

## Romans 1:26~27

I want to begin by making a few things perfectly clear about the subject in which I will be speaking to this morning...*Homosexuality*. First and foremost, it is most certainly a “*sin against God*”. There is “**NO Question**” to that fact, one which I intend to make *abundantly clear* through this passage. But at the same time, like any other sin against God, those who practice this lifestyle can most assuredly be forgiven by God, if they will only repent, and turn from it. It IS A SIN...But the sinner can be FORGIVEN!

I wanted to make that perfectly clear, because I don't want anyone to misunderstand me, when I get into the message. I have talked with some men who practice this lifestyle, and overwhelmingly, they feel they can't be saved, they feel the church doesn't want them... I want to make this CLEAR! We do not “*Oppose*” homosexuals... We oppose their lifestyles. Any homosexual who will repent of his sins, turning from that lifestyle, is more than welcome here. But, in the same token... a person who practices such a lifestyle, who has not repented and turned from it, is NOT! As with fornication, adultery, etc... this lifestyle will not be tolerated in the life of the church... It will be confronted and dealt with.

*Homosexuality*...in recent days, this has become a national subject topic and debate...

This is a lifestyle that has always been around, its nothing new...it was in Paul's day... But up until recent years, it was one that was not “*openly practiced.*” There's a term that was used, “*in the closet.*” You kept it were no one could see it, out of sight...

**But not so anymore**... Now it is openly practiced, openly displayed, and not only is it being tolerated, but it is being accepted, and legalized, and *flaunted before the whole world!*

Same-Sex *Marriages*

Same-Sex *Adoptions*

It is being looked at as an “*Alternate Lifestyle*”

Labeled as “*Life Partners*”

Lobbying for “*Heath Insurance Coverage & Death Benefit*”

Television shows... (*Queer eye for the straight guy, Ellen Degenerous, and many sit coms...*)

They have come “*out of the closet,*” and into “*our living room!*” Literally...it has become hard to watch a TV show without this lifestyle being portrayed at some point.

Not only has it infiltrated the living room, but it is also infiltrating so-called church of Jesus Christ, not only approves of it, but puts men into leadership positions who openly practice this lifestyle. I want to say, that is not the “*True church!*” The true church is built on the scriptures... And its not a matter of “*Clarity*” on the issue, for the scriptures are “*Very clear, very explicit!*” There is no way to misunderstand this passage, no way to mis-interpret it... The only thing you can do with it, “**is reject it!**”

**Illustrations**...And “**Reject it**” they have... Newspaper articles...

It's a sad testimony to a church, when “*Lost Members*” of society, ones who claim no affiliation with God, stand against this abomination to God, while the church promotes it!

Paul has a much different view of homosexuality than does many so-called churches today who claim to teach the very scriptures that Paul wrote...

Paul “*clearly*” labels this lifestyle, not only just a sin...but one of “*great shame*”...

<sup>26</sup>*For this cause God gave them up unto **vile** affections:*

*ατ-εε-μειε-αη... indignity, disgraceful:—dishonorable, reproach, shame, vile.*

Paul declares it to be what it is... **A Shameful, disgraceful, dishonorable, sinful lifestyle...**

Now days, it is openly being practiced, and not only that, but slowly is being accepted and tolerated. And not just tolerated, but promoting it, as an alternate lifestyle... And not just accepting it, but now government bodies all over are redefining the law to accommodate this lifestyle!

We better listen closely to what Paul said in verse 32...

<sup>32</sup>*Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*

Billy Graham was quoted on this issue in America, saying...

**If God doesn't do something soon... He will have to apologize to Sodom & Gomorrah...**

We are living in a day, in which this is a very *volatile* subject... There is much debate and argument on both sides. Those who oppose it, have been labeled as "*Hate Groups...*" It has already come to the point, that it is illegal to preach against it in some states...

Something I need to make clear...

**This is not a matter of personal opinion, personal preference, or religious belief...**

This is an argument based on the facts, the truth! The question is... **Is it right or wrong?**

The approach Paul uses makes it crystal clear as the "*Wrongness*" of this act! If you understand what Paul is pointing to as the "*Evidence*" that it is wrong, you can come to no other conclusion!

I'm telling you, that looking to the evidence Paul's pointing too, that NO ONE in the world can deny that it is wrong... Now that's not to say, they won't reject it... I'm just saying, that no one can deny it is "*Clearly wrong*"... The only thing they can do, *is exchange the truth for a lie...*

Most people argue that we are against it because it is *against our religion*... But that's simply not the case... It's truth that condemns homosexuality and defines it as wrong...not religion. For there are many religions and religious organizations who feel that it is ok. **Does that mean its ok?** Not at all...

Whether or not something is "*Right or Wrong*" is not determined by what you and I think or feel...or even what our religious beliefs are. Right and wrong is determined by TRUTH! By the Undisputable FACTS!

Paul bases his argument on that very thing, the facts! The "Key" to understanding the "Truth" about homosexuality, is found in the phrase... the "*Natural use of the woman...*"

...<sup>26b</sup> *for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:*

<sup>27</sup>*And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman...*

The word "use" is the Greek word... *χηρε | σισ ... κηραψε-σισ*

...*employment*, (specifically) *sexual intercourse* (as an occupation of the body):—use.

★ It is a "*reference*" to the design and purpose of the woman's body...*her sexuality!*

A woman's body is designed and made for specific intentions and purposes...

In verse 20, Paul has just pointed to "*creation*" to as how it speaks to God, in His eternal power and Godhead. Here he continues to point to creation... **He created them male & female...**

Like all of creation, everything has its purpose to carry out...  
The sun, the moon, the trees, the rain, etc... Each element was designed for a specific purpose.

**Q:** What would happen if these things “*were somehow*” removed from God’s control, and ceased to fulfill their intended purpose?

Can you imagine if the sun changed its designed purpose? What about the moon, the trees, etc...  
What would happen? Chaos! Utter destruction and annihilation of earth as we know it...

**Q:** Let me ask you one more question... What has happened to the “*family*”, and the “*Society*” because of sexual perversion?

Paul points to the “*Design & Purpose*” of the woman’s body...her sexuality!  
...<sup>26b</sup> for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

★ **Illus: *The Women’s body is amazing...*** Discuss the reproductive process in relation to the woman’s body...conception, embryo, breast milk, etc...

Listen, if “...leaving the natural use of the woman...” is a sin, what does it make it when you keep the natural use of the woman? **A Blessing**... God has designed male and females uniquely and distinctly different... In so, when a husband and wife come together, and each fulfill their designed function, when each one carries out the role their body is designed for, and as a result, comes the greatest blessing on earth... “*A Child!*”

Paul states “Clearly” that the sin of Homosexuality manifest the utter depths of man’s sin... Because, to do so, one must go outside the natural use, the intended design... To use something for what it was never intended for... You pervert its use...

**Illus: *Hammer and Nail...***

Listen, its one thing to commit fornication...(sex outside of marriage). According to this passage, that is “at least” “**In the Realm**” of God’s design! Though perverted and distorted, it is at least “*in the realm*”. Those who do...have at least “*One thing right...*” in that act... The act itself...the requisite for fulfilling the conception of a child!

Why is fornication a sin? Sex outside marriage wrong... Paul says in 1 Co. 6:18...  
<sup>18</sup>*Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that commits fornication sins against his own body.*

Your using it wrongly...against the intended purpose! Fornication perverts the intended use of the body...

But homosexuality has nothing right about it! Not one aspect! Its not even in the “*Realm*” of being right! It goes “*outside the realm*” of what is right...*beyond nature*...leaving the natural use of the woman...

Everything about homosexuality is a contradiction to the functions of the body!

Paul’s point is the fact, that “*All of Creation*”, including Male & Female, has a specific design and function... To distort that, to pervert its intended use...is WRONG!

Women all over the world are having surgical procedures for “*breast implants!*”

**Q:** Why... How is that going to help in nurturing a child with her milk?  
...leaving the natural use of the woman...

In short, a women’s body **is not shaped and designed the way it is**, as to be put on public display, for men to lust after... to be “*exploited*” for money! A women’s body isn’t designed for any of those things.

Homosexuality is absolutely, unquestionably, clearly, and completely **WRONG!**

Not because I think so...Not because religion says so...

But because, truth says so! Our bodies aren’t designed for that! To commit homosexual activity goes against everything that is clearly known to man to be true!

Does that mean all will agree? No... One thing I will say, they cannot “Disagree” that what I’m saying is true. But what they will ultimately do is reject the truth! Then what...

Well... <sup>18</sup>...*the **wrath of God** is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;* <sup>19</sup>*Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them.* <sup>20</sup>*For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood **by the things that are made**, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

<sup>26</sup>For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: <sup>27</sup>And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and **receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.** <sup>28</sup>And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;