



How Does God View the Homosexual?

"I have friends that are homosexuals. They say they were born that way; I don't understand that. Does that mean that God made them that way and I should just accept it? I know that as a Christian the Bible says that homosexuality is wrong, so should I be friends with them? They are good people. I feel like right now the world is trying to tell me that it's okay to be a homosexual, and if I stand up against it I'm a bigot and intolerant. Doesn't the Bible say to love everyone? I wonder how He would treat them if He were here. I wish I knew how to handle all this."

Homosexuality is an issue that is present in every area of our society: media, politics, education, military, church and entertainment. Because of all of this, it's important to have a solid understanding of what God says about homosexuality. Traditionally, Christians are perceived as hating and judging homosexuals. It's never acceptable to hate. But what does the Bible have to say?

Romans 1:26-27 *"Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion."*

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 *"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. 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."*

God does hate all sin, no matter what it is. Marriage is God's plan and meant to be between man and woman (Genesis 2:18-24) and with God in the center of the relationship, providing great lasting joy to both. Homosexuality has become a political and emotional topic, but Scripture is very clear that it is not acceptable behavior; God calls it detestable.

What causes someone to be gay? No one is born homosexual. There is no genetic evidence to prove it. Yes, there are many guys who are more feminine than others and many girls who are more masculine than other girls. Most males and females who practice homosexuality have been influenced by early childhood development, family background, temperament, interests, peer pressure and abuse. No matter what the reason, through Christ, all things are possible. God allows us choice. With God, and much support from those who know how to counsel, all can be helped. Note the last part of the Corinthians verse above: "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." There is hope to live a life that is full and pleasing to God!

Homosexuality is not about sex, it is about sin and one's need to be redeemed, as is true for all of us. God loves the sinner, but hates the sin, and we should follow His lead!