HOMOSEXUALITY

What does the Bible say about homosexuality?

Question: "What does the Bible say about homosexuality? Is homosexuality a sin?"

Answer: The Bible consistently tells us that homosexual activity is a sin (<u>Genesis</u> 19:1-13; <u>Leviticus 18:22</u>; 20:13; <u>Romans 1:26-27</u>; <u>1 Corinthians 6:9</u>). <u>Romans</u> 1:26-27 teaches specifically that homosexuality is a result of denying and disobeying God. When people continue in sin and unbelief, God "gives them over" to even more wicked and depraved sin in order to show them the futility and hopelessness of life apart from God. <u>1 Corinthians 6:9</u> proclaims that homosexual "offenders" will not inherit the kingdom of God.

God does not create a person with homosexual desires. The Bible tells us that people become homosexuals because of sin (Romans 1:24-27) and ultimately because of their own choice. A person may be born with a greater susceptibility to homosexuality, just as some people are born with a tendency to violence and other sins. That does not excuse the person's choosing to sin by giving in to sinful desires. If a person is born with a greater susceptibility to anger/rage, does that make it right for him to give into those desires? Of course not! The same is true with homosexuality.

However, the Bible does not describe homosexuality as a "greater" sin than any other. All sin is offensive to God. <u>Homosexuality</u> is just one of the many things listed in <u>1 Corinthians 6:9-10</u> that will keep a person from the kingdom of God. According to the Bible, God's forgiveness is just as available to a homosexual as it is to an adulterer, idol worshipper, murderer, thief, etc. God also promises the strength for victory over sin, including homosexuality, to all those who will believe in Jesus Christ for their salvation (<u>1 Corinthians 6:11</u>; <u>2 Corinthians 5:17</u>;

Philippians 4:13).