

DAMAGED AND DIVIDED



- Sexual morality is the most important issue of our time
- Several denominations have split over this issue
- Psalm 50:16 – 23
- It is the person who DOES right that God will lead to salvation
- How do we know right from wrong without God's Word, especially His Torah?



Wherever there is degeneration and apathy, there also is sexual perversion, cold depravity, miscarriage, premature old age, grumbling youth, there is a decline in the arts, indifference to science, and injustice in all its forms.

(Anton Chekhov)

- The man who rebels against God begins a process of moral degeneration
- Paul is speaking to all humanity in general, but especially to the recipients of his letter to the Romans
- Paul speaks of God's anger against wickedness and godlessness
- "The Devil made me do it" is a cute quote: but not Biblical. We choose to do evil, we're not coerced

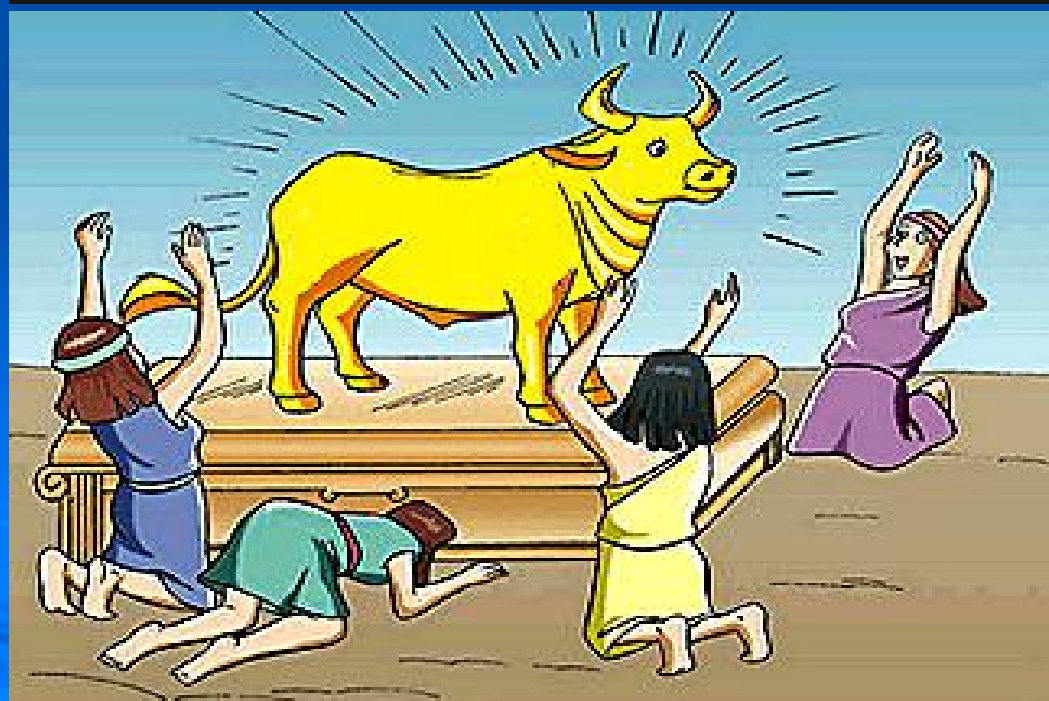
NATURAL LAW

- We can't plead that we didn't know we were rebelling, because what is right is revealed in Creation
- 2nd Temple Judaism believed this same principle
- Psalm 19
- God disclosed Himself by means of His Creation
- The Creation is a shadow of God passing by

| Natural Law | Man's law |
|---|--|
| Based Upon Principles & Truth (Inherent To Creation) | Based Upon Dogmatic Beliefs (Constructs Of Mind) |
| Harmonized with, due to Knowledge & Understanding | Complied with, due to Fear of Punishment |
| Universal; exists and applies anywhere in the Universe regardless of location | Differs with location based upon the whim of legislators (Moral Relativism) |
| Eternal and Immutable; exists and applies for as long as the Universe exists, and cannot be changed | Changes with time based upon the whim of legislators (Moral Relativism) |

WORSHIP THE CREATOR NOT THE CREATION

- All humans have an innate understanding of God's attributes
- But when we take all of our cues about God from nature, we get bad results
- It is the refusal of humans to recognize God and worship Him that leads to futile thinking
- In Hebrew thought, to "know God" means to worship Him
- Psalm 106:19 - 20



REFUSING TO WORSHIP GOD IS A CHOICE

SELF
WORSHIP

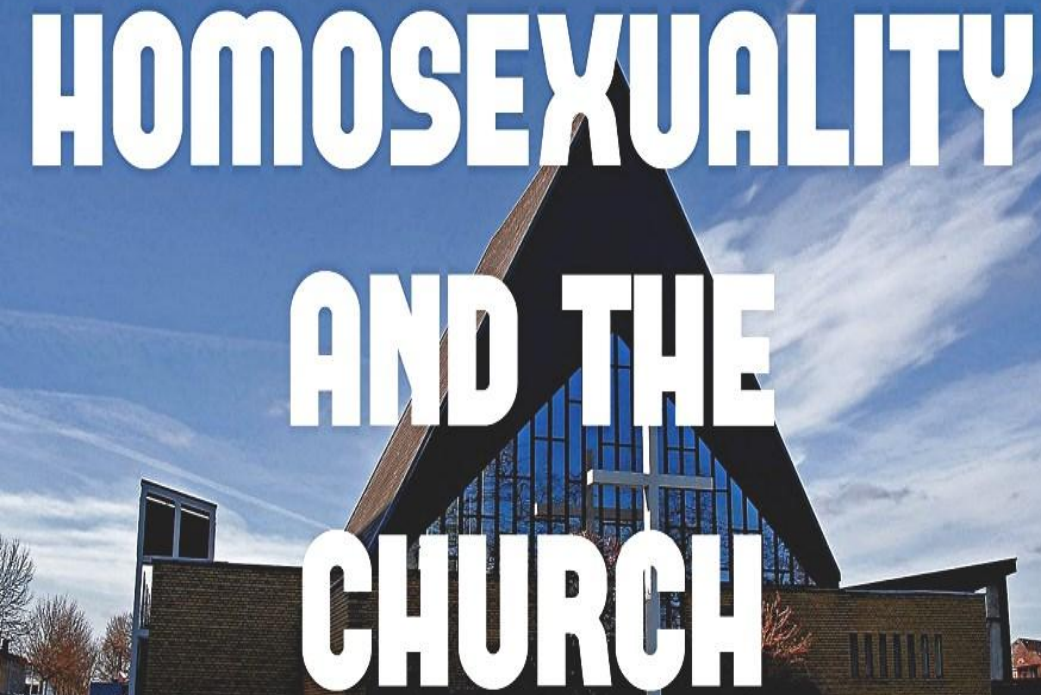


- Atheism is essentially self-worship
- Any evidence of God that Atheists see pricks their conscience
- Vs. 24 says that God will give people up to their sins
- *Paradidomi* = give up, turn over, deliver
- God abandons people to their wickedness AS A RESULT of rejecting Him
- “Handed over” in the OT involves God being active in the process

THE PROBLEM WITH OUR HEART

- Earthly punishment: turned over to lusts of our heart
- 2nd Temple Judaism
principle: man will either serve God or serve his own evil inclination
- Matt.6:24
- Either YOU control your heart, or your heart controls YOU!
- Jer. 17:9
- We MUST bring our hearts under submission to our regenerated minds





HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE CHURCH

Jimmy Creech, United Methodist:

“ I believe lesbian, gay, and bisexual people to be part of God’s wondrous Creation, created to be who they are. ”

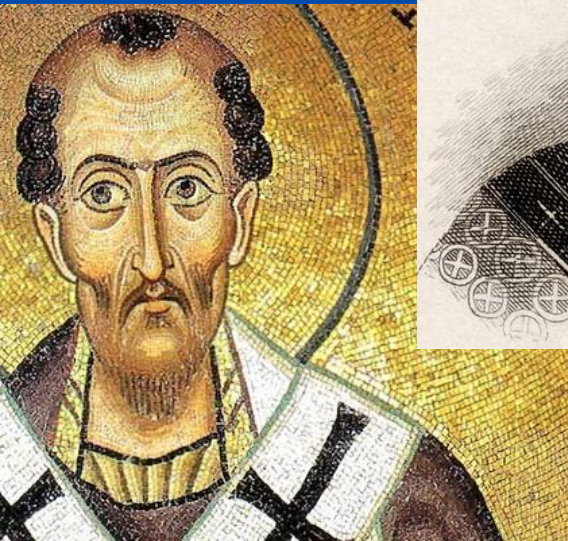
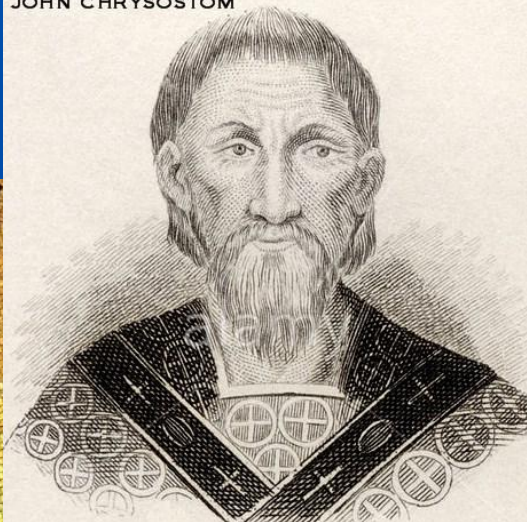
- That non-Believers engage in a gay lifestyle should not surprise us
- These advocate for LGBT values:
- Conservative Jewish Movement
- Reform Jewish movement
- Episcopal Church
- Evangelical Lutheran
- Presbyterian USA
- United Church of Christ

BIBLE DOESN'T DEAL WITH HOMOSEXUALITY?

- Severian of Gabala 400 A.D.
- Chrysostom 400 A.D.
- In Greco-Roman world homosexuality was common
- Term “Lesbian” comes from women of Isle of Lesbos
- Nero was homosexual
- Writings of Early Church Fathers prove that early Church saw homosexuality was wrong and as specifically addressed in the Bible



JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



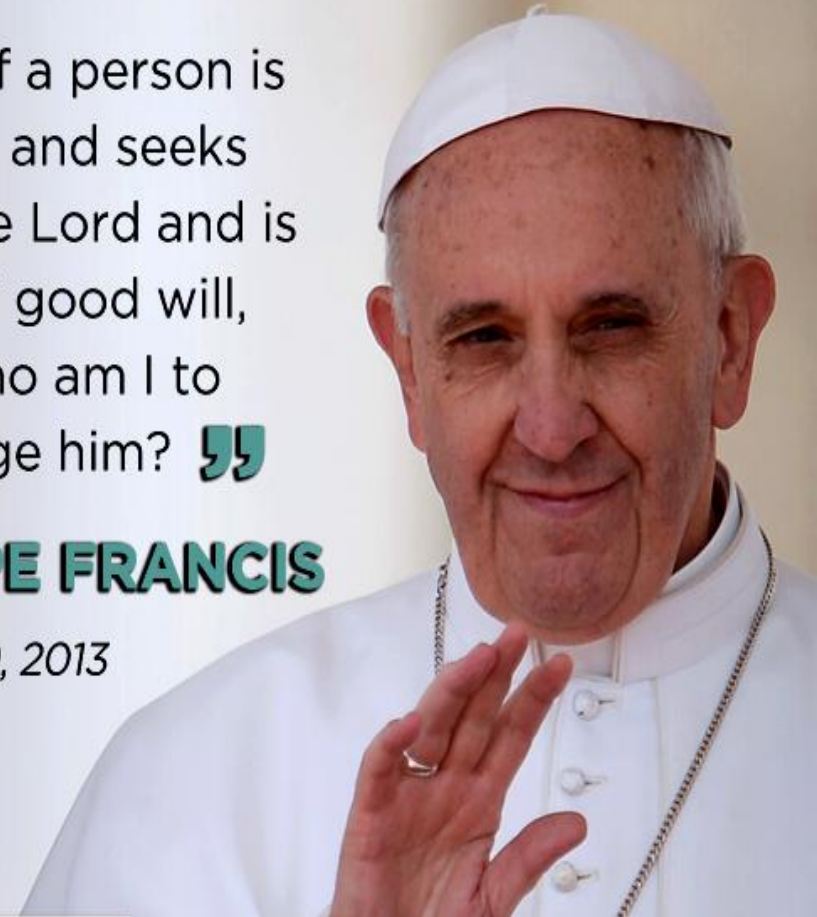
CHURCH GIVING IN TO LGBT

- Pope Francis issued an open apology to LGBT for not inviting them in and embracing them
- This sort of error is caused by twisting God's Word and being disobedient to God's laws
- The result of being turned over to sin by God is the long list of vices in Romans 1:24 - 31

“ If a person is gay and seeks the Lord and is of good will, who am I to judge him? ”

- POPE FRANCIS

July 29, 2013



**People will not
be in Hell
because
God did not
want them,
but because
they did
not want God.**

- Paul says those who engage in this list of vices are worthy of death
- Not just bodily death, but eternal death
- We cannot live the lifestyle of any of these vices AND legitimately claim trust in Yeshua
- Matt. 7:21 - 23

STOP WITH THE EXCUSES!

We as Christians need to stop using the "God is still working on me" line as an excuse to continue to justify doing the things we know are displeasing to God.

- We know when we're doing wrong !!
- We do wrong because we listen to our hearts
- Paul says those who applaud and cheer others to sin are as guilty as the ones doing the wrong
- This is a hard principle to accept
- Our duty is to believe God and obey God, not to question Him