

Answering the Homosexual Agenda - “God gave them over” (Romans 1:24)

One of the questions that naturally arises in this discussion is this: How did we get here?

- It is baffling to think how much our culture has changed in the last 50 years or so
- Within two generations, homosexuality has gone from un-mentionable to mainstream

Romans chapter 1 helps us by explaining the progression and consequence of sin in society

- The recurring phrase *God gave them up* (x3) summarizes the main point of consideration today
- Let us consider the progression and consequence of sin:

1. God has revealed himself through the things which are created (vs. 18-20)

- The general revelation is universal, undeniable, and proves God’s existence
- The effect of this revelation is described negatively:
 - * It is a revelation of his righteous wrath
 - * It leaves all men without excuse for their sin
- Conclusion: Those pushing the homosexual agenda are fully aware of what God says

2. Mankind suppresses God’s truth in unrighteousness (vv. 21-23)

- Rather than glorifying God and being thankful, man chooses to rebel
- Reminder: All sin begins as a theological and liturgical problem
 - * Theological = The knowledge of God
 - * Liturgical = The worship (or service) of God
- This rebellion results in epistemological darkness and idolatry
 - * Epistemological = The nature and scope of knowledge
 - * Idolatry = Worshiping and serving the creature

3. God’s judgment involves the removal of divine restraint (vv. 24-32)

- God sometimes gives man up to his vile affections
- Homosexuality is named as an extreme example of this
- It is essentially self-worship taken to its absolute extreme

This passage corrects many modern misconceptions about the homosexual agenda:

- It is not primarily a psychological or sociological issue, but a theological one
- It is not only about sex acts, but an inward disfunction of the mind and affections
- It is not “just another sin”, but an extreme example of man’s depravity
- It is not a precursor to God’s judgment upon civilization, it IS God’s judgement

Pastoral Advice

- Bad News: The prevalence of this sin in our culture indicates that we are under God’s wrath
- Good News: The gospel of Christ is still the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16)
- The Challenge: Are we ashamed of the gospel? Do we still believe in its power?