



Feb. 18, 2007 (Vol. 6)

## "Same Sex Romantic Love"

I received the following e-mail Saturday. "I saw your email on the Christian site of [www.bible.ca](http://www.bible.ca) which was a list of councilors, and as the site talked about homosexuality as a sin, I wondered then if you know where same sex romantic love is mentioned in the bible as a sin, as I can't find anything. Hope you can help." Considering the state of our society, I thought it would be appropriate to include it here.

"Hello \_\_\_\_\_,

Thank you for writing. First of all, I'd like to ask some questions of you, before answering yours. Jesus did this at times to clarify some important things that can hinder proper understanding of the Bible (Mt. 11:29).

1. Do you really believe in God?
2. Do you really believe the Bible is word for word inspired?
3. Do you believe that God will tell us things that are good & right, even if we do not like it or understand it at first?

I would ask you to consider these things for a moment. Now to answer your question.

There are many things that are sinful that not specifically mentioned in the Bible. Morphine, Heroine, upper & downer pills are a good example. In fact smoking is not even mentioned by name in the Bible. So how do we know that such addictive drugs are sinful? By principle. Here are just a few of the principles that show that taking such drugs is not righteous conduct.

(A) Ephesians 5:18 says, "And be not drunken with wine, wherein is riot, but be filled with the Spirit". God here refers to the most commonly abused drug on the earth, that is alcohol. We know that this reference to wine is alcohol because it produces "riot" or "dissipation", conduct associated with intoxication. The text also says that we are not to be filled with wine, but be filled with the Holy Spirit. If we are "filled" with the Holy Spirit, is there any room left for intoxicating drink? No, none at all. By this principle, we see that drug abuse is forbidden.

(B) First Timothy 5:23 says, "Be no longer a drinker of water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine

often infirmities." In traveling much, there is the tendency to get stomach bugs from the water. I've experienced that and it can range from a nuisance to horribly painful. Timothy is described here as a drinker of water, but with stomach infirmities - clearly due to the impurities of the water he has drunk. So how may water be purified? "A little wine" is sufficient to kill the germs, but insufficient to intoxicate. Thus, medicinal use of drugs is not forbidden by God; but (as noted in part A) drug abuse is forbidden.

(C) From the above, which specifically addresses alcohol, we learn a very valuable principle that applies to all drugs. Phenobarbital is a barbiturate, a very addictive, hallucinogenic drug. Generally its use is sinful. Yet in miniscule doses, it is excellent at controlling seizures - as it does in my son. I believe you can see the principle and application. There are actually many more principles that teach the same things on this subject, but this is enough to illustrate what I am getting at.

Now concerning homosexuality, I'll just show parts of Romans 1:18-32. The Spirit of God wrote: "18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hinder the truth in unrighteousness... because that, knowing God, they glorified him not as God, neither gave thanks; but became vain in their reasonings, and their senseless heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools... Wherefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts unto uncleanness, that their bodies should be dishonored among themselves: 25 for that they exchanged the truth of God for a lie... For this cause God gave them up unto vile passions: for their women changed the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another, men with men working unseemliness, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was due. 28 And even as they refused to have God in their knowledge, God gave them up unto a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness... inventors of evil things... 31 without understanding... who, knowing the ordinance of God, that they that practise such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but also consent with them that practise them."

There are many passages that condemn Sodomy, homosexuality, even just effeminate behavior. But this passage gives a very clear expression of God's view of it. God's wrath is against it. Such conduct is unrighteousness (not right). It hinders the truth of God, when people act this way (the truth about how God arranged the family, the truth about what true love is, the truth about what God approves of, and many others). Such conduct produces vain (empty) reasonings (self-justifications) and a darkened heart (calloused, resistant to truth). God calls such conduct "lust of their hearts" and "uncleanness". He says it is "unnatural" or "against nature". In other words, God created Adam & Eve in the beginning, not Adam & Steve. It is "dishonorable" use of the body. It is not according to truth, but is a lie, a false & deceitful way. It is "vile passion" and "unseemliness". And there is a

"recompense" (consequence) to such erroneous conduct & thinking. This paints a very clear picture.

Man kind's tendency is to call evil good, and good evil (Is. 5:20). Man promotes alcohol & intoxication as "good", when God calls it evil. Man calls sodomy & homosexuality "same sex romantic love", when God calls it unnatural, unclean, and vile passion. Renaming it to make it sound good does not change what it really is. Please understand that God hates all sin. He hates adultery and fornication (Heb. 13:4) as well as "same sex romantic love". In fact, many consider adultery and fornication "romantic love", but that does not change what it is before God. And what about N.A.M.B.L.A.? The "North American Man Boy Love Association"? They call pedophilia "love" of boys. They promote it as a wonderful experience. But it is in reality abhorrent and deviant behavior. It destroys peoples' sense of right and wrong, destroys the concept of love as God intended it to be, destroys the conscience, and so much more. Some of the most devastated people I know are people who have had sexual relations outside of a Scriptural marriage. They struggle greatly to overcome the mental, moral & spiritual effects of those times. But it is possible to overcome it.

It is written in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, "Or know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with men, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye were washed, but ye were sanctified, but ye were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God." Corinth was a city filled with immorality. It even had a temple to a Greek goddess where the "worship" involved fornication with any of 1000 temple prostitutes. Some in the church at Corinth "were" (past tense) fornicators, adulterers, effeminate, abusers of themselves with men. But they were not so any longer. Change is possible. It can be very difficult to change our thinking, especially when it comes to sexual sins which so powerfully affect our thoughts and emotions. But it is most certainly possible.

The Corinthians changed by faith in Christ Jesus (Acts 19:4) and by being baptized in His name (Acts 19:5). Many do not understand or agree with this, but then that is to be expected in a world that, for the most part, does not truly follow Jesus. But what the world in general does is not the standard for Truth. Just know that our earthly lives can be of a much higher character & worth, than what the world offers. And ultimately, we can all learn more fully and properly the extent of God's love for us. His love is so great, that even though His Holiness demands Hell for those who sin, yet He has also provided pardon & eternal life if we will repent of sin & live according to His will. To know God, is to know what love really is.

Again, thank you for writing. I hope this will be helpful to you and properly answer your question. If there is something

I did not address clearly or additional questions - then please let me know.

In Him who loves all men according to Truth,  
Douglas Hill"

"Unity In Truth, Liberty in Opinion, In All Things Love."

#### PEOPLE TO REMEMBER & PRAY FOR

**Othena Kinnard, Jo Miller, Mag Bumbalough, Thelma Cunningham, Mary Cox, Monie Petty, Dave Poteet, Joshua & Misty Poteet, Rose Taylor, Dorris Williams, Robert & Betty England, Johanna Fletcher, Ed Williams, Joe Smith, Lydia Poe, Mike Tenpenny, Thelma Klein, Nathan Hill, DeLeesa Price (expecting) and Alisa Fletcher (expecting).** Also, **Reba Jones** (Dorris Williams' niece), **Jackie Tindle** (cancer, relative of the Sims), **John Ross Key** (Mary Cox's son), **Marci Miller** (Alisa Fletcher's mother), **Ocia Bell Jones** (Doris William's mother), **Ruth Williams** (Betty England's niece), **Pauline Hickey, Nanny Witaker, Dylan Roberts** (grandson of Marilyn's friend); **Kitty Mahan** (Kathy Tenpenny's mother), **Dwayne Williams** (Dorris William's son), **Jeff England** (Robert & Betty's son), **Paul Grissom, Carl Williams** (Ed's brother), **Clair Gentry** (Doris' sister-in-law), **Danny & Michelle Cunningham** (Lydia Poe's brother & his wife).

#### THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **Home Bible Study** - Sat., Feb. 17.
- **Business Meeting** - Sun. Feb. 25.
- **Ladies Class** - 2nd & Last Sunday Each Month.
- **GM** - Jeff Smith, April 15-20, 2007.
- **GM** - R. McPherson, Oct.14-19, 2007.
- **GM** - Brian Yeager, April 13-18, 2008.
- **GM** - Lanny Smith, Oct.12-17, 2008.

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**Douglas W. Hill**  
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*Speaking where  
the Bible Speaks  
&  
Silent where  
the Bible is Silent*

#### **Service Times**

Sunday  
Bible Study 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

*All are welcome to all  
of our services!*

**"The sum of Thy word  
is Truth" (Ps. 119:160).**

**Believe in Jesus as the  
Son of God (Acts 8:37).**

**Repent of your sins  
(Acts 2:38).**

**Confess Jesus  
(Acts 8:37).**

**Be baptized into Christ  
(Acts 2:38; 8:36-39;  
22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).**

**Be faithful even unto  
the point of death  
(Rev. 2:10).**

**Enter Heaven (Rev. 21:1).**