Leviticus 18:22)***

The Law of Moses required the death penalty.

*"If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them." **(Leviticus 20:13)***

9

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

The Law of Christ specifically outlaws the practice of homosexuality, noting that such will not inherit the kingdom of God.

*"Or 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 effeminate, nor **homosexuals**, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God."*

(1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

Note that those who once practiced homosexuality changed their practice when they obeyed the gospel of Christ.

*"Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God." **(1 Corinthians 6:11)***

10

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

Those who argue that homosexuals are "born that way" with no choice, are deceived by a lie. They charge God the Creator with being the root-cause of homosexuality. This would be contrary to God's own design, purpose, and will. Men and women have always had a choice. They choose to obey, or to disobey.

*"Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness." **(Romans 6:16-18)***

11

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

The gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to save those who have chosen a life of sin. But only if they choose to obey it.

*"But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and **homosexuals** and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted."*

(1 Timothy 1:8-11)

12

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

"Fornication" (sometimes translated immorality) is any sexual relationship other than God's ordained plan of one man and one woman for life. Fornication includes homosexuality, adultery, incest, rape, bestiality, pre-marital sex, and polygamy. It always begins in the heart (the mind).

*"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, **fornications**, thefts, false witness, slanders."* (Matthew 15:19)

*"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, **fornications**, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, **pride** and foolishness."* (Mark 7:21-22)

*"Flee **sexual immorality**. Every other sin that a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."* (1 Corinthians 6:18)

13

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

We are commanded time and time again to abstain from fornication.

*"For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual **immorality**; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God ..."*

(1 Thessalonians 4:3-5)

*"Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to **immorality**, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry."* (Colossians 3:5)

*"Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for **fornicators** and adulterers God will judge."* (Hebrews 13:4)

*"But **immorality** or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks."* (Ephesians 5:3-4)

14

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

Roman society was filled with fornication, including homosexuality. Paul explains why.

*"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, **they did not honor Him as God or give thanks**, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened."* (Romans 1:18-21)

15

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

*"Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. 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. For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 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."* (Romans 1:22-27)

16

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

*"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, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; 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."* (Romans 1:28-32)

17

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

What does the Bible say about pride?

There are four different Greek words that are translated as "pride" or "proud" in the New Testament. They are listed in Strong's Concordance as #212, #5187, #5243, and #5244.

Some translate these words as "haughty", "puffed up", "arrogant", "high-minded," or "boastful." Strong's gives the meaning of #5244 (the most commonly used of the four) as "showing oneself above others, preeminent." **The Scriptures always use these terms in a bad sense.**

18

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

How Does God Feel About Pride?

God is **never** described as being proud in this sense.

God hates pride.

*"There are six things which the LORD hates, yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: **Haughty eyes**, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil, a false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers."*
(Proverbs 6:16-19)

*"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; **Pride and arrogance** and the evil way and the perverted mouth, I hate."* (Proverbs 8:13)

*"Everyone who is **proud** in heart is an abomination to the Lord; Assuredly, he will not be unpunished."* (Proverbs 16:5)

19

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

How Does God Feel About Pride?

God is opposed to the proud.

*"For the Lord of hosts will have a day of reckoning against everyone who is **proud** and lofty and against everyone who is lifted up, that he may be abased."* (Isaiah 2:12)

*"But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE **PROUD**, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."*
(James 4:6)

*"You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE **PROUD**, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."* (1 Peter 5:5)

20

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

How Does God Feel About Pride?

God will not tolerate the proud.

God has taken down many powerful men and nations because of pride. He humbled kings like Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, Hezekiah, and brought swift judgment on nations like:

Israel (Hosea 5:5, 7:10)
Judah (Isaiah 28:1-3)
Moab (Isaiah 16:6, Jeremiah 48:29)
Tyre and Sidon (Isaiah 23:9)
Sodom (Ezekiel 16:49-50)
Samaria (Ezekiel 16:55-56)
Egypt (Ezekiel 30:6)
Edom (Obadiah 1:1-3)
Babylon (Jeremiah 50:31-32)

21

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

How Does Satan View Pride?

Satan loves pride!

*"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful **pride** of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world."* (1 John 2:16)

*"The serpent said to the woman, 'You surely will not die! for God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was **desirable to make one wise**, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate."*
(Genesis 3:4-6)

22

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

How Does Satan View Pride?

Satan uses man's pride to mock God.

*"Proud," "Haughty," "Scoffer," are his names, who acts with insolent **pride**."* (Proverbs 21:24)

*"The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; but they continually **mocked** the messengers of God, **despised** His words and **scoffed** at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, until there was no remedy. Therefore He brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or infirm; He gave them all into his hand."* (2 Chronicles 36:15-17)

*"Fools **mock** at sin, but among the upright there is good will."*
(Proverbs 14:9)

23

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

God will not be mocked!

"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."
(Galatians 6:7-8)

24

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

What does the Bible say about the Rainbow?

“God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; I set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. It shall come about, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow will be seen in the cloud, and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the cloud, then I will look upon it, to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.’ And God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth.’” (Genesis 9:12-17)

25

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

It is ironic that those who proudly practice the ungodly sin of homosexuality use the rainbow as their banner signifying tolerance and acceptance of every form of sexual perversion.

The rainbow was created by God as a sign of His eternal covenant with every living creature on the earth that He would never again destroy the earth with water (which He did because *“the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually”* (Genesis 6:5)).

Both the Flood and Sodom and Gomorrah are used to illustrate the righteous judgment of God to condemn the wicked and to rescue the godly.

26

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

*“For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an **example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter**; and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority.”*
(2 Peter 2:4-10a)

27

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

The rainbow also reminds us that the Almighty God who once destroyed the earth by water has also promised to destroy it again ... by fire!

“Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.’ For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.”
(2 Peter 3:3-7)

28

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

The rainbow reminds that God is in control and that He expects us to be holy and godly.

*“But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, **not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance**. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!”* (2 Peter 3:8-12)

29

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

The inspired scriptures clearly teach that homosexuality is sinful, and those who practice it will be rejected by God. Nowhere does the Bible teach that man is incapable of choosing between good and evil.

Man always has a choice.

“If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:15)

30

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

All accountable beings will give an answer to God for the choices they make, whether righteous or unrighteous.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil." (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 NKJV)

*"No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it."
(1 Corinthians 10:13)*

*"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."
(2 Corinthians 5:10)*

31

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

Conclusion

It has been said that truth sounds like hate to those who hate truth. As Christians, we are members of His church, described as a pillar and support of the truth.

"... but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth." (1 Timothy 3:15)

However, we must not hate sinners, but we must speak the truth in love!

*"As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but **speaking the truth in love**, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ ..." (Ephesians 4:14-15)*

32

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

Conclusion

The body of a Christian is to be "a living and holy sacrifice."

"Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:1-2)

Our bodies are to be used for the glory of God, not to satisfy the lusts of the flesh. Christians must stand opposed to the lie that homosexuals are "born that way," and teach the truth that homosexuals choose that lifestyle and have willfully become servants of sin! What are the wages of such conduct? Spiritual death.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

33

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

Conclusion

How are Christians to treat those who are lost in sin? Let us love their souls enough to teach them the truth that God will hold them accountable if they refuse to repent and obey the gospel.

*"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should **repent** ..." (Acts 17:30)*

*"For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not **obey the gospel** of our Lord Jesus."
(2 Thessalonians 1:6-9)*

34

Homosexuality, Pride, and the Rainbow Flag

Conclusion

We pray that all homosexuals will be willing to search and study the Scriptures and learn about God's grace, His mercy, and His plan to save man from eternal judgment through repentance.

"... that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance." (Acts 26:20b)

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds." (Titus 2:11-14)

35

HOW TO OBEY THE GOSPEL

Hear the word of God (2 Thessalonians 2:14-15; James 1:21)

Believe the gospel message (Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24)

Repent of sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31)

Confess Jesus Christ (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32-33)

Be Baptized (Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:3-4; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)

Remain Obedient (Matthew 7:21; Revelation 2:10; Hebrews 3:12)

36