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# Love First: What Does the Bible Say?

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New Hope Community Church  
Dr. Jack Bracy, May 19, 2019

The Debate Is Not Over What the Bible Says.  
The Debate Is Over What These Verses Mean

## OT Prohibitions

"You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination."  
*Leviticus 18:22, ESV*

"If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them."  
*Leviticus 20:13, ESV*

1. The OT is No longer Binding on Christians
2. Same-Sex Prohibitions Address Nonconsensual Sex

There's Nothing in Leviticus 18:22 & 20:13 That  
Limits the Prohibition to Acts of Sexual Exploitation

"If a man practices homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman, both men have committed a detestable act. They must both be put to death, for they are guilty of a capital offense." *Leviticus 20:13, NLT*

Many Christians Assume That the Sin of Sodom (Gen. 19:1-10) Was Homosexuality. This Is Not True.

"Sodom's sins were pride, gluttony, and laziness, while the poor and needy suffered outside her door. She was proud and committed detestable sins, so I wiped her out, as you have seen." *Ezekiel 16:49-50, NLT*

## NT Prohibitions:

"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." *Romans 1:26-27, ESV*

“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 have sex with males, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God (*Authors Translation 1 Cor 6: 9– 10*).”

### Malakoi: The Passive Male Partner in Homosexual Intercourse

“Understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who have sex with males, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine (*Authors Translation 1 Timothy 1: 9– 10*).”

### Arsenokoites: A Male Partner in Homosexual Intercourse

#### 1. All the New Testament Prohibitions Refer to Nonconsensual Sex

All Types of Same Sex Sexual Relations Were  
Considered to Be Outside of God's Will and Design

Paul's Writings Refer to Cultic Male Prostitution or Other Same-Sex  
Acts Associated with Greco-Roman Paganism

*Romans 1:23 – Romans 1:29–31*

It's All Idolatry

#### 2. Paul Is Condemning Straight People Having Gay Sex, Which Is Against “Their Nature”

“For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature;” *Romans 1:26, ESV*

#### 3. The Real Problem in Romans 1 Was Excessive Lust

“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.” *Romans 1:27, ESV*

#### 4. Other Arguments

Your Attitude Carries More Power Than Your Arguments

Always Love First

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