

LGBTQ+ and the Last Days

November 12, 2023

Psalm 2:1-3 — "Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, 'Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!'"

First man resists evil, then man endures evil, and then man accepts evil, and then man embraces evil. — Ancient Ugaritic Proverb

One evil that was once resisted, then endured, and then accepted, and now is pressured to be embraced and even celebrated, is the LGBTQ+ agenda. In order for us to really understand what is going on in this battle over LGBTQ+ issues and lifestyles, we need to answer three questions:

1. Why is there such a debate about LGBTQ+ lifestyles?

The LGBTQ+ community believes that their position is a moral alternative; there is nothing wrong with it. The presupposition is that they were born that way; therefore, it is who they are. It is not simply something that they do; it is their identity.

The scriptures teach that homosexuality is an immoral, prohibited, sexual orientation. Therefore, it is not an alternative lifestyle but a sinful, destructive lifestyle that brings pain, premature death, and brokenness in relationships.

2. What is the truth about LGBTQ+ lifestyles?

The Bible teaches that we are all born into a sin-sick world. Not only are we born into a fallen world because of sin, but we are born with sinful natures.

Exodus 20:5 — "You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me"

The impact of sin is passed down through generations. Everyone has a sin nature and a propensity to sin. Not everyone's tendency to sin is the same. Some may have a propensity towards alcoholism, while others may have a propensity towards lying or stealing; others may have a propensity towards homosexuality or transgenderism. God didn't make us that way. The entrance of sin into the world and our sin nature are what influence our sinful leanings.

Did God make anyone gay? The answer is no! Homosexual or transgender leanings or desires are the result of sin in some way, either directly or indirectly, but God did not make anyone gay. Is it possible for someone to have been born with particular sinful leanings that even include homosexuality and transgenderism? The answer is yes! Does that make it okay? Of course not.

Do people choose to be gay? The answer, for the most part, is no; they do not choose the feelings. But they do decide to act on those feelings.

The good news is, Jesus came to break the power of sin in our lives no matter what that sin might be.

Genesis 1:27 — "God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it;'"

Genesis 2:18 — "Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.'"

Genesis 2:22 — "The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man."

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; they shall surely be put to death. Their blood-guiltiness is upon them."

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 6:9-11— "Or do you not know that the unrighteous will 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, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God."

3. How should we respond?

Consistently

First, if the Body of Christ is to effectively address moral issues in the culture, it seems she must first address whatever moral problems she has within her own ranks. It isn't just our impact that is being compromised; it is our credibility as well.

Compassionately

It is important that we repent of our hostility toward members of the LGBTQ+ community and recommit to bold love.

James 1:19-20 — "Therefore, my beloved brothers, let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. For the anger of man does not accomplish the righteousness of God."

Too often, the message from the church to the homosexual community has been poisoned with elements of wrath and hostility. So, to whatever extent that kind of hostility exists in this church, we must repent and recommit to bold love.

Bold love seeks to serve without compromising.

Courageously

The church must repent of being intimidated by the LGBTQ+ movement and recommit to her prophetic role. The heart of the gospel is not a compliment. To tell people that they are lost in their sin is offensive. If we allow ourselves to be intimidated out of speaking the truth because it might be offensive, then we will eventually betray the Gospel itself.

Be consistent. Be compassionate. Be courageous and full of grace and truth.