

HOMOSEXUALITY:
IMMORAL AND UNNATURAL
Romans 1:18-32

Today we'll look at Romans 1:18-32 and seek to learn what God says about the origin, operation and outcome of sinful perversions.

I. IDOLATRY: THE PRELUDE TO MORE SINFUL PERVERSIONS (18-23, 25)

A. MANY MEN SUPPRESS THE TRUTH (18)

- Because they are ungodly and unrighteous

B. MEN SUPPRESS THE TRUTH THEY KNOW (19-20)

- Man's knowledge is innate, universal and he is therefore inexcusable

C. THE TRUTH MEN KNOW THEY DISREGARD (21a)

- This is demonstrated by their disrespectfulness and ungratefulness

D. BECAUSE MEN DISREGARD THE TRUTH THEY KNOW ... (21b-23, 25)

1. They offer futile speculations (21b)
2. They become desensitized (21c)
3. They become naive (22)
4. They become idolaters (23)
5. They become enslaved (25)

II. IMPURITY: THE PRACTICE OF SEXUAL PERVERSION (24-27)

A. GOD'S DECISION (24a, 26a, 28a)

- Because God allows men to freely refuse Him, he also allows them to freely suffer the consequences.

B. MAN'S DEPRAVITY

1. Immoral Behavior (24)
 - a. Originating in a lustful heart
 - b. Whereby they dishonor their bodies
 - 1) Outside of marriage, all sexual intimacy is dishonorable and perverted
 - 2) Christians are called to avoid such behaviors - See I Thess. 4:3-8 and Col. 3:5-62.
2. Unnatural Behavior (26-27)
 - a. Between females (26)
 - 1) Sourced in degrading passions
 - 2) Perverting creation order
 - b. Between males (27)
 - 1) Abandoning the natural function of a women
 - 2) Burning in their desire toward another man
 - 3) Men with men committing indecent or shameful acts.
 - 4) Personally receiving the penalty of their error

- c. Note: “The implication is that however grievous is fornication or adultery the description involved in homosexuality is on a lower plane of degeneracy; it is unnatural and therefore evinces a perversion more basic.”

[John Murray, “The Epistle to the Romans” in The New International Commentary on the New Testament, (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1968 - reprint 1982), page 47]

C. THE CHRISTIAN’S DISPOSITION

1. At least part of the Believer’s disgust with gay and lesbian perversions is that they are not just immoral they are unnatural.
2. Immorality involves sinful disobedience, homosexuality adds to it a disgusting disobedience.

III. ANARCHY: THE PERPETUATION OF SINFUL PRACTICES (28-32)

A. MEN REFUSING TO ACKNOWLEDGE GOD (28)

1. Their Sin
 - They do consider God worthy of thought, devotion or attention
2. Their Sentence
 - a. A depraved mind
 - b. Doing improper things

B. MEN REFUSING TO OBEY GOD (29-32)

1. They are Filled with All Vices (29-31)
2. They are Focused on Damnable Practices (32a)
 - Knowingly, willfully practicing that which brings death
3. They are Favorable to Those Practicing Sin (32b)
 - Encouraging blatant sin

IV. OPPORTUNITY: SOME CHRISTIAN PRESCRIPTIONS IN LIGHT OF SINFUL PRACTICES

A. LOVE THE SINNER

1. Share the Light - Romans 3:21-24
2. Give Hope - I Cor. 6:9-11 and Eph. 2:1-4

B. MAINTAIN BIBLICAL CONVICTIONS

1. Do not be intimidated into silence - Acts 4:29
2. Boldly state your position - Acts 5:27-32
3. Vote in accordance with God’s Word and your convictions

CONCLUSION:

**What we believe and how we behave makes a difference.
- Let’s not be afraid to be different!**