

PARABLES

Bringing Hidden Things to Light



Psalms 78:2-4

I will open my mouth in a parable, I will utter dark sayings of old... We will not conceal them.

Parables Bookshelf - Series 1.17.4

This edition of the Parables Bookshelf newsletter series continues the book *Push Back*.

The ability to proclaim truth, and to teach the Bible freely in this nation, is quickly coming to an end. Spiritual, moral, and intellectual darkness is spreading quickly. The ability to freely shine forth the light of truth is being curtailed by government edict and the laws of the land. Satan is moving swiftly, recognizing that his time is short.

Just this month (July 2015) it was reported that the State of Kentucky has established regulations that restrict volunteer chaplains and clergy members from

stating that homosexuality is a sin when they are counseling young people in the state's Juvenile Detention Centers.

According to Department of Juvenile Justice Policy 912:

"DJJ staff, volunteers, interns, and contractors, in the course of their work, shall not refer to juveniles by using derogatory language in a manner that conveys bias towards or hatred of the LGBTQI community. DJJ staff, volunteers, interns, and contractors shall not imply or tell LGBTQI juveniles that they are abnormal, deviant, *sinful*, or that they can or should change their sexual orientation or gender identity."

The following Scripture has come to my mind much recently:

John 9:4

"We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work."

The time is approaching when I will not be allowed to share teachings like what is contained in this newsletter. As the darkness of Satan descends upon the world, the ability to share the light of truth will be curtailed.

I pray that there might be a lengthening of the opportunity to share truth with men in prison, and with all others wherever they may be.

Food for Thought

"It is worse to live like a beast than to be a beast."

William Gumall

"God's wounds cure, sin's kisses kill."

William Gumall

Scripture Memory

II Peter 2:12

But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption...

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Push Back

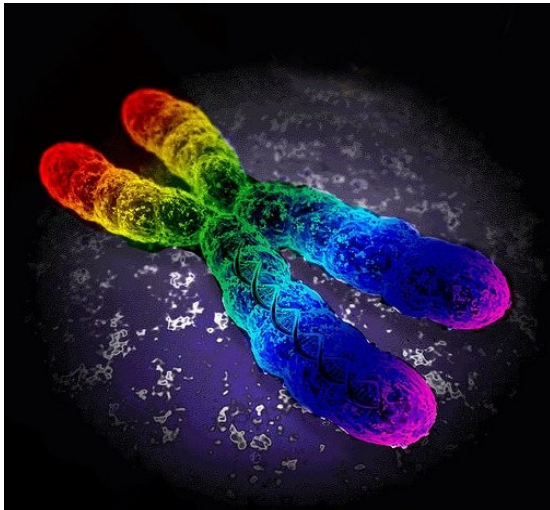
Push Back - Part Seven

Joseph Herrin (08-14-2013)

II Timothy 4:3-4

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and ***will turn aside to myths.***

The Myth of Being Born Gay



The Elusive Gay Gene

Science has NOT discovered a “gay gene.” Such a gene does NOT exist. How can this be when the media has trumpeted with such authority the claim that people are “born gay”? I refer you back to the previous post in which Kirk and Madsen laid out their plans to normalize homosexuality in the 1990s. Remember, they said that telling lies was quite acceptable for their “moral” and “ethical” goal of eliminating all discrimination toward homosexuals.

Kirk and Madsen’s master plan for transforming

societal views on homosexuality had barely begun to be implemented when the fruit of their scheme began to manifest. Simon LeVay, a researcher working at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego reported that he had found subtle differences in the post-mortem brains of heterosexual and homosexual males. LeVay focused on the region of the hypothalamus which some believe regulates sexual behavior. LeVay reported that a certain area of the hypothalamus was smaller in the deceased homosexual men’s brains than in heterosexual males. He claimed that the diminished size of this region was also found in females, suggesting a cause for the males’ homosexuality.

LeVay was far from an impartial researcher. He was a practicing homosexual whose male partner of 21 years had recently died of AIDS. LeVay viewed his role as an advocate to shape the views of society, including making alterations to religious views and government legislation. He is quoted as saying, “It’s important to educate society. I think this issue does affect religious and legal attitudes.”

LeVay’s findings were inconclusive. The majority of the homosexual men whose brains LeVay studied had died of AIDS. There was no evidence given to determine whether the disease itself had affected these men’s brains. It has also been demonstrated that people’s brains change due to their behavior. An area of the brain may appear different in one individual at the end of their life because they engaged in a particular behavior, not because the brain was that way when they were born. Despite the glaring deficiencies of LeVay’s report, and his obvious lack of impartiality, his work was lauded widely by those who were seeking support for their claim that homosexual behavior is not a moral choice, that people are born gay.

The media began to latch hold of this study and spread the news that a search was on for a genetic

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link to homosexuality. *Newsweek* ran a cover story on the search for a gay gene in 1992. It was not long before more claims of a genetic link were forthcoming.



The esteemed journal *Science*, in July of 1993, published a study by Dean Hamer that suggested that there might be a gay gene. Dean Hamer, working with a team of researchers at the National Cancer Institute, chose 40 pairs of homosexual brothers for his study. He claimed that 33 pairs of the men shared five markers on the long arm of the X chromosome. Hamer reported that his findings indicated “a statistical confidence level of more than 99 percent that at least one subtype of male sexual orientation is genetically influenced.” Hamer qualified his statements by using words such as “suggest” and “seem to indicate.” He further admitted that there are hundreds of genes in this area, and that most of them had not been clearly identified.

It should be noted that Hamer did not claim to have found a gay gene. He merely suggested that sexual orientation was encoded in a person’s chromosomes. Yet, even this claim could not be proven by Hamer and his research crew. His conclusions were reaching, and demonstrated a desire to read into his studies a predetermined result. Once again, the media suspended all skepticism, embracing the news

of Dean Hamer’s work wholeheartedly, for its conclusions, no matter how dubious, were what they needed to promote the idea that men and women are born gay. With the reports of LeVay and Hamer, the media now had two “scientific” witnesses to stoke the engine of their campaign for the advancement of homosexuality.

After the Hamer article was published in 1993, the media exploded with reports on a genetic cause for homosexuality. Kim Painter, in *USA Today*, was the first newspaper reporter to distribute this information. Painter wrote, “*A predisposition for homosexuality appears to be written into the very genes of some men... The possibility of obtaining our findings by chance is extremely unlikely*’ - below 1%, says lead author Dean Hamer.” The *USA Today* article never mentioned any of the unanswered questions, doubts, or problems related to Hamer’s report. This was to become a pattern of future articles that appeared in newspapers, magazines, and in television news broadcasts.

As the reports of LeVay and Hamer spread, and they were called upon for interviews, they became more confident in their statements. Hamer stated in a *Time* magazine article, “*This is by far the strongest evidence to date that there is a genetic component to sexual orientation. We’ve identified a portion of the genome associated with it.*” In time, however, the wheels began to fall off of the studies performed by LeVay and Hamer.

In 1995, two years after Dean Hamer’s report was published in the journal *Science*, the magazine *Scientific American* printed an article expressing doubts in the scientific community about the genetic evidence presented thus far in support of the view that homosexuality is an inherited behavior. The article reported that no other researchers had been able to replicate LeVay’s findings. The article also revealed that Dean Hamer had “*been charged*

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with research improprieties and is now under investigation by the Federal Office of Research Integrity.” It was discovered that Hamer had excluded “*pairs of brothers whose genetic makeup contradicted his findings.*” In other words, Hamer had cherry-picked his study group in order to obtain results that fit his hypothesis. This was a blatant form of deception and scientific fraud.

In 1999, six years after the journal *Science* had published Hamer’s initial report suggesting that a genetic link to sexual orientation had been found on the Xq28 markers of the male chromosomes, the same journal published a report refuting that earlier study. Researchers George Ebers and George Rice stated that their studies “*do not support an X-linked gene underlying male homosexuality.*” They went on to say that the homosexual pairs of brothers studied by Hamer’s group were no more likely to share characteristics in the Xq28 markers than a normal population of men. They concluded that there was in fact no scientific underpinning behind Hamer’s much ballyhooed claims.

Despite the refutation of LaVey’s and Hamer’s research, the damage had been done. The interval between the time the reports suggesting a genetic link to homosexuality were published, and the time they were refuted, was a period of years. During these years there was an explosion of media coverage on this subject. LaVey’s and Hamer’s research and claims had been widely trumpeted, convincing many that science had indeed proven a genetic source for homosexual behavior. These reports were not only ubiquitous, but they received front page coverage in a wide variety of popular venues. When the news came out debunking these earlier reports, they received little press, nor did the news receive front page exposure. This is how the adversaries of truth operate. They boldly proclaim lies, but they will only whisper the truth when it must be told.

Interestingly, in the same 1993 edition of *Science* in which Hamer’s report was published, there was a precursory article written by Robert Pool. Pool reported on the bleak history of attempts to establish a link between genetics and human behavior. He stated, “*The field of behavioral genetics is littered with apparent discoveries that were later called into question or retracted.*” Perhaps there was already some suspicion among the journal’s editors that there were problems with the “discovery” Dean Hamer was reporting in their pages. Pool’s article could later serve as a disclaimer should the periodical be criticized.

Despite the fraud of Hamer’s report asserting evidence of a genetic link to homosexuality, the lie had been spoken. The gen-e would not be put back in the bottle. The media had dutifully followed the master plan set forth by Kirk and Madsen, and had saturated society with false claims that would effectually change the position of many. To demonstrate the efficacy of their schemes, *Seventeen* magazine conducted a poll in 1991 asking their readers if they believed homosexual behavior was appropriate. Only 17 percent of their readers responded affirmatively. In 1999 the magazine conducted the same poll and found that 54 percent of their readers now responded affirmatively. Society was being converted through an outpouring of lies and deception.

David Kupelian states the following in his book *The Marketing of Evil*.

The end game is not only to bring about the complete acceptance of homosexuality, including same-sex marriage, but also to prohibit and even criminalize public criticism of homosexuality. In other words, total jamming of criticism with the force of law. This is already the case in Canada and parts of Scandinavia.

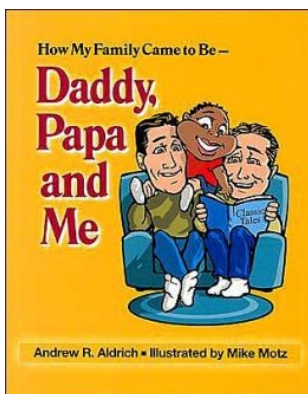
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instructors, or others with whom they interact, children are susceptible to believing what they are told by an adult. They are trusting.

How many children believe in Santa Claus because their parents tell them he is real? Will not these same ones be as prey to men and women who seek to persuade them that homosexuality is moral, normal, and even to be celebrated? This is reason enough to turn off the television in your homes. The media is a tool in the hand of the adversary. It is being wielded to indoctrinate you and your children. The message that “gay is okay” is being broadcast on the Disney Channel, on Nickelodeon, during Saturday morning cartoons, and in the programs children watch after school.

If you are sending your children to public schools, I fear for them. Assigning the word “public” to the nation’s school systems was itself an act of deception. They are actually “government schools,” and the United States government is radically pro-homosexual. It is exerting all possible energy and resources to corrupt the children of America with a homosexual agenda.

The government is introducing homosexuality to the very youngest of America’s school children. In pre-school, kindergarten, and first grade, America’s children are being exposed to literature and media that informs them that homosexuality is normal.

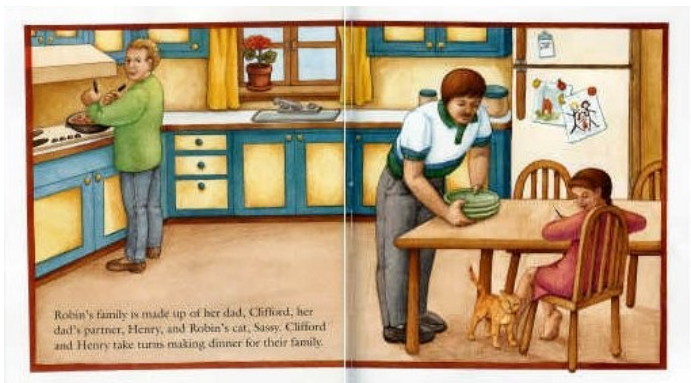


Liberal states such as California and Massachusetts are leading in the campaign to provide “diversity” training to children as young as pre-schoolers. They recognize that young children are especially impressionable, and it is much easier to shape the views of people when they are young. World Net Daily recently reported on a father who was arrested when he demanded that the public school system inform him when they intend to teach pro-homosexual lessons, and that they give him the option of withdrawing his son from school. David Parker, the father, was upset when his 5 year old son brought home a book from school titled *Who’s in a Family?* The book depicted two households led by homosexual parents.



The text on this page reads:

“Laura and Kyle live with their two moms, Joyce and Emily, and a poodle named Daisy. It takes all four of them to give Daisy her bath.”



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The text on this page reads:

“Robin’s family is made up of her dad, Clifford, her dad’s partner, Henry, and Robin’s cat, Sassy. Clifford and Henry take turns making dinner for their family.”

The school system refused to notify Mr. Parker of their intent to teach pro-homosexual lessons to his son. When he refused to leave the meeting without a guarantee, he was arrested and spent the night in jail. Superintendent of schools, Paul Ash, stated that the school district has no obligation to provide parental notification of such lessons because they are not about “human sexuality,” but rather about “tolerance and respect.” Yet, these lessons are clearly promoting the view that same sex unions are normal and wholesome.

This week, Jerry Brown, the governor of the State of California, approved legislation that would subject the children of the state’s public schools to gross sexual immorality. Assembly Bill 1266 was approved by the state’s governor, and signed into law on August 12th, 2013. Among its provisions is the following statement.

A pupil shall be permitted to participate in sex-segregated school programs and activities, including athletic teams and competitions, and use facilities consistent with his or her gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on the pupil’s records.

This means that if a girl says she is a boy, she can participate in boy’s sports, or gym activities, and use the same dressing rooms and bathrooms as the boys. The same is true if a boy says he is a girl. It does not matter what gender he actually is, or that his school records identify him as a boy. He is permitted to participate in girl’s activities and use their dressing rooms and bathrooms. California has truly

become as Sodom and Gomorrah. The rest of the nation will soon follow suit as it always does.

This deviant legislation follows a previous bill signed by the governor of California that declares it illegal for any “*physicians and surgeons, psychologists, marriage and family therapists, educational psychologists, clinical social workers, and licensed professional clinical counselors,*” to engage in “*sexual orientation change efforts*” with a person under 18 years of age. This means, even if a child comes to the counselor expressing distress relating to their same-sex desires, or sexual identity, and they request counseling to change to a normal sexual orientation, the counselor is legally barred from providing such services. This bill would make it illegal in the state of California to seek to change any person’s sexual orientation back to heterosexual if they identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. Following is an excerpt from the legislation.

This bill would prohibit a mental health provider, as defined, from engaging in sexual orientation change efforts, as defined, with a patient under 18 years of age. The bill would provide that any sexual orientation change efforts attempted on a patient under 18 years of age by a mental health provider shall be considered unprofessional conduct and shall subject the provider to discipline by the provider’s licensing entity...

Being lesbian, gay, or bisexual is not a disease, disorder, illness, deficiency, or shortcoming. The major professional associations of mental health practitioners and researchers in the United States have recognized this fact for nearly 40 years.

(b) The American Psychological Association convened a Task Force on Appropriate Therapeutic Responses to Sexual Orientation. The task force

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conducted a systematic review of peer-reviewed journal literature on sexual orientation change efforts, and issued a report in 2009. The task force concluded that sexual orientation change efforts can pose critical health risks to lesbian, gay, and bisexual people, including confusion, depression,

America's promotion of homosexuality is a policy founded upon lies and deception.

guilt, helplessness, hopelessness, shame, social withdrawal, suicidality, substance abuse, stress, disappointment, self-blame, decreased self-esteem and authenticity

to others, increased self-hatred, hostility and blame toward parents, feelings of anger and betrayal, loss of friends and potential romantic partners, problems in sexual and emotional intimacy, sexual dysfunction, high-risk sexual behaviors, a feeling of being dehumanized and untrue to self, a loss of faith, and a sense of having wasted time and resources...

Therefore, the American Psychiatric Association opposes any psychiatric treatment such as reparative or conversion therapy which is based upon the assumption that homosexuality per se is a mental disorder or based upon the a priori assumption that a patient should change his/her sexual homosexual orientation.

The authority upon which such immoral and far reaching legislation is based, is the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, which we have seen was altered in 1973 by homosexual members of the APA to serve their own degenerate ends. Forty years later we are seeing the mature fruit of this evil action as America's children are being indoctrinated to accept as normal and wholesome, sexual behavior that Yahweh describes as sin and an abomination.

America's promotion of homosexuality is a policy founded upon lies and deception. This should surprise no Christian, for Satan is the architect of it and he is "the great deceiver who deceives the whole world." The Christian, however, should not be deceived. The Bible states:

Romans 12:2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Who are you listening to? Are you forming your views on morality based upon the propaganda of this fallen world system, or is your authority the word of God? The Bible reveals that God has created humanity as male and female. These are the only unique, sexually distinct, types of people Yahweh has made.

Genesis 1:27

And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; **male and female He created them.**

Yahweh has NOT created humanity as male, female, lesbian, gay, and bisexual. Will you push back against the flood of lies? Will you take a stand on truth when all the world is embracing myths and fables? Soon it will be declared to be a hate crime in all nations to speak a word in agreement with the testimony of Yahweh. Let us speak the truth in love while there is opportunity. The night is coming when no man can work.

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Push Back - Part Eight

Joseph Herrin (08-17-2013)



Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

One of the errors I perceive in many Christians' approach to the subject of homosexuality is that they are viewing the issue through a humanistic lens. Many counselors and ministries offering homosexual conversion therapy are employing methods developed by the American Psychiatric Association. They have embraced the teachings of godless men and women, and are attempting to bring deliverance to people gripped by the bondage of sin by treating homosexuality as a sickness. The very word "therapy" used by many Christian counselors to describe their work with homosexuals reveals that they have wrongly identified the root issue. The problem is sin, not mental illness.

Alan Chambers, the founder and former president of Exodus International, one of the largest and oldest Christian ministries to work with homosexuals, had adopted the methods and principles of psychiatry in dealing with his clients. He had embraced the teachings of the APA prior to 1973 (the year the

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders was altered to no longer define homosexuality as a mental illness). Up until that time, psychiatry had proposed numerous theories to answer the question of what caused people to deviate from a normal heterosexual orientation to same-sex attraction. The prevailing theory was that homosexuality was caused by "close-binding" mothers, which are over-protective women who made their children weak and feminine, and "detached, rejecting fathers."

Much therapy today consists of seeking to identify past experiences, or influences that have led a person to adopt thoughts or behaviors that are undesirable. Therapists have employed hypnotism, role playing, and an array of other practices, in an attempt to identify experiences from a patient's past that have led to their current condition. One effect of this approach is that the patient is viewed as a victim of past experiences, of the actions of others, or of their environment. This portrayal of perpetrators of socio-pathic, or immoral behavior as victims inevitably made its way over into the judicial system. It is common for a defense lawyer to call forth some "expert" witness who will testify that a person committed a crime because they were abused as a child, were raised in poverty, were subjected to gang influences, or deprived of acceptable educational experiences and opportunities to succeed in society. The reason that lawyers portray the clients they are defending as victims of their past experiences is to lessen their culpability in the eyes of a judge or jury. The blame is shifted away from the criminal onto someone else, such as an abusive parent, or upon society itself. In essence, the perpetrator is re-cast as a victim who deserves sympathy rather than punishment.

Modern psychiatry, whether intentionally or not, accomplishes this absolution of guilt when it treats sinful men and women as if their problems are the result of their past experiences. Psychiatric counsel-

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ing dulls the voice of conscience within the individual, effectively removing the chief restraint upon mankind against sinful, selfish, and immoral behavior.

This portrayal of people who commit crimes against humanity, or sins against God, as victims of their past experiences, is contrary to the manner in which Yahweh relates to man. The Bible does not present man as a victim to be pitied, but rather as a

The Bible does not present man as a victim to be pitied...

transgressor who needs to accept responsibility for his actions. The church, embracing the erroneous philosophy of the world, has begun to treat sinners as victims of

their environment and past experiences. This misguided sympathy becomes a stumbling block. Even as the lawyer seeks to diminish the perception of his client as evil by painting him as a victim of his past experiences, the church is diminishing people's recognition of the fact that they are sinners as they adopt the practices of modern counseling and psychiatry.

How will people repent of their sins if the church treats them as victims instead of sinners? At the same time the Spirit of Christ is "convicting the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment," the church is mollifying sinners by refusing to call sin what it really is. People of God, do not be deceived. The homosexual needs to understand that they are responsible for their choices and actions before the eyes of God. Do not be swayed by the propaganda of the medical profession, the government, and the media. Yahweh gave mankind His holy Law that they might recognize themselves as sinners.

Romans 7:12-13

Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good. Has then what is good be-

come death to me? Certainly not! ***But sin, that it might appear sin,*** was producing death in me through what is good, so that ***sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.***

I Timothy 1:8-10

But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous man, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and ***immoral men and homosexuals*** and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching...

The entire world is set upon making the homosexual feel comfortable about his/her behavior. The influence of society is exerting tremendous force to assure homosexuals that they need not experience any shame or guilt at their behavior. Instead, they are told to celebrate their immoral choices and lifestyle. This is what the gay pride parades are about. These debauched spectacles are an opportunity for men and women who are practicing deviant sexual behavior to affirm to themselves and others that they are rejecting guilt and shame and replacing it with pride.

The church must hold forth the truth. They must tell those who practice sin that they are sinners. Those who are light must expose the darkness. Sin must be made to appear exceedingly sinful that men and women might repent. The attitude manifested by the modern "seeker sensitive" church is to offend no one. Rather than being a channel of the Holy Spirit to convict the world of sin, the church has adopted the pattern of modern psychiatry by urging its members to avoid moralizing, and to affirm all people no matter how sick, or depraved their behavior and thoughts might be.

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On the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was given to the church, Peter spoke to those gathered in Jerusalem for the feast. With the power of the Spirit guiding him, Peter confronted the crowds with their sins. He told them that Yahweh had sent His Son, the promised Messiah, and that the Jews had crucified Him. The blood of the Son of God was upon their hands. When Peter spoke, we are told that those listening were “pierced to the heart.” They fell under conviction and cried out, “What must we do?”

This should be the response of sinners in the world when they meet the presence of the Holy Spirit inside of the child of God. They should be stricken with conviction in order that we might point them to Jesus Christ/Yahshua the Messiah, who is the Savior of all mankind. The Son of God is the Savior of the homosexual, even as He is the Savior of the adulterer, the liar, or the thief. It serves no beneficial purpose to tell the homosexual that he/she is the way they are because their parents failed them, or some past experience traumatized them, predisposing them to embrace a sinful lifestyle. Sinners need to feel the weight of the responsibility for their choices and actions that they might cry out to God in repentance and be healed.

When Alan Chambers announced that he was ending his work among homosexuals, he apologized

for laying the blame for homosexuality on parents. In blaming parents, he had been following the guidelines of the APA prior to 1973. It is little wonder that he met with so little success in the years he counseled homosexual men and women, for he was employing humanistic philosophies to treat as an illness that which Yahweh has declared to be sin. In a misguided attempt to make the homosexual feel welcomed and accepted, he was diminishing their perception of themselves as guilty sinners standing before a holy God. The responsibility for their choices and actions were shifted to their parents, or to others. Diminishing a person’s sense of guilt and shame is counter-productive to getting them to change their behavior.



Jennifer Keeton

Recently, here in my home state of Georgia, there was a story in the news about a graduate student at Augusta State University who was enrolled in a counseling program. Jennifer Keeton was a Christian young woman seeking to be trained to work as a licensed counselor. Inevitably, the issue of sexual orientation and gender identity came up in her

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course work. This young woman held strong Christian convictions on the subject. She stated openly to her instructors that she would inform her clients that homosexuality is morally wrong. She would offer conversion therapy to individuals who desired to overcome their same-sex attraction.

Augusta State University trains many of their students to serve in the public school systems as counselors. In this role it must train its counselors to provide government approved counseling that is consistent with the policies and practices of the American Counseling Association. This professional certifying body, following in the footsteps of the APA, has embraced a pro-homosexual agenda that encourages counselors to affirm homosexuals as normal and wholesome. The university objected

The university ... insisted that she attend several diversity workshops, gain a greater exposure to homosexuals, including a suggestion that she attend a gay pride parade.

to Ms. Keeton's Christian moral views, insisting that she attend several diversity workshops, gain a greater exposure to homosexuals, includ-

ing a suggestion that she attend a gay pride parade. Failing to do these things, and continuing to refuse to affirm homosexual behavior as normal, she was threatened with expulsion from the program.

Such experiences are becoming commonplace for Christian students enrolled in counseling programs. The Alliance Defense Fund, a legal organization whose goal is to guard against discrimination of Christians and their Biblical views, has faced a couple of challenges on this issue recently, losing them both. The courts have ruled in favor of the universities and colleges that have required students enrolled in their programs to affirm homosexual behavior as part of their course curriculum.

Rather than seeing such rulings as a defeat for Christianity, I view them as one way in which Yahweh is calling His sons and daughters to come out of Babylon. Why would Christians seek to be trained by the godless professors of secular colleges and universities to provide counseling? From a spiritual perspective, doing so is folly. What fellowship has light with darkness? What does a temple of God have in common with the temple of demons?

I understand the motive for attending these secular schools. It is a practical one. If a person wants to get a certain job, such as a school counselor, they need training and certification. They can only obtain these things at approved schools. As a line is being drawn, and Christians are being required to affirm homosexual behavior to participate in training programs, or to hold certain jobs, they will find that they must choose between a job, a good salary, and the opportunities that go with it, or to walk faithfully with God. I am glad that Jennifer Keeton chose to remain faithful to her convictions.

II Timothy 3:12

And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Yahshua will be persecuted.

This separation of light and darkness is a positive occurrence. For too long Christians have been compromising with the world. They have been cooperating with the godless, and even with the anti-Christ members of society. The ways of man are antagonistic to the ways of God. Yahweh's thoughts are not man's thoughts. Christians need to return to dealing with homosexuality as sin, which is how Yahweh defines it, rather than as a mental illness, or as a behavior problem that calls for therapy.

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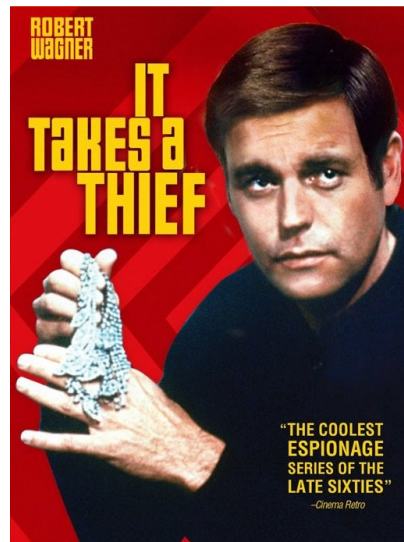


One comment I have repeatedly come across as I have reviewed books, online articles, and have received correspondence from various individuals, is that homosexuality is a complicated issue. It is often brought up that there are a whole range of issues that contribute to a person embracing homosexual behavior and identity. As we have seen, the APA attributed some homosexual behavior to the influence of one's parents. Some Christians attribute homosexual desires to demonic spirits. Other counselors point to experiences of sexual abuse an individual experienced as a child. Some make mention of other childhood traumas, such as violence, or bullying, that have influenced a person to gravitate toward same sex attraction. In the past two decades the prevalence of deceptive propaganda from the government, and in the media, has also influenced many to begin to view homosexuality as normal, desirable, and even something to be celebrated.

The truth is, the experiences and influences that turn individuals toward homosexual identification and behavior are numerous and varied. Yet, it is a deception of the enemy that leads many to conclude that homosexual behavior, and consequently deliverance from the same, is a complex, and exceedingly difficult matter to understand. Any type of sinful behavior could be complicated by similar arguments.

Take for example the behavior of stealing. One of the ten commandments is "Thou Shalt Not Steal." If you had a child who was manifesting this behavior, stealing money from a parent's wallet or purse, or shoplifting items from a store, you could spend lots of time trying to identify what experiences or influences in his/her life contributed to this behavior. Perhaps the child was raised in poverty, and did not have the financial resources to purchase the nice clothes that his peers wore to school. Maybe they were influenced by a constant barrage of advertising that suggested that one needs to dress a certain way, or own specific items, to be fulfilled in life. Maybe they were influenced by an older youth to shoplift, or they fell into a group of youth who glamorized the act of stealing. Maybe stealing was presented as an "us" against "them" sort of experience, and the behavior was bolstered by the thought that society was intrinsically unfair and that the downtrodden members of society have a right to take what others will not give them.

Then there is the media. Television and the movies have saturated the culture with images that glorify stealing. From *Robin Hood* to *Ocean's Eleven* (Twelve, Thirteen, etc.), stealing is glamorized and the intelligent and successful thief is portrayed as heroic.



Push Back

Video games such as *Grand Theft Auto* glorify what Yahweh describes as sinful behavior. It is not surprising that America's jails and prisons are filled with tens of thousands of individuals who have violated Yahweh's commandment "Thou Shalt Not Steal." Many of those who engage in theft come from broken homes. There is no father present in many instances. Gang influences are often a factor. The experiences and influences that contribute to a person engaging in the criminal, sinful behavior of stealing, embezzlement, or robbery are varied and complex. Yet the behavior itself is not difficult to understand, nor are Yahweh's instructions to mankind relating to this subject difficult to describe.

We do a disservice to people struggling with homosexual desires when we portray their struggles as exceptional. They are no more exceptional than the person struggling with an attraction to pornography, or inordinate heterosexual desires such as fornication or adultery. The solution is no different than for the person who is a compulsive liar, thief, or those who struggle with anger and violence. A person can be delivered from homosexual behavior as surely as they can be set free of any other activity that Yahweh describes as sinful.

Following are a couple of foundational principles that are true of the sin of homosexuality, as well as every other sin:

- Homosexual behavior must be confessed as sin.

This is the starting point for dealing with any sinful behavior. We must agree with Yahweh that sin is sin. This is not a point to be glossed over, for not only is society denying homosexuality to be a sin, but the church has begun to do so as well.

There can be no turning away from sin as long as a person denies that their behavior is sinful. Nor can there be deliverance and restoration to God until a person quits making excuses for their sins.



This was a failing of King Saul. When he was confronted by the prophet Samuel with his disobedience to the commandment of Yahweh, Saul first denied, then made excuses. In the Old Testament we read of a time when Yahweh determined to execute judgment upon the people of Amalek. He sent Samuel the prophet with words of instruction to King Saul.

I Samuel 15:1-3

Listen to the words of Yahweh. Thus says Yahweh of hosts, "I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he set himself against him on the way while he was coming up from Egypt. Now go and strike Amalek and utterly destroy all that he has, and do not spare him; but put to death both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey."

King Saul attacked the people of Amalek, and Yahweh delivered all the people and their possessions into the hands of the people of Israel. Yet, Saul did not carry out the instructions of God. He kept the king of Amalek alive, as well as the best animals of the flocks and herds.

I Samuel 15:9

But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were not willing to destroy them utterly; but everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.

When Samuel confronted Saul, asking him why he did

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not carry out Yahweh's commandments, Saul prevaricated.

I Samuel 15:13-15

And Samuel came to Saul, and Saul said to him, "Blessed are you of Yahweh! I have carried out the command of Yahweh." But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?" And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and oxen, to sacrifice to Yahweh your God; but the rest we have utterly destroyed."

Note that in none of his words did King Saul acknowledge that HE had transgressed. He first claimed to have done God's will. When called on the point, Saul shifts blame to the people, while also offering a rationale to explain their behavior with the intent of making it appear acceptable. Samuel then pressed the issue further, and once again Saul dissembled.

I Samuel 15:18-21

"Yahweh sent you on a mission, and said, 'Go and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are exterminated.' Why then did you not obey the voice of Yahweh, but rushed upon the spoil and did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh?" Then Saul said to Samuel, "I did obey the voice of Yahweh, and went on the mission on which Yahweh sent me, and have brought back Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. But the people took some of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the choicest of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to Yahweh your God at Gilgal."

People of God, here is a hopeless case. Yahweh can do nothing with a man or woman who will not agree with Him about what constitutes obedience and disobedience. Similarly, there can be no healing, no restoration of the man or woman who is engaging in homosexual behavior unless they agree with God that their behavior is sin. It matters not if all the people of the nation urge them to sin. It does not matter if "experts" and "professionals"

assure them that they were born homosexuals, while telling them that it is normal, wholesome behavior. Let God be true and all men be liars. Forgiveness and restoration can only occur when men agree with their Creator about the identity of sin.

Here then is a starting point. You must share with those who are engaged in homosexual behavior that Yahweh has declared it to be sin. Familiarize yourself with Yahweh's testimony on this matter.

Leviticus 18:22

You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.

Leviticus 20:13

If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act...

Romans 1:26-27

For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

I Corinthians 6:9-10

Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, **nor effeminate, nor homosexuals**, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Push Back

Jude 7

Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example, in undergoing the punishment of age-during fire.

There are other Scriptures that reveal Yahweh's condemnation of homosexuality, and the punishment that He has, and will again mete out to those who participate in such deeds. These, however, are some of the more brief and direct passages. If a man or woman will not agree with God that this behavior is abnormal, aberrant, and sinful, they can neither receive forgiveness nor be restored to the Father. Yahweh rejected Saul because he refused to agree with Him regarding the definition of sin.

I Samuel 15:23

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you...

It is a serious matter to reject the word of the Lord. His word includes His declaration of righteous and unrighteous behavior. The apostle John described two different conditions of mankind. One is the person who agrees with God and confesses his/her sin. This person is able to receive forgiveness and be cleansed of all unrighteousness. The other is the person who denies that they have sinned when Yahweh says they have committed sin. These ones profess God to be a liar, and the truth is not in them.

I John 1:9-10

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

This then, must be the point at which restoration to God begins. The individual must agree with Yahweh's declaration of righteous and unrighteous behavior. They must

profess that homosexual intercourse is unnatural, immoral, and sinful behavior.

- The lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender individual must then turn away from their sinful behavior.

II Chronicles 7:14

If my people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and **turn from their wicked ways**, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin...

Isaiah 1:16-20

"Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Remove the evil of your deeds from My sight. Cease to do evil, learn to do good... Come now, and let us reason together," says Yahweh, "Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool. If you consent and obey, you will eat the best of the land; But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword." Truly, the mouth of Yahweh has spoken.

Isaiah 55:7

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to Yahweh, and He will have compassion on him; And to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Ezekiel 18:21-23

"But if the wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed and observes all My statutes and practices justice and righteousness, he shall surely live; he shall not die. All his transgressions which he has committed will not be remembered against him; because of his righteousness which he has practiced, he will live. Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked," declares Yahweh God, "rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?"

People of God, it is not necessary to identify all the influences and experiences that led a person to embrace a

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false gender identity, or to engage in homosexual behavior. The influences in a person's life are varied, and many, and it is unlikely that they could all be properly identified. Do not be deterred by this fact. What is important is that the individual agree with Yahweh that their behavior is sinful, that they confess it, and turn away from it. Yahweh will accept those who confess and repent (turn away from their sin).



I am sure that to some, these words appear naïve, and too simplistic. Yet, Yahshua said that all would have to come to Him as a little child.

Matthew 18:2-4

Jesus called a little child to him and put the child among them. Then he said, "I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven."

[New Living Translation]

Walking in continuous victory over sinful desires is a process, and there is more to be shared on this matter. Yet, we need not over-complicate the subject of homosexual desires, and deliverance from them, by imitating the pattern of the godless. Psychiatry claims to be based upon scientific principles. Like other sciences, it is focused upon classifying, measuring, and developing hypothesis and theories. Yet psychiatry is highly subjective, and like the DSM that is used as a reference for practitioners, it is subject to great fluctuations, and reversals, of thought and opinion. Psychiatry is a pseudoscience that oftentimes is more driven by political correctness than scientific principle.

Many Christians seek legitimacy for their counseling by imitating the practices, and embracing the teachings, of psychiatry. The world is in awe of men and women who have credentials after their name. Being a graduate of an accredited school, and being a licensed practitioner bearing the imprimatur of the American Psychiatric Association, or the American Counseling Association, lends an air of respectability to many who covet the approval of men. Yet, those who seek after such accreditation are blind followers of the blind.

Is it not evident that a group that forbids its members to offer sexual orientation change efforts as a service, but that requires all members to affirm the normality of homosexual behavior, does not have anything to offer the Christian counselor? Why should those who are members of God's kingdom seek after the ways of the kingdom of darkness? The most common modality resorted to among the APA is to prescribe powerful, mind altering drugs to an individual that at best will mask the symptoms of their problems, and dull their conscience, while failing to address the root cause.

Christ, on the other hand, goes to the root of man's problem. Man is sinful. The heart of man is always going astray. Sinful man is bereft of the life of God in his being and needs to become a partaker of the divine nature. Christ made a way for this to occur. Yahshua took the sins of all mankind upon His body on the cross, paying the penalty for sin. Christ then sent forth His Spirit that men who were spiritually dead might be made alive.

The process of deliverance and transformation is the same for every person. It is no different for the homosexual. Christ came to set the captives free. Those whom the Son sets free are free indeed.

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PARABLES PRECEPT— The Significance of Numbers



The number 120 is a very significant one for mankind. It is the upper limit in years for the length of man's years on the earth which Yahweh established after the flood of Noah.

Genesis 6:3

Yahweh said, "My Spirit will not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; **yet will his days be one hundred twenty years.**"

The 120 years of man can be broken down into three definite

periods of life. The first forty years may be described as youth; The second 40 years as maturity; and the final forty years as old age. We see the three divisions of man's life very plainly in the life of Moses.

Acts 7:22-24, 36-37

"And Moses was educated in all the learning of the Egyptians, and he was a man of power in words and deeds. **But when he was approaching the age of forty**, it entered his mind to visit his brethren, the sons of Israel. And when he saw one of them being treated unjustly, he defended him and took vengeance for the oppressed by striking down the Egyptian... This **man led them out, perform-**

ing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt and in the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years.

Deuteronomy 34:7

Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died.

Moses was forty years in Egypt in his youth. He was then forty years in the wilderness tending his father-in-law's sheep. At the age of eighty, the Lord appeared to Moses at the burning bush which began a period of forty years leading the people of God in the wilderness.

It is difficult to doubt the design of the Creator in such things. He is a God of great detail.