

## Romans 1:24-32 Has God Given Up America?

As Paul closes Romans 1, he three times speaks about God “giving them up.” As man rebels against God, God eventually allows man to have his way. Has American gone down that path?

Topic- Revival

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## What Does the Bible Say About Homosexuality?

Mark 10:6-9 — “But from the beginning of the creation, God ‘made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.” -Jesus

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Leviticus 18:22 — ‘You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.

Leviticus 18:21-23 — And you shall not let any of your descendants pass through the fire to Molech...

You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.

Nor shall you mate with any animal...

Leviticus 20:13 — ‘If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood shall be upon them.

[If a] “man lies” = arsenos koiten (ἄρσενος κοίτην) LXX

1 Corinthians 6:9 — 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 homosexuals, nor sodomites...

Sodomite = arsenokoitēs(ἄρσενοκοίτης); 2x (here and 1 Tim 1:10)

-[If a] “man lies” = arsenos koiten (ἄρσενος κοίτην) LXX

-[Bonus Fact: Paul has been accredited to potentially creating 30+ Greek words.]

Homosexual (Effeminate, KJV) = malakos(μαλακός); 4x; Lit. “soft”

-Mat 11:8 “But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments?”

-This word was used as “slang” in Greek culture to mean the receiving partner in a homosexual engagement.

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## COMMON PRO-HOMOSEXUAL ARGUMENTS & RESPONSES

Sodom was about rape and inhospitality, not homosexuality.

-Half true

-Jude 1:7 — as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Leviticus does not apply to Christians, so the Old Testament prohibitions are irrelevant.

-Half True

-The Law of Moses is not binding on Christians

-But... Many eternal truths are contained within the Mosaic Law, which have not changed, and are repeated in the New Testament

1 Corinthians 6:9 and 1 Timothy 1:10 refer only to abuse, pederasty, prostitution, or exploitative same-sex acts.

-FALSE

-Arsenokoitēs & Malakos CAN refer to rape & abuse, but also we're commonly used in Greek culture to speak of consensual relationships

Jesus never directly spoke about homosexuality.

-MISLEADING

-1) Jesus often rebuked the Pharisees for their false teachings about marriage, adultery, & divorce, but He had no need to bring up homosexuality because they were rightly against it.

2) In Mark 7:22 Jesus addresses "lewdness" (Greek aselgeia) which speaks of extreme sexual perversion, beyond adultery & fornication.

"Homosexual" wasn't even in the Bible until 1947, so it is a modern insertion.

-Half truth

-The word "homosexual" was invented until 1868 in Germany.

-From the late 1800s to early 1900s the word was almost exclusively used in the medical/psychiatric field.

-By the 1930s it began to be used by the average American.

-In 1947 the RSV Bible was released and it incorporated the word "homosexual" because it was now the most relevant term which accurately translated the Greek

How can homosexuality be wrong if God made people that way?

-God made Adam, and Adam was perfect

-Sin entered the world and through sin came every aspect of the fall

-We are ALL born sinners, with different sinful desires and weaknesses, but we are ALL called to repent.

Why do Christians always pick on homosexuals?

We teach the Bible:

- Truthfully
- Accurately
- Tactfully
- Unashamedly

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 — 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 homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:11 — And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

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This last “giving over/up” shows the final straw and the undoing of society.

“being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness”

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“full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness”

Envy = “I hate that you have it.”

Covetousness = “I want it for myself.”

Jealousy = “Back off, that’s mine.”

Strife = contention, wrangling, quarreling

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“they are whisperers, backbiters”

-private slander (gossip) vs public slander

Slander is:

- Speaking negatively about someone who is not present to answer
- Sharing damaging information without necessity or authority
- Saying things that lower someone in the eyes of others
- Repeating truth with the intent to harm rather than help
- Passing along reports you have not verified

-Framing facts in a way that misleads or poisons perception

CHURCH: Sharing a post on social media that contains untrue information, which poorly reflects someone, whether or not you knew it was untrue, is slander and you will be held accountable to God for it.

2 Corinthians 5:10 — For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Matthew 12:36 — “But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.”

Handle information like you handle a gun.

-“But I didn't know it was loaded,” isn't an excuse.

Hebrews 12:15 — looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

I fear more for our church concerning gossip & bitterness than I do pornography.

Conversely: Your pastor and elders cannot address what they don't know.

If you are concerned about someone:

-Take it to the Lord

-Take it to the person

-Take it to the leadership (or a very mature saint)

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“haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents”

Ephesians 6:1 — Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

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NKJV > Greek(Ελληνικά) > KJV

-undiscerning > asynetous (άσυνέτους) > without understanding

-untrustworthy > asynthetous (άσυνθέτους) > covenantbreakers

-unloving > astorgous (άστόργους) > without natural affection

-unforgiving > aspondous (άσπόνδους) > implacable

-unmerciful > aneleēmonas (άνελεήμονας) > unmerciful

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“not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.”

It is one thing to sin.

-It is a very different thing to boast and rejoice in it.

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GOD GAVE THEM UP

-God also gave them up to... the lusts of their hearts

-God gave them up to vile passions (of their bodies)

-God gave them over to a debased mind

-Body, soul, & spirit... Given up...

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HAS GOD GIVEN UP AMERICA?

HOW DID AMERICA GET HERE?

-“[The Church] did not like to retain God in their knowledge”

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\*Lewis- “The safest road to Hell is the gradual one—the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts.”

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WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

Ezra 9 & 10

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Ezekiel 18:27-28 — “Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive. Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

Ezekiel 18:31-32 — “Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,” says the Lord GOD. “Therefore turn and live!”

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2 Chronicles 7:14 — “if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

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