



JESUS CHRIST GIVES US A WAY OUT.

What has always applied to all of us: Jesus' command to repent.

Mark 1:15

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

What made Christianity unique?

- 1) Exclusive worship of Jesus Christ as God: Rejection of idol worship.
- 2) Exclusive sexual monogamy: Sex is reserved for monogamous heterosexual marriage (Acts 15:28-29).

Sin and Temptation

- There is a difference between temptation and sin: Temptation is not sin. Sam Allberry: "Desires for things God has forbidden are a **reflection** of how sin has distorted me, not how God has made me."¹

Why are we addressing God, sexuality, and gender?

- Scripture addresses it in both the Old and New Testament.
- No other issue is being celebrated like this.
- Sexuality is a powerful but dangerous gift when misused.

Are you genuinely willing to consider God's perspective?

- If God exists then it follows that we are created, so there's a design and a healthy way to live and this also includes our sexual life.
- Where we find ourselves today: The Sexual Revolution preaches a different Gospel and offers a false savior.

Q: What are the effects of the Sexual Revolution?

- **Sacrifices** children.
- Subordinates women.
- Self-destructive.
- Sets an unhealthy precedent.

- Where the conflict really lies: Denial of Truth and reality.
- Why it's **unfulfilling**: No person or relationship can bring ultimate fulfillment.
- Why it's dehumanizing: We are more than our sexual desires.

Q: But what if I feel I'm born this way? Or, "If God didn't want people to be gay then why did He create them that way?"

First, God does not tempt anyone nor is this present world as God originally created it. We all deal with fallen desires.

Second, if God exists, then we are not the sum total of our proclivities or inclinations. Our desires do not have to determine our behavior.

Third, according to research in epigenetics, changes in behavior can "tell your genes to switch on or off, to speak loudly or whisper" (John Cloud). William Lane Craig: "The important thing is not how you got your orientation, but what you do with it."²

- Why it's untrue: Sexual expression is not a necessary **condition** of happiness.

Q: Is there a way back? There's good news!

- The Way Back: Homosexual acts are not the unpardonable sin. The Good News of Jesus Christ still applies to the LGBTQ+ community.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

*Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.¹¹ **And such were some of you.** But you were **washed**, you were **sanctified**, you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

Q: How do we help?

- Avoid **surface** answers.
- Listen.
- Pray for wisdom and favor: Wisdom to know what to say and how to say it and favor so they want to hear what you have to say.
- Emphasize how Jesus Christ offers a new identity to any and all who struggle with the flesh.

¹ Sam Allberry *Is God Anti-Gay?* rev. and expanded ed. (UK: The Good Book Company, 2015), 32.

² William Lane Craig, "A Christian Perspective on Homosexuality," *Reasonable Faith*, <https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/popular-writings/practical-issues/a-christian-perspective-on-homosexuality/>. First published in *Hard Questions, Real Answers* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2003).