

Introduction/Review

- Last week I posed the following questions: What is going on in our country? How have we gone from a country that was founded with 13 states that all possessed laws banning homosexual relationships to being on the threshold of legally sanctioning same sex marriage? How should we as Bible believing Christian's view and respond to these developments?
- In order to try and answers these questions I would like to consider the following points:
 - How Does the Bible Define Marriage?
 - Is Homosexuality Sin: Are People Really Born Gay?
 - What in the World is Going On: How Did We Get to This Point?
 - Hate the Sin Love the Sinner
 - Engage or Disengage: That is Question?
- Last week we only made it through the first two points.
- How does the Bible define marriage? Marriage is defined in every dispensation as the union between one man and one woman.
 - Genesis 2:24-25—frist marriage
 - Matthew 19:5-9—Jesus teaches the same definition
 - Ephesians 5:31—the Apostle Paul offers the same definition
- Is homosexuality sin: are people born gay? Yes, the Bible says that is an abomination for two men or two women to engage in a sexual relationship. Why? Because it is unnatural and a violation of the natural order that God established in creation.
 - Leviticus 18:22, 20:13
 - Romans 1:24-27—we proved from the Bible that these union are unnatural because they are incapable of producing off spring.

What in the World is Going On: How Did We Get to This Point?

- A generation ago, we understood there is such a thing as sin, and that sin is a serious matter and to be avoided. Now there is no society consciousness of sin—only limitless “freedom,” “choice,” and “consensual relationships.”
- II Timothy 3:13—evil men and seducers are actively engaged in the process of deceiving people. We should not expect things to be getting better anytime soon.
- In 1991, only 17% of the readers of *Seventeen* magazine thought that homosexuality was okay. By 1999 that number had increased to 54% of the magazines readership. How is that possible?

Marketing. The 1990s saw an intentional marketing campaign designed to move homosexuality into the mainstream of American life.

- “In February 1988 some 175 leading activists representing homosexual groups from across the nation held a war conference in Warrenton, Oregon to map out their movement’s future. Shortly thereafter, activists Marshall Kirk and Hunter Madsen put into book form (*After the Ball: How America Will Conquer Its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the 90s*) the comprehensive public relations plan they had been advocating with their gay-rights peers for several years.” (Kupelian, 23)
- The goal outlined by Kirk and Madsen, “depends centrally upon a program of unabashed propaganda, firmly grounded in long-established principles of psychology and advertising.” (Kupelian, 24) Their war goal was simple force acceptance of homosexual culture into the mainstream, to silence opposition, and ultimately to convert American society.
- This was to be done through a systematic three step process: 1) desensitization, 2) jamming, and 3) conversion.
- Desensitization—“inundating the public in a continuous flood of gay-related advertising, presented in the least offensive fashion possible. If straights can’t shut off the shower, they may at least eventually get used to being wet. . . . If you can get (straights) to think homosexuality is just another thing meriting no more than a shrug of the shoulders—then your battle for legal and social right is virtually won.” (Kupelian, 25-26)
- This can be seen in calling their movement “gay rights.” Using the word “gay” instead of “homosexual” masks the controversial sexual behavior involved. Second, describing their battle as one over “rights” implies homosexuals are being denied the basic freedoms that other citizens enjoy. Consequently, by using the terms “gay rights” and persuading politicians and the media to adopt the term activists seeking to transform America framed the terms of the debate in their favor. Kirk and Madsen describe this process as hammering in the wedge narrow end first. (Kupelian, 25)
- Jamming—“is psychological terrorism meant to silence expression of or even support for dissenting opinion.” This is why those supporting the Biblical definition of marriage are commonly called and cast as bigots, homophobes, and intolerant. Thanks to this constant jamming, direct quotes from the Bible regarding homosexuality are routinely condemned as “hate speech.”
- Conversion—deals with subverting the will of the individual to accept and embrace what they previously did not. Kirk and Madsen write, “Whereas in Jamming the target is shown a bigot being rejected by his crowd for his prejudice against gays, in Conversion the target is shown his crowd actually associating with gay in good fellowship. Once again, it’s very difficult for the average person, who, by nature and training, almost invariably feels what he sees his fellows feeling, not to respond in this knee-jerk fashion to a sufficiently calculated advertisement.” In

addition, according to Kirk and Madsen, “it makes no difference that the ads lie. . . because we’re using them to ethically good effect, to counter negative stereotypes that are every bit as much lies, and far more wicked ones.” (Kupelian, 27-28)

- II Timothy 3:13—the American people have been willfully deceived by a slick market campaign designed to undermine the authority of God’s written word.

Hate the Sin Love the Sinner

- Many Christians have sought to counter the gay rights movement through political activism. Much of this political activism has been dominated by a misguided kingdom-now postmillennial theology. Many believers think that the job of the church is to reclaim political structures and institutions for Jesus and thereby usher in the kingdom and eventually the return of Christ.
- In doing, many Christians have created the impression that homosexuality is a super sin or the one sin that God cannot or will not forgive. Christians have routinely shunned and condemned homosexual while they have turned a blind eye or even tolerated fornication and adultery in their midst.
- I Thessalonians 4:3-4—the will of God for every believer is that they possess the vessel of their body in sanctification and honor.
- Galatians 5:19-21—fornication and adultery are every bit as much the work of the flesh as homosexuality.
 - Romans 1:24—God gave them up to uncleanness to dishonor their own bodies between themselves. This led to vile affections (verse 26) which caused them to change the natural use into that which is against nature.
- I Corinthians 6:9-10—all the things listed in these passages are sin in the eyes of God. The very fact that they are identified as sin in the Bible ought to remind us that they are things that Christ died for. Christ died for the sin of homosexuality just as he died for sin of fornication, the adulterer, the drunkard, or the person that covets something that does not belong to them.
- II Timothy 2:25-26—we need to learn how to function with the love of Christ that sees past the person’s sin and outward behavior and loves them in spite of it. I am not saying that we condone their behavior but that lovingly offer the truth of the word of God and the cross work of Christ.
- I have thought long and hard about what I would do if one of my sons came to me and told me that he was gay and was seeking a relationship with another male. I would still love them as my son but I could not and would condone or support their behavior any more than if they were drug dealers, pimps, murderers, or thieves.

- We need to love people enough to share the truth of the word of God with them and let God's do its work.

Engage or Disengage: That is the Question?

- Anyone speaking out against homosexuality or same sex marriage is almost always branded as intolerant. Is it not ironic that those who scream the loudest in the public square about being tolerant are selective in their application of the term? Why is it that those who stand for the Biblical definition of marriage are intolerant homophobic bigots? Who is not tolerating who? Herein lies the dirty little secret of those who advocate for the new tolerance. They are only tolerant as long as one agrees with them; thus, they are hardly tolerant at all.
- As Christians we need to be able to recognize this type of argumentation and turn it against those who are advocating for such foolishness. If you are going to actively engage people on this subject you should not do it publically on Facebook but personally and privately in a setting and with people who will give you a fair hearing.
- A while back Kirk Cameron was on Piers Morgan show on CNN discussing the topic of same sex marriage. In this context, Piers Morgan said that he would support his children in a same sex relationship as long as it made them happy. Do you think he would support his wife committing adultery as long as it made her happy?
- Where does all this end? Are we going to allow people to marry and carry on a sexual relationship with an animal as long as it makes them happy?
 - Leviticus 18:23, 20:15
- What are believers and churches going to do when upholding the Biblical definition of marriage becomes hate speech in this country? What is going to happen when the government tries to take away the tax exempt status of any religious institution that refuses to perform same sex marriages?
- The radicals within the gay rights movement don't just want their unions legally recognized they want anyone who doesn't agree with them criminalized.
- Acts 5:29
- Daniel 6
- I Timothy 2:1-2—we need to pray for those in authority over us that they might make decisions that will allow us as believers to continue to live a quiet and peaceable life in godliness and honesty.