

The Christian and the 21st Century: Lesson Eleven

1. It is commonly asserted that Jesus taught nothing about homosexuality. What subject does Jesus discuss in Matthew 19:4-5? What does He say about it? Does this reveal anything about the practice of homosexuality? Why or why not?
2. In Romans 1:24, what is God described as doing? How does 1:25 explain God's action? Why is this text significant to this topic?
3. What is God described as doing in Romans 1:26? How does 1:26-27 explain this description? Is there any legitimate doubt about the subject of this discussion? Why or why not? Why is this important?
4. What happens in Genesis 19:4-5? In 19:24-25, what does God do in response? Is this important to us today? If so, why?
5. It is sometimes argued that the sin of the men of Sodom was their failure to show hospitality to guests. What does Jude 7 say about the people of Sodom? How does this relate to the above argument?
6. What groups of people appear in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10? What is true of them? Why is this important?
7. In 1 Corinthians 6:11, what does Paul reveal about some members of the Corinthian church? What happened? Why is this significant?
8. What does Hebrews 4:15 reveal about Jesus? Is it a sin for anyone to be tempted? Why or why not? Is it a sin for a man or woman to be tempted to practice homosexuality? Why or why not? What should this teach us?
9. According to James 4:17, what is sin? How is this passage relevant to our understanding of homosexuality?
10. What three groups of people does Jesus describe in Matthew 19:12? What is He talking about here? What does Jesus encourage? What does this mean in the context of homosexuality?
11. Advocates of the practice of homosexuality often argue that it is unjust to expect Christians with homosexual inclinations to remain celibate all their lives. Are such Christians the only Christians of whom celibacy is expected? The story of Ezra 10:18-19 may help you answer. Why is this important?
12. What does Jesus say in Matthew 13:45? In 13:46, what does this merchant do? What should we learn from this? How should this shape our understanding of homosexuality?