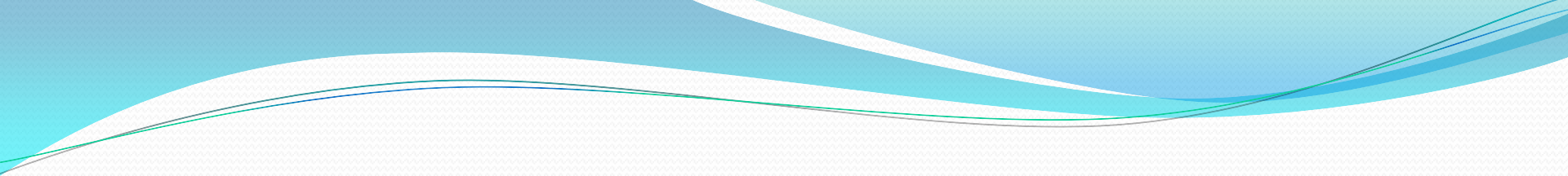
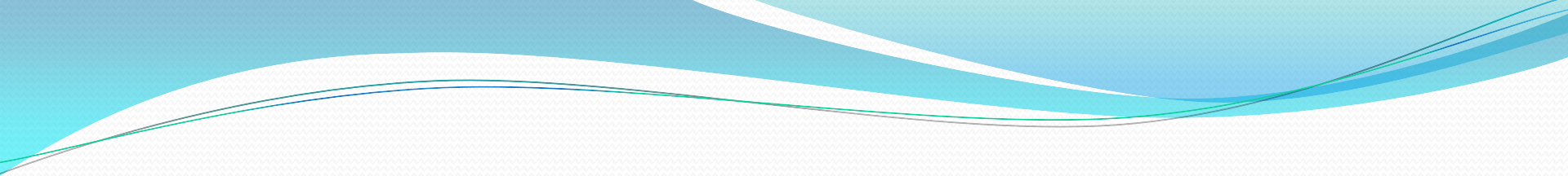


The Wrong Kind of Love

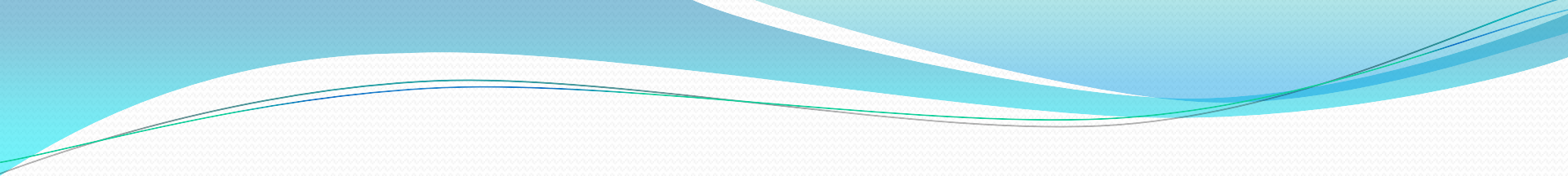
The Truth About Homosexuality
and the Reality of Forgiveness

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- Ephesians 5:1-3 – “Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, and offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.”

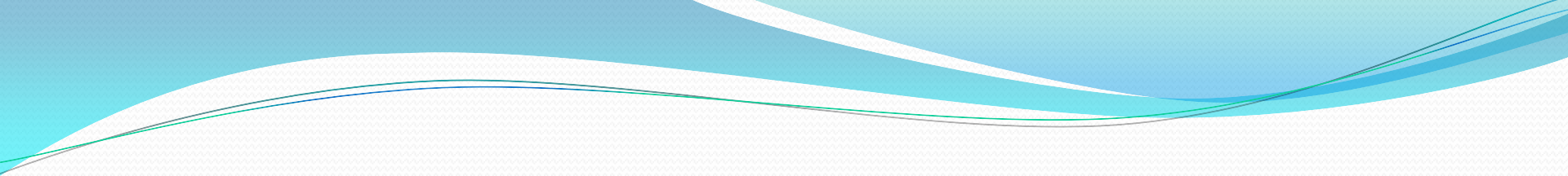
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- “HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE; AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH,’ The second is this, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12: 29-31

- **Immorality** - from the Greek, porneia – encompasses every category of sexual sin and is the most common counterfeit form of love. It violates the two greatest commandments, to love God supremely and our neighbor as ourselves.
- **Impurity**- from the Greek akatharsia – refers to moral filthiness like off color joking. Language is given by God primarily to glorify Him and edify others. How it is used is important and not to be taken lightly, for our communication and behavior proceeds from our hearts.

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- **Greed** or **Covetousness** – the desire to take what doesn't belong to you.
 - This is the opposite of what Jesus said was His mission,
 - “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

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- Mark 7:21-23 - For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Things to Put On

- Eph.4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.
- 1 Cor. 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things

Things to Put Off

- Eph. 5:4-7 - Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them;

The Loving Truth About Homosexual “Love”

- Rom. 1:26-27 - For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error .

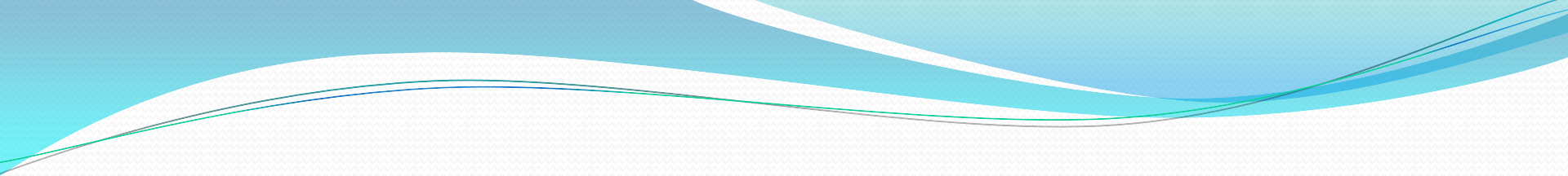
- What we see in Romans chapter 1 is God's wrath of abandonment.
- Verse 24 God gave them over
- Verse 26 God gave them over
- Verse 28 God gave them over
- “God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do the things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice;”

The Bible and Homosexuality

- The Bible is neither silent nor unclear about this topic
- It is not ambiguous at all and homosexuality is not just part of an ancient culture and therefore not relevant today.
- It is not just a cultural change.
- The Bible speaks clearly to the issue in both the Old and the New Testaments. Scripture establishes the divine institution for proper human sexuality.

The Divine Institution

- Genesis 1:27-28: “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, ““Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it,
- Therein lies God’s perfect plan for marriage, as that which involves one partner from each gender.
- The rest of Scripture strictly forbids any sexual activity outside of marriage.

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- Genesis 2:24 – “For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.”
 - Homosexual unions (no matter what society may label them) cannot rightly be called “marriages” because they involve only one biological sex, possess no ability to “be fruitful and multiply,” and cannot provide the kind of intimate companionship that God intended for marriage.

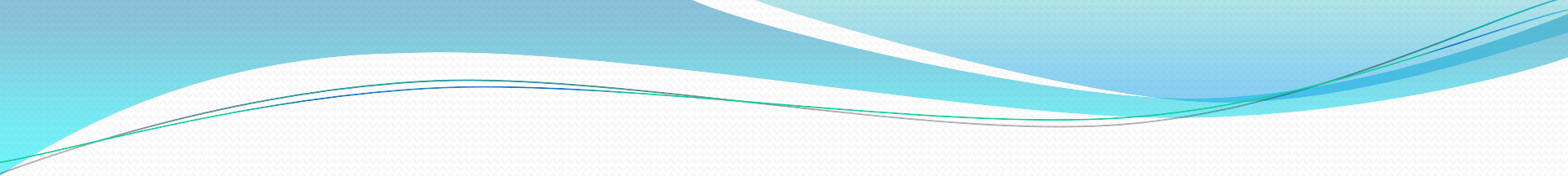
- Before they { the angels, who had taken the appearance of men} lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; and they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them.” But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him, and said, “Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly.”
- Genesis 19:4-7

The Divine Illustration

- In Genesis 3 we see the Fall of mankind into sin. It immediately began to erode the purity of sexuality. God's perfect plan for marriage was quickly assaulted.
- Genesis 4 – Polygamy
- Genesis 6 – demonic sexual perversion
- Genesis 9 – Lewdness
- Genesis 12 – Adultery
- Genesis 16 – Fornication
- Genesis 19 – Incest and Homosexuality
- Genesis 34 – Rape
- Genesis 38 – Prostitution

The Divine Instruction

- God's Word is very clear on this issue!
- Leviticus 18:22 – “You {men} shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination,”
- Homosexuality is viewed , in Leviticus, as morally equal to sins such as adultery, incest, and bestiality. Such sins are wrong in any age or culture because they violate the design for marriage God established at creation.

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- Romans 1:26-27 - : “For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error

The Divine Invitation

- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 - “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

- Some of the Corinthians believers had been characterized by such behavior before their conversions. But God, in His grace, transformed their lives.
- Titus 3:5 – He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.
- Galatians 5:16 – But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
- Galatians 2:16 – nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus,

The Loving Truth

- Our chapter began speaking about love, noting that genuine love speaks the truth.
- Our study of Scripture confirms that any sexual conduct outside of marriage is strictly forbidden by God.
- God's Word is clear about God's attitude toward homosexuality.
- But God extends His invitation of the Gospel to every sinner. He offers salvation, forgiveness and eternal life to all who will embrace Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.