

SERMON OUTLINE

In Leviticus 18:1-30 & 20:1-27 we gain answers to 4 questions concerning the Israelites' obedience to Yahweh in sexual matters which separates them from the pagan nations.

- I. Why must you obey me?
 - A. Because I am the LORD your God (18:1-5, et. al.).
 - B. Because I am holy (20:7-8, 26).
- II. How must you obey me?
 - A. Through sanctified sexual relations in your families (18:5-18, 20:11, 12, 14, 17, 19-21).
 - B. Through sanctified sexual relations in your communities (18:19-23, 20:1-5, 10, 13, 15-16, 18).
- III. What will happen if you don't obey me?
 - A. You will make yourselves unclean and be vomited out of the land as the Canaanites are (18:24-28).
 - B. You will be cut off from your people (18:29-30).
- IV. What will happen if you do obey me?
 - A. You will not be vomited out of the land (20:22-23).
 - B. You will live blessed in the land as my holy people (20:24-26).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, September 22, 2019

Passage: Leviticus 18:1-30 & 20:1-27

Memory Passage: Leviticus 18:4-5

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Genesis 1:26-28, 2:18-25, Mal. 2:15, & Matt. 19:4-6.** This week during our sermon we will finish our examination of Leviticus 18 & 20 and take a closer look at the Bible's sexual ethic. In this Discussion Guide you will take a more in-depth look at some of what the Bible says about our sexuality.

(b) What do these verses from Genesis, Malachi, and Matthew tell you about Scripture's teaching on marriage? Answer questions such as: (1) In what genders did God create humans? (2) Who created and commands the covenant of marriage? (3) What combination of human beings can be united in marriage? (4) What does the "one flesh" union mean, and how does it govern our understanding of your answer to question 3? (5) What primary purposes does marriage serve (you might also think of Ephesians 5:22-32 & Revelation 19: 6-10 in this regard as well as what you have already read)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Genesis 19:1-29, Lev. 18:22, 20:23, Ez. 16:46-50, & Jude 7.** According to Genesis 19, why did God judge Sodom & Gomorrah?

(b) What grammatical connections do you see between Ez. 16 & Lev. 18:22, 20:23 that guide your understanding of the sin being judged?

(c) How does Jude's assessment undergird your understanding of the sin of Sodom & Gomorrah?

(d) According to a few people, Ezekiel 16:49 informs us clearly that the sin of Sodom & Gomorrah was social injustice, not homosexuality. Is this true? How would you use the Scriptures to rebut this argument?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Lev. 18:22, 20:13, & Rom. 1:18-32.** Why is it significant that Leviticus finds both parties were guilty and condemned to death?

(b) How is the creation account reflected in Romans 1:18-32, and why is this important?

(c) Why does Paul use the sin of homosexuality in Romans 1? Is he conveying that this is the worst possible sin? If not (which he is not ☺), why does he use this sin as the example of rebellion?

(d) Are the rebellious people in Romans 1 judged for their homosexuality or is homosexuality their judgment (explain!)?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 Cor. 6:9-11 & 1 Tim. 1:8-11.** One of the primary sexual confusions of our day is the issue of gender. The confusion is expressed in statements/beliefs such as gender is a social construct, there are many genders (100 or more, according to recent publications), gender is how I feel about myself rather than the sex I was born with, etc. How does what you have learned about creation, marriage, and homosexuality this week equip you to deal with these ideas with your children and with those in your circles who espouse these modern teachings?

(b) How would you speak the truth in love to someone who was influenced by the current cultural teaching and genuinely struggling with gender issues? Remember both sides of this equation: speaking the truth and speaking it in love. Same-sex attraction is a real desire and must be met with the same application of the gospel and promise of grace as any other illicit sexual desire.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) There are many forms of objections to the Bible's teaching on homosexual encounters. I've only chosen 2 objections (out of many!) for you to answer so you have time to fully think through each one, answer it biblically, and point the way toward Christ in each one. (1) God created me this way! How can you say that I should not pursue the desires God gave me? I have been same-sex attracted since I was a child, and it's not fair to say that I cannot express myself with the desires God gave me! After all, isn't God a God of love? Doesn't He want us to be happy? (2) When the Bible speaks of homosexuality it speaks not of the committed, monogamous, loving, homosexual relationships we see today, but against pederasty in ancient Rome, against violent same-sex encounters, and against all forms of same-sex encounters which result in injustice or oppression.

DATE: September 22, 2019

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Sexual Ethics for Those Walking with God Part II