The 'L' Word—Does God Love Lesbians? -Gary T. Panell

Recently I saw on television an advertisement for a new program. They were talking about how that people were afraid to say the "L" word. Then they went on to say that the time has come for people to know and appreciate their "life-style." They said, "There is nothing wrong with what we are doing." "Women should not be afraid to live what they believe, and people should not be ashamed to use the word," they insisted, the word they were talking about, of course, is the word, "lesbians."

The Bible says, "Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature," Romans 1:24-26.

"They have exchanged the truth of God for the lie," it is Satan's lie that this "life-style" is normal and natural. The question is, "Does God love lesbians?" The answer is very clear in the Word of God, YES! God does love lesbians, but He hates their sin. The Bible talks about how some early Christians had been homosexuals, but they repented of their sin and turned to Christ for salvation. Look at 1 Corinthians 6: 9-11, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither <u>fornicators</u>, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor <u>homosexuals</u>, nor <u>sodomites</u>, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkard, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. <u>And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God."</u>

You see there were those in the early Church that had been lesbians, but they had repented of their sin, and received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Jesus loved us so much that He came to this earth to die on the cross to take our punishment for our sins. First, though, we have to admit we have a problem. Some people say, "I was born this way, I cannot help myself." Yes, all of us were born with a sin nature, and this is why we need Jesus to save us from our sin nature or "life-style" that is not pleasing to Him.

In, Psalm 51:5, David says under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit: "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me." This does not mean it is wrong to have children, it means that we are born with a sin nature. We want to do certain things in this world that God has said are wrong and are sin. For example, in the Old Testament of the Bible there were some cities where many people were practicing the homosexual or lesbian life-style. In the book of Jude in the New Testament it talks about this time, "...as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

You might wonder, how can God say he loves sinners if He judges sinners? God does love sinners, but He hates sin. What kind of God would He be if he allowed sin to go unpunished? Some would say, "What is so bad about two women or two men 'in love' with each other?" The problem is it is not the way God commanded it to be, look at Genesis 1: 26-28, "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth..." Two women living together as "mates" do not show forth the image of God. It takes both the man and the woman to show God's characteristics. Second, it is impossible for two women to reproduce (be fruitful and multiply).

The creation account is very clear as to what God intended: "And the LORD God said, 'It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.'... So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: 'This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.' Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Genesis 2:18, 20-25

Two women or two men living together as "husband and wife" are living a lie. Satan has deceived them into thinking they are living the "good life," in reality they are slaves to Satan. They will never be truly happy until they obey God's Word.

Isaiah: 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together," says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool." In reality, what we need to do is admit we are sinners in need of salvation. The Bible shows us how we can have our sins forgiven, first we need to know "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God…" "the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 3:23, 26. So now we need to say to God, I want to turn from my sin and ask Jesus to come into me and save me.

"He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son (daughter). But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, <u>sexually immoral</u>, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." Revelation 21: 7, 8, these verses are saying that if anyone is living in a lesbian life-style when Jesus returns for them they are going to spend eternity separated from God in a terrible place of punishment. Revelation 22: 14-15, "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and <u>sexually immoral</u> and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie." These verses mean that those who repent of their sin and receive God's pardon for their sin will go to heaven, but those who do not repent, will not make it to heaven.

John 3:16-18 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

God does love us, and Jesus is the only way to Heaven. What we decide about Him will determine our eternal destination. What will you do with Jesus? Will you right now ask Him to forgive you for your sin, and invite Him into your heart? If you want to do this, you can pray to God in heaven: I know I have sinned and right now I want Jesus to come into me and be my Savior, in Jesus name, amen. Now, find a good Bible believing church, pray and read the Bible everyday to please God.

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