

HOMOSEXUALITY IS SIN

Or Does God's Law Contradict?

"Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination." —**Leviticus 18:22**

"If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination..." —**Leviticus 20:13**

In light of the controversy regarding homosexuality, there has been a continual, reoccurring, and common argument presented in a vain attempt to undermine God's law and its obvious condemnation of this behavior. As I've preached and witnessed to sodomites on the streets and at college campuses for the past 30 years this is one of the first questions posed. The argument goes something like this...

"Doesn't the Old Testament 'holiness code' also condemn eating shellfish and pork, and it says you must wear a certain type of clothing, etc. If you are going to condemn homosexuality, you should also condemn these things! If these things are acceptable, then so is homosexuality!"

This faulty reasoning is easily refuted and frankly, it is an embarrassment (*this is true not because I disagree with its content but because it lacks a valid argument*). It is truly pitiful to watch desperate men cling to straw-man arguments in an attempt to justify the unjustifiable while claiming to be superior in logic. Casual students of the Bible should not attempt to expound upon it. Anyone with even a basic working knowledge of the O.T. law cringes to see someone present such a poor specimen of Biblical exegesis. Incidentally, this is a prime example of someone judging truth, rather than allowing truth to judge them.

Now, bear with me as I expose the error of this common argument:

The Bible contains two covenants, commonly referred to as the *Old Testament* and the *New Testament*. There are differences in purpose and content between these two covenants (*which could be extensively elaborated on*). Therefore, in discussing matters regarding the distinction between the "covenant of law" and the "covenant of grace" there are certain absolutes that we must recognize and understand:

1. The law of God is divided into three spheres: *civil, ceremonial, and moral*.
2. Christ came to fulfill the law.

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." —**Matthew 5:17**

3. The ceremonial law has been fulfilled by Christ and is no longer applicable for believers under the covenant of grace (rituals, dietary, circumcision, animal sacrifice, etc.).

This is apparent for many reasons, namely:

- The Bible teaches this, (*Rom 10:4; Heb 7:19; Heb 9-10*).
- If kept, it must ALL be kept and this is impossible in that the temple/priesthood no longer exist (*see: Rom 2:25*).
- The Apostles made a clear distinction between *O.T. ceremonial dictates* and *N.T. moral absolutes* leaving no doubt that such ordinances were not to be considered *N.T. commandments*.

For example:

“Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God.” —1 Corinthians 7:19

“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.” —Galatians 6:15

Consider that under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, the *Apostle Paul*, referred to circumcision (*an ordinance of O.T. ceremonial law*) as nothing and that it neither availeth anything. Strong language if indeed we are to keep the ceremonial law.

4. On the other hand, the moral law of God was likewise fulfilled in Christ but is still in effect under this covenant. Every moral commandment expressed in the O.T. has been reiterated in the New Testament (*this includes laws and commandments forbidding fornication, adultery, incest, bestiality, and sodomy*). Hence, the fulfilling of God's moral law is an obligation, as it has always been, for all men, whereas, the ceremonial and civil laws were generally binding upon O.T. Israel. This is not to say that there is no wisdom expressed in the ceremonial and civil laws (*as much of the U.S. criminal code is based on Biblical civil law*), only that they are different and distinct from God's eternal and immutable moral law. Therefore, a shallow comparison between the three in an attempt to present a contradiction, as those who use this argument do, is not only futile, but reveals an uninformed mind.

Thus, in summary: there are three types of laws in the ‘holiness code’: the *moral law*, the *civil law*, and the *ceremonial law*. Only the Jews were obligated to keep the ceremonial and civil laws (*dietary laws, etc.*). However, all people are obligated to keep the moral law, which is written upon their consciences. The moral law is taught by *Jesus* and His apostles in the New Testament. When they told people to repent or perish (*Luke 13:3*), they were commanding them to stop breaking God's *moral law*. If you are not compliant with the *moral law of God*, which forbids all lust, including masturbation and homosexuality, you are condemned in your sin and destined for hell-

fire. However, if you repent and trust in *Jesus*, who died for your sins, to save you and set you free, then you will be saved and set free by the power of God. He is not willing that any should perish, even sodomites, but that all should repent and find mercy for their crimes against God. No excuses! Call upon *Jesus'* name now!

Needless to say, the O.T., as well as the N.T., clearly condemns homosexuality. An honest handling and interpretation of Scripture will yield nothing otherwise. –B.W.

“For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.”

—Romans 1:26-27