

Holy Love: A Message to the Church Concerning LGBTQ
Pastor John Carmichael

Introduction:

- If LGBTQ, Jesus loves you and so do we. Turn to Jesus. He will forgive and help you. We want to help, too.
- Dr. Larry Hart, Truth Aflame, the theology of God is Holy Love.
 - Then a vivid revelation of the holy love of God took place. In fact, the phrase “holy love” perhaps best summarizes all of the divine attributes. The holiness of God and the love of God are the two categories under which all the attributes of God will be organized. One is reminded again of the summary statements of John: God is light (holiness) and God is love (love).
 - Hart, Larry D.. Truth Aflame: Theology for the Church in Renewal . Zondervan. Kindle Edition.
- God is holy.
 - [1Jo 1:5 NASB95] 5 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.
 - [1Pe 1:15 NASB95] 15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all [your] behavior;
- God is love. [1Jo 4:8 NASB95] 8 The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.
- Our view of God (holy love) is the summary of the truths in the Bible and our response to the LGBTQ community.

Question: What does the Bible say about LGBTQ and how should the church respond?

Transition: This message explores what the OT, NT, and Jesus says about LGBTQ and gives seven basic principles as to how to deal with this in our culture.

Biblical Perspective on LGBTQ – There are no verses that are positive about LGBTQ.

1. Old Testament

- [Lev 18:22 NASB95] 22 'You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.
- [Lev 20:13 NASB95] 13 'If [there is] a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them.

2. New Testament

- [1Co 6:9-11 NASB95] 9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor [the] covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.
- [Rom 1:26-27 NASB95] 26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

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- [1Ti 1:9-10 NASB95] 9 realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers 10 and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,
- 3. New Testament Commentary of the Sodom and Gomorrah Judgement
 - [Jde 1:7 NASB95] 7 just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.
 - [Gen 19:1-10 NASB95] 1 Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw [them,] he rose to meet them and bowed down [with his] face to the ground. 2 And he said, "Now behold, my lords, please turn aside into your servant's house, and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way." They said however, "No, but we shall spend the night in the square." 3 Yet he urged them strongly, so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he prepared a feast for them, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. 4 Before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; 5 and they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them." 6 But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him, 7 and said, "Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly. 8 "Now behold, I have two daughters who have not had relations with man; please let me bring them out to you, and do to them whatever you like; only do nothing to these men, inasmuch as they have come under the shelter of my roof." 9 But they said, "Stand aside." Furthermore, they said, "This one came in as an alien, and already he is acting like a judge; now we will treat you worse than them." So they pressed hard against Lot and came near to break the door. 10 But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them, and shut the door.
- 4. Jesus and Homosexuality
 - Sexual immorality.
 - The Greek-English Lexicon Of The New Testament And Other Early Christian Literature (BDAG) defines the word porneia, translated in most Bibles as "sexual immorality" or "fornications", as involving "unlawful sexual intercourse".
 - [Mat 15:19 NASB95] 19 "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders...
 - Jesus dealt with all sexual relationships outside of marriage of one man and one woman as sin.
 - Defined sexual relationship.
 - [Mar 10:6-9 NASB95] 6 "But from the beginning of creation, [God] MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE. 7 "FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, 8 AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH; so they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 "What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."
 - Raised the bar.

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- [Mat 5:27-28 NASB95] 27 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY'; 28 but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Basic Principles For Church In Dealing with a LGBTQ Culture

1. Speak the truth in love.
 - a. [Eph 4:15 NASB95] 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all [aspects] into Him who is the head, [even] Christ,
 - b. Holy love. Both.
 - c. Don't be silent. Don't be mean.
2. Responsibly engage.
 - a. [Gal 6:1 NASB95] 1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; [each one] looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.
 - b. Live in full victory yourself.
 - c. Don't be alone in the process.
3. Learn and teach the truth of God's Word to your children.
 - a. [2Co 11:14 NASB95] 14 No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.
 - b. Your children are being targeted. LGBTQ is being taught as good.
 - c. If you don't know what God's Word says about LGBTQ, you can learn.
 - d. Teach what you have learned. They need to hear from you.
4. Protect your family.
 - a. [Jos 24:15 NASB95] 15 "If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
 - b. Seek alternative entertainment.
 - c. Be willing to sacrifice entertainment if no alternative is found.
 - d. Seeds (thoughts, words) are important.
5. Seek healing and deliverance.
 - a. [Mat 7:1-6 NASB95] 1 "Do not judge so that you will not be judged. 2 "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. 3 "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? 5 "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. 6 "Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.
 - b. We can't give what you don't have.
 - c. I can help to the level that I am being helped.
 - d. Get help if needed. B-Groups, Prayer Rooms (Wednesdays).
 - e. Help those who want help. Move on from those who don't want help.
6. Pray for their repentance and use your authority.

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- a. [2Ti 2:24-26 NASB95] 24 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, 25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses [and escape] from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.
 - b. [Mat 16:18-19 NASB95] 18 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. 19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."
7. Preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- a. [Rom 1:16 NASB95] 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
 - b. There are other sins.
 - c. Repentance: Turn to Jesus from sin.

Conclusion:

- If LGBTQ, Jesus loves you and so do we. Turn to Jesus. He will forgive and help you. We want to help, too.
 - You can be born again. [Jhn 3:3 NASB95] 3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."
- If struggling with any of the LGBTQ issues, turn to Jesus. Get help from a safe person.
- Church, we need to show that God is Holy Love. Not one or the other. He is both at the same time.