



The Grace Proclamator and Promulgator

“To testify the gospel of the grace of God.” Acts 20:24

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I BELIEVE GOD CONCERNING HOMOSEXUALS AND HOMOSEXUALITY

Part One

By Wayne Camp

A SERMON PREACHED AT PILGRIMS HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

Editor's note: Due to the length of this message, I have divided it into two parts. In a later issue I will publish Part Two.

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 18:16-19:25

TEXTS: *Deuteronomy 23:17-18 There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. 18 Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.*

2 Peter 2:6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them

with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly.

INTRO: The sermon I am preaching would normally have fallen later in this series that I have called, *I Believe God*. But, there has been so much in the news recently about so-called “homosexual rights” in our country that I have put this message ahead of some others and want to speak to you on the subject *I Believe God Concerning Homosexuals And Homosexuality*.

I considered calling the message *I Believe* (See **HOMOSEXUAL** Cont. P. 6, Lft. Col.)

Got Perpetuity?

By Thomas Williamson

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Recently the pastor of an independent Baptist church in Minnesota disbanded his congregation, because he had come to the conclusion that his church was not a true New Testament church.

He had checked out the history of his mother church in Ohio, and came to the conclusion that the mother church did not have “perpetuity”—that is, they could not trace their lineage back to the time of the Apostles in the First Century AD, through a documented, unbroken chain of

churches holding to Landmark Missionary Baptist faith and practices.

The Ohio church could not pass this test: “All churches must be authorized by a mother church that was authorized by a mother church that was authorized by a mother church, etc. all the way back to the original church of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Not only that, but all of the churches in this chain of title must, at all times, have rejected all non-Baptist baptism, rejected the universal

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church theory, practiced closed communion (members only), and must have remained unaffiliated at all times with any and all conventions, associations or fellowships.

The gentleman in Minnesota, having determined that his sending church in Ohio could not demonstrate compliance with these historical requirements, came to the alarming conclusion that his own church was a false church with no authority to administer baptism or plant churches.

After diligent search, this pastor found a

church in North Dakota, 300 miles away, that supposedly did have perpetuity and could **serve as a true** _mother church. He had himself re-baptized and reordained by the North Dakota pastor, then went back to Minnesota to re-baptize his own former members and re-organize them into a new, scriptural church with perpetuity.

Problem solved? Maybe, or maybe not. Do we really know if all the churches in the chain of title of the North Dakota church, for the last 20 centuries, were "Simon pure" in doctrine, with not a stinker in the bunch? Do sufficient records exist to prove such a proposition? Is it possible that the North Dakota church and her Minnesota daughter are still not true churches, after all this effort?

The Minnesota pastor, in a lengthy article defending the principle of perpetuity, stated, "One must have the ability to determine the mother and grandmother church." What about the great-great-great-grandmother church, and all the other churches that went before? As long as there is any doubt about what all those churches believed and practiced through the Dark Ages, for which no written records exist, then do we really know if any church existing today is a true church?

Good men have wrestled with this question over the centuries. In 17th Century Rhode Island, Roger Williams disbanded the Baptist church he had organized only a few months previously, because he doubted that there was any true church left in the world that could administer scriptural baptism needed to start his church.

Henry Vedder says of Williams, "He withdrew himself from the church, and for the rest of his life was unconnected with any religious body, calling himself a seeker.' He seems to have been misled by an idea that, if logically carried out, would unchurch every church, by making all administration of ordinances invalid."

Other denominations have debated this issue, also. The Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and Anglican/Episcopalian churches do claim to have perpetuity, a chain of title of churches and bishops stretching back to the Apostles - and they have the records to prove it. The Anglican churches refer to their proven perpetuity as the "Historic Episcopate" and they

are magnanimously willing to share that mystical quality of perpetuity with any other churches that may want to partake of it. All you have to do is come under the authority of an Episcopalian bishop (who just might be a sodomite, like the new bishop of New Hampshire).

It is believed that the Lutheran churches of Scandinavia have perpetuity, since they can trace their bishops back to apostolic times, but Lutheran churches elsewhere, including the United States, do not have that perpetuity or apostolic succession. In an effort to fix that problem, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America recently agreed to place its churches under the authority of the Episcopal bishops of America, so as to latch onto their vaunted perpetuity.

Is there is any way for us, as Baptists, to get perpetuity without having to toady to our local Episcopal bishop? Can we fix the problem by setting up a registry of Baptist churches with proven, demonstrated perpetuity, with the power to bestow that mystical blessing on any churches that may lack it?

The first step is to realize that there are some churches that claim perpetuity under false pretenses - they offer their church "mothering" services, without being able to demonstrate that they have any kind of perpetuity.

Over the years the pastor of First Baptist Church of Cicero, Illinois (now disbanded) would approach other churches in the Chicago area and tell them that his church had perpetuity and the other churches didn't. He offered to remedy that fault by re-ordaining the pastors of the other churches and re-baptizing all of their members, and bringing those churches under the authority of FBC-Cicero which would then claim them as "mission churches."

One pastor accepted this generous offer - he was re-ordained by FBC-Cicero, and he and his people rebaptized. Meanwhile, I asked the assistant pastor of FBC-Cicero for the name of the mother church FBC-Cicero, and he told me, "I don't know." Hmmm, that was strange—they were claiming perpetuity but could not even supply the name of their own mother church!

The newly re-ordained and rebaptized pastor did some investigation of his own, and was

enraged to find out that FBC-Cicero was planted in 1896 without any local church authority, by the Chicago Baptist Association. By its own standards, FBC-Cicero was not even a true church and its pastor had lied about having perpetuity. This pastor broke with FBC-Cicero and had to go get himself re-ordained and re-baptized by yet another Baptist church which claimed to have perpetuity.

All too often, when certain Baptist churches make the claim to be the only true church in their area, they have no documentation for that claim. What they are really saying is, "The only true churches in this area are the ones whose preachers are part of our exclusive clique. The only way for your church to become a true church and part of the 'Bride' is for your church to come under our authority and do whatever we tell you to do, just like the Pope and Jim Jones. Until we take a vote to authorize you to have a true church, you and your benighted members will remain in outer darkness."

Thus we see that the demand for Baptist perpetuity can, in the wrong hands, become a pretext for mischief-making on the part of domineering, busy-body preachers who are not content to rule as dictatorial bullies over their own hapless congregations, and who are always on the prowl for other churches and preachers that they can take over.

Not all those who have sought to promote Baptist perpetuity have done so with impure motives. There are good, honest men who have a genuine desire to make sure that their church is scripturally established, and who would like to stand in a position of linked-chain succession to the Apostles. Can this be done, without stretching the truth or telling those little white lies about our heritage?

The problem is that prior to the 17th Century, we simply do not have sufficient historical records and documentation to trace a chain of title of true Landmark Missionary Baptist churches. We have evidence to show that Baptist churches did exist in the Dark Ages (see my book "The Waldenses Were Independent Baptists") but there are no original source documents that we can use to link ourselves to them in a linkedchain succession.

When original source documents do exist,

they sometimes tell us things that we would rather not know. For instance, the "Key of Truth", written by the Paulicians in the 9th Century and translated into English by Fred Conybeare in 1898, reveals that the Paulicians denied the deity of Christ. In spite of this inconvenient fact, some Baptists still trace their succession through the Paulicians.

When asked to provide a chainlink of churches from the First Century until now, many Baptists will name churches and strange groups that they would not touch with a 10-foot pole if they were still around today.

For instance, there are Calvinistic Baptists, who, if asked, will trace their perpetuity through the churches of the Sandy Creek Association in North Carolina (1765). But the Sandy Creek Baptists had woman preachers, and they were refused fellowship by the Calvinistic Regular Baptists of their day, who regarded them as disorderly and doctrinally weak.

Meanwhile, there are anti-Calvinist Landmark Baptists who trace their perpetuity through the Philadelphia Baptist Association of the early 18th Century. But these churches were strongly Calvinistic and they affirmed belief in the Universal Church. Some of these churches accepted alien baptism, with the approval of the Association.

The Welsh Tract church, which some modern churches claim as an ancestor, was affiliated with the Philadelphia Association. The Welsh Tract and Sandy Creek churches were self-constituted, organized without authority of a mother church.

Not only that, but those who insist that only unaffiliated churches are true churches would not be able to trace their perpetuity through any association—not Philadelphia, not the Sandy Creek Association, nor the English or Welsh Baptists or even the Waldenses of the Middle Ages, all of whom were associational Baptists.

Some Baptists trace their perpetuity through the Baptist church at Hill Cliffe, Wales. But we don't know what church was the mother church of Hill Cliffe, or even if it was definitely a Baptist church from the beginning. J.J. Goadby in "Bye-Paths in Baptist History" says, "We have reliable evidence that a Separatist, and, probably, a Baptist Church, has existed for several

centuries in a secluded part of Cheshire ... Owing to the many changes inseparable from the eventful history of the church at Hill Cliffe, the earliest records have been lost."

James Kenworthy, in his book "History of the Baptist Church at Hill Cliffe," says, "We cannot go back to the foundation of the Hill Cliffe Church, but at the time that the earliest reference is made to it, it is then in a flourishing condition.... " In other words, we do not know which Landmark Missionary Baptist Church took a vote to authorize the church at Hill Cliffe; therefore we cannot trace our perpetuity through the Hill Cliffe Church.

It is simply not possible to construct a chain link of churches from our time back to the Apostles, documenting each vote of a properly constituted Landmark Missionary Baptist Church to authorize each new church, while dodging all those groups who may have disagreed with us on such matters as Calvinism, local church only, no women preachers, no alien immersion, no open communion, etc. It cannot be done.

What Baptist Historians Say About Linked-Chain Church Succession

E.T. Hiscox stated in his "New Directory for Baptist Churches," "It matters not whether a Church can trace its lineage back one century or 20. The great question is, Does it inherit the spirit of Him who founded the Church and does it hold the doctrines and imitate the examples of Christ and His Apostles?"

J.R. Graves, in "Old Landmarkism - What Is It?" says, "We . Repudiate the doctrine of apostolic succession ... Nor have I, or any Landmarker known to me, ever advocated the succession of any particular church or churches."

Roy Mason in "The Church That Jesus Built" says, "Baptists do not claim perpetuity upon the basis of a chain of churches succeeding each other in the sense that kings and popes succeed each other."

S.H. Ford said, "Succession among Baptists is not a linked chain of churches or ministers, uninterrupted and traceable at this distant day."

Thomas Armitage, in his "History of the

Baptists," says, "Visible descent and the unbroken succession of churches are not and cannot be a proper test in the matter.... The pretense that any one communion now on earth can trace its way down from the Apostles, in one line of fidelity and purity to New Testament teachings, is to contradict all reliable history."

Charles Haddon Spurgeon, reviewing Armitage's "History of the Baptists," said, "No claim is set up for a continuous church of Baptists after the manner of the Roman and Anglican communities; but yet it is shown that the true and only baptism in water has always had some to practice it. When a church has nothing left in which to rejoice it falls back on its pedigree, and cracks itself up as 'the one and only;' but our friend Dr. Armitage sees nothing desirable in such romancing."

D. B. Ray in "Baptist Succession" says, "They believe that the Baptist succession exists; that there has been no period of time since the death of Christ when Baptists have not existed. But Baptists do not claim 'apostolic succession,' because they admit that the apostolic office expired with the death of John the beloved. . . . Neither do we claim Popish succession, for this is only the succession of Antichrist."

I. K. Cross, in "The Battle for Baptist History," says, "No reputable historian claims that a church has to trace its history all the way back to the first church to prove it is a New Testament church. In fact, sufficient history does not exist to make this possible."

Buell Kazee, in "The Church and the Ordinances," says, "Whether or not our baptism is successive all the way back, no one can prove."

Jarrel Huffman says, "Chainlink succession on paper cannot be proved, but this fact does not discount scriptural succession."

John T. Christian, in his "History of the Baptists," says, "No attempt is made *in* these pages to trace a succession of bishops, as the Roman Catholics attempt to do, back to the apostles. Such an attempt is 'laboring in the fire for mere vanity,' and proceeds upon a mistaken view of the nature of the kingdom of Christ, and of the sovereignty of God, in His operations on the earth. . . . No emphasis is put on a succession of baptism, or the historical order of

churches."

J.W. Porter said, "It would be impossible to establish the uninterrupted succession of any given church through the years, even should such a church have a continuous succession."

Henry Vedder said, "In the present state of knowledge no such continuity can be shown by evidence that will bear the usual historic tests."

J. Davis, in "History of the Welsh Baptists," says, "A Baptist has not the least trouble about what is called a lineal or apostolical succession. His line of succession is in faithful men, and it is a matter of indifference with them, when or where they lived, by what name they were called, or by whom they were baptized or ordained."

W. A. Jarrel in "Baptist Church Perpetuity" said, "Such a thing as one church succeeding another, as the second link of a chain is added to, and succeeds the first ... is utterly foreign to and incompatible with Baptist church polity. Therefore, the talk about every link 'jingling in the succession chain from the banks of the Jordan to the present' is ignorance or dust-throwing."

David Benedict, in "A General History of the Baptist Denomination in America," said, "I shall not attempt to trace a continuous line of churches, as we can for a few centuries past in - Europe and America. This is a kind of succession to which we have never laid claim; and, of course, we make no effort to prove it. We place no kind of reliance on this sort of testimony to establish the soundness of our faith or the validity of our administrations."

Kenneth Good, author of "God's Blueprint for a Church," says, "Competent historians do not support the view of an unbroken, chain-link succession of Baptist churches as demonstrable from the available records. . . .The authenticity of a Baptist church depends, not upon its ability to trace an unbroken line of connection to the apostles, but rather upon its ability to demonstrate that it presently possesses the doctrines, principles, and practices which the apostles had and which are evident on the pages of the New Testament. If a church were forced to demonstrate its 'kosher' pedigree in order to be recognized, this would require that organized assembly to rely upon the word of

man rather than the Word of God."

Wayne Camp, pastor of Pilgrim's Hope Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, says, "The Bible assures perpetuity of the Lord's churches and history proves the perpetuity of the Lord's churches but the Bible does not promise a linked-chain succession of churches and history does not prove it."

If it was important for each church to be able to demonstrate a chain-link succession of churches going back 2000 years, why is there no mention of this principle in the New Testament? Why are we not told which Landmark Missionary Baptist congregation took a vote to authorize the churches at Rome, Corinth, Colosse, Ephesus, etc. if this information is so all-important?

In Acts 14:23 we see that Paul had organized churches in various cities of Galatia, without first going back to his sending church in Antioch to obtain a congregational vote authorizing the organization of those Galatian churches.

Clearly there is no Scriptural teaching to the

(HOMOSEXUAL, Cont. From P. 1)

God Concerning Gays and the Gay Lifestyle but, frankly, I do not want to refer to homosexuals as gay people. In fact, some of the most unhappy people I have met in my life are homosexuals. Moreover, it seems to me that calling them gay lends a dignity to their lifestyle of which it is not worthy.

I also considered calling the message ***I Believe God Concerning Sodomy and Sodomites***. That would certainly have been a scriptural title for the message but when I publish this message I do not want any reading it to misunderstand about whom and what I am speaking.

I am a little uncomfortable when I deal with such a subject for I do not want to be crude nor do I want to shock your sensibilities. If I were describe some of the sexual habits of the sodomites in our land it would be too vulgar for our Christian sensibilities.

In the light of all that is being reported in the media and the care that is taken by the liberal media to be sure to not insult homosexuals or make them feel uncomfortable, I think it is good for us to remind ourselves again of what God

effect that "Your church is not a true New Testament church unless it was authorized by vote of a Landmark Missionary Baptist Church which has a proven linked-chain succession of churches of like faith and practice back to the First Century." This is a traditional belief which has no basis in the Word of God.

Nothing in this article is intended to relax our vigilance in discerning between true and false churches. Not all churches today, even those bearing the Baptist name, are true New Testament churches.

However, we cannot use the demand that each church demonstrate a linked-chain succession from the Apostles, as a standard for determining which churches are true and which are not true. Under such a standard, every Baptist church in the world today would be disqualified as a true church, and we would all have to go join the Catholics or Episcopalians.

Let's not try to unchurch each other by adding to the Word of God with burdens that neither we nor our fathers were able to bear.

says about homosexuals and homosexuality. This is not what Wayne Camp says; it is what God says. I believe emphatically that every word of God is pure and inspired by the Holy Spirit. When I show what the Scriptures say on the subject at hand, I will be showing what God says on this matter.

GOD DECLARES IN HIS WORD THAT HOMOSEXUALITY IS A SIN OF THE GREATEST POSSIBLE MAGNITUDE

The practicing homosexual is engaged in some of the most wicked sexual activity in which one can participate. It is exceedingly sinful. Of the men of Sodom God said their sin was exceedingly awful. ***Genesis 13:13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.*** When one studies the sins of the men of Sodom, the chief sin with which they are charged is unnatural, vile affections for men rather than for women.

John Gill describes the sin of these early Sodomites by saying that they were "exceeding great sinners, guilty of the most notorious crimes, and addicted to the most scandalous and

unnatural lusts that can be thought of; and these they committed openly and publicly in the sight of God, in the most daring and impudent manner, and in defiance of him, without any fear or shame."

John Calvin, commenting on verse thirteen also speaks of the exceeding wickedness of the men of Sodom whose sin is before the Lord. "But it seems wonderful, that Moses, when he wishes to condemn the men of Sodom for their extreme wickedness, should say that they were wicked before the Lord; and not rather before men; for when we come to God's tribunal, every mouth must be stopped, and all the world must be subject to condemnation; wherefore Moses may be thought to speak thus by way of extenuation. But the case is otherwise: for he means that they were not merely under the dominion of those common vices which everywhere prevail among men, but were abandoned to most execrable crimes, the cry of which rose even to heaven, (as we shall afterwards see,) and demanded vengeance from God."

GOD'S COMMANDS TO ISRAEL CONCERNING HOMOSEXUALS

Israel was forbidden to harbor homosexuals among their population. **Deuteronomy 23:17-18** *There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. 18 Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.* The dog referred to in this passage is a homosexual who sold his body to other men and performed homosexual acts for money. It has nothing to do with that fine Irish Setter that one may raise and sell. The price of a dog is the hire of a homosexual who prostitutes his body to satisfy the vile lusts of other men or her body for the loathsome affections of other women.

The lifestyle of homosexuals is an abomination before God. They are repugnant to his holy nature. **1 Kings 14:24** *And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the*

children of Israel. Such conduct is extremely hateful in His sight. All sin is displeasing and offensive to God but the sex acts of the homosexual are detested by him.

In keeping with God's holy commandments, good King Asa did the right thing when he expelled the homosexuals out of the land of Israel. **1 Kings 15:12** *And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.*

Asa's son Jehoshaphat also removed some homosexuals out of the land whom Asa had missed. These godly kings were zealous to obey God and would not, therefore, tolerate such wicked and abominable people to live in the land. **1 Kings 22:46** *And the remnant of the sodomites, which remained in the days of his father Asa, he took out of the land.* These were not simply the acts of some homophobic king. Asa was obeying the holy God whom he served when he drove the sodomites out of the land of Israel.

When Josiah became king he went further than had his predecessors. Homosexuals were again in the land. He broke down the houses belonging to homosexuals. **2 Kings 23:7** *And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove.* Yes, you read that correctly. These wicked people had built themselves houses close to the house of the Lord. Not only did Josiah drive them from the land; he destroyed the houses in which they lived. And, he did it with the approval of God.

Paul declares that a homosexual cannot inherit the kingdom of God. **1 Corinthians 6:9** *Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind.* It is clear from Scripture that nothing that defiles will be allowed in that holy place.

Those who engage in homosexual practices defile themselves. **1 Timothy 1:9-10** *Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and*

murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine.

Again, let me point out that the reigning sin in Sodom and Gomorrah was homosexuality. **Genesis 19:5-7 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. 6 And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, 7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.** As with any society that deteriorates to the low degree of Sodom and the cities of that area, these cities were rife with all kinds of immorality and crime. They would not hesitate to try to break down Lot's door and take the men (angels) out and rape them.

HOMOSEXUALITY AN ABOMINATION BEFORE GOD

It is abundantly clear from Scripture that homosexuality is an abomination before God. The homosexual act is declared to be an abomination. **Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.** When something is declared to be abominable before God it is extremely hateful and repugnant to him.

Because of his holy abhorrence of this sin, God commanded that those who committed this abominable act were to be put to death under the Law of Moses. **Leviticus 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.**

In still another place in the word of God it is declared that homosexuality is an abomination and makes it clear that this abomination came from paganism; in no way can it be charged against God. **1 Kings 14:24 And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.** In 1890 Charles Jenkins

published a book called **Baptist Doctrines** in which he quoted G. D. B. Pepper who stated, "Whatever is condemned by truth is condemned by the God of truth." You cannot separate the God of truth from the written word of truth—the Bible. **John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.** The word of God comes from the mouth of God and God cannot lie. **Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Hebrews 6:18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.** When the Bible declares that homosexuality is an abomination before God you can be assured that God considers homosexuality an abomination. Since God's word is forever settled in heaven, we must assume that homosexuality is as much an abomination before God now as it was when the Old and New Testaments were written. **Psalms 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.**

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMOSEXUALS

Let us now consider some of the characteristics that are usually found in homosexuals. Generally speaking, homosexuals are arrogant. The extreme arrogance of homosexuals and sinful determination to have their own way is clearly revealed in the nineteenth chapter of Genesis. **Genesis 19:4-13 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: 5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. 6 And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, 7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly. 8 Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only**

unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof. 9 And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door. 10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door. 11 And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door. 12 And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place: 13 For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.

In this passage we see the extreme arrogance and sinful persistence and doggedness of the homosexual crowd. When men and women live in defiance of God's word they tend to be rather impudent. If they do not care for the laws of God they will certainly disdain the laws of society. This defiance has been seen recently in the unlawful "marriages" that have been taking place in several places in our nation.

Ezekiel shows that the homosexuals are guilty of a multitude of sins in their conduct. **Ezekiel 16:49-50 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. 50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.**

Earlier I pointed out that a society that is rampant with homosexuality is usually rife with other crimes also. A Christian Network says of homosexuals "They paint themselves as peaceful, innocent, and gay. Yet a Washington newspaper reported that 80 percent of gays that were court-martialed by the U. S. Army for sexual misconduct the past four years had engaged in assaults against their victims. This

was not consensual sex; it was sex after assault. Nearly half involved child molestation.

It may shock you to know that "The top six U. S. male serial killers were all homosexuals," including John Wayne Gacy and Jeffrey Dahmer. Yet, a homosexual couple are pastors at a United Church of Christ in Seattle (11/94 BB). The Boston Police Department actively recruits gays and lesbians for academy classes (8/23/93 HT). Over 15 of the U. S.'s most powerful and prestigious news organizations, from National Public Radio to the Washington Post, recruited openly homosexual journalists at a Gay job fair (9/27/93 Chr. News). Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders (before being fired RWC) endorsed the adoption of children by homosexuals, and blasts the Boy Scouts for banning practicing homosexuals (4/4 CN)."

Of the wickedness and arrogance of these men of Sodom, John Wesley declared them to be "**impudent daring sinners.**"

In his commentary on Genesis Adam Clark said of these sinners in Sodom, "**but the people of Sodom were exceedingly sinful and wicked before, or against, the Lord—they were sinners of no common character; they excelled in unrighteousness, and soon filled up the measure of their iniquities.**"

The renowned Matthew Henry said of the homosexuals of Sodom, "**Though all are sinners, yet some are greater sinners than others. The men of Sodom were sinners of the first magnitude, sinners before the Lord, that is, impudent daring sinners; they were so to a proverb.**"

Consider the arrogance of the Sodomites as suggested by Isaiah. **Isaiah 3:9 The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.**

Homosexuals have rejected God and his word. **Romans 1:21-23 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an**

image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Because of their rejection of God and his word they have been given over to their vile affections. **Romans 1:24-27 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. 26 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: 27 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 recompence of their error which was meet.**

Homosexuals are proud and arrogant and have an "in your face" attitude. John Calvin said, "Here, in a single crime, Moses sets before our eyes a lively picture of Sodom. For it is hence obvious, how diabolical was their consent in all wickedness, since they all so readily conspired to perpetrate the most abominable crime. The greatness of their iniquity and wantonness is apparent from the fact, that, in a collected troop, they approach, as enemies, to lay siege to the house of Lot. How blind and impetuous is their lust; since, without shame, they rush together like brute animals! how great their ferocity and cruelty; since they reproachfully threaten the holy man, and proceed to all extremities! Hence also we infer, that they were not contaminated with one vice only, but were given up to all audacity in crime, so that no sense of shame was left them.

HOMOSEXUAL SIN IS A WILLFUL SIN

Some of these people try to blame their aberrant, deviant sexual practices on God. I heard one say, "I cannot help it, God made me this way. That is an outright lie and cover-up for their perverted sexual practices. Homosexuals commit their sin willfully. They willfully commit

sin that which is an abomination in God's sight. **Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination. Leviticus 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.**

Homosexuals willfully commit sin that is against the law of God and against the law of nature and against the law of decency. **Romans 1:26-27 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: 27 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 recompence of their error which was meet.** When God gives a class of sinners up to go their own way those in that class are in terrible trouble. It seems the Divine restraints have been removed. The bridal has been removed from them. They can fill their cup of iniquity full as fast as they dare. Their judgment does not linger and their damnation does not slumber. In God's own time he will drop the hammer of his judgment upon the anvil of his justice and these arrogant rebels against his holy law will suffer his wrath.

Homosexuals were often guilty of not respecting the normal customs that were observed by those showing hospitality. **Judges 19:17-23 And when he had lifted up his eyes, he saw a wayfaring man in the street of the city: and the old man said, Whither goest thou? and whence comest thou? 18 And he said unto him, We are passing from Bethlehemjudah toward the side of mount Ephraim; from thence am I: and I went to Bethlehemjudah, but I am now going to the house of the LORD; and there is no man that receiveth me to house. 19 Yet there is both straw and provender for our asses; and there is bread and wine also for me, and for thy handmaid, and for the young man which is with thy servants: there is no want of any thing. 20 And the old man said, Peace be with thee; howsoever let all thy wants lie**

upon me; only lodge not in the street. 21 So he brought him into his house, and gave provender unto the asses: and they washed their feet, and did eat and drink. 22 Now as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about, and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him. 23 And the man, the master of the house, went out unto them, and said unto them, Nay, my brethren, nay, I pray you, do not so wickedly; seeing that this man is come into mine house, do not this folly.

The lawlessness of most homosexuals abounds. As evidence of the lawlessness of many homosexuals, as I said earlier, it may surprise you to know that the leading serial killers in the United States were all homosexuals. This was revealed in an Associated Press Article. Some additions were made by The New York Times. The headline was

“HOMOSEXUALS BIGGEST KILLERS.”

The five leading serial killers in the United States are homosexuals, according to Associated Press. The killers and their body counts: Donald Harvey, 37; John Wayne Gacy, 33; Patrick Wayne Kearney, 32; Dean Corll, Elmer Wayne Henley and David Owen Brooks, 27 and Juan Corona, 25. The New York Times adds to the list: Bruce Davis, 28 and Stephen Kraft, 16. Homosexuals are less than 3 percent of the population but have perpetrated 68 percent of all serial killings in the past 20 years.

Let me add the name of Jeffrey Dahmer who was implicated in at least 17 murders. Vernon J. Geberth, Former Commander, Bronx Homicide, NYPD, wrote, "The author's research yielded a listing of 37 known and documented homosexual serial killers, which represent 30 cases of homosexual serial murder. These 37 offenders were charged with the deaths of approximately 280 male victims and were actually suspected of murdering approximately 755 victims."

As a rule, homosexuals are haughty, proud

and arrogant or they would not be so against God's word. For most of them it may be truly said that there is no fear of God before their eyes. Read again these words from the pen of Ezekiel, a prophet of the most high God of heaven. ***Ezekiel 16:49-50 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. 50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.***

Montree, A Second Year Student Preaches at Hoe Mae Yuin Church



Bill Lee Speaks at School Opening





These young ladies are from the village of Thap Dua. They are Lisu and are dressed in their Lisu clothing. The picture was made at a special thanksgiving service in the fall of 2003.

Bro. John is the Lisu pastor of this congregation. In the year 2000 this congregation met us for a service at a house in

which they had been meeting. However, they had been asked by the owner of the house and land to find another place to meet. They moved to Thap Dua, a village where some of the folks already lived. At the present time they are working toward building themselves a building.



Bro. John welcomes the visitors attending the Thanksgiving service. The things on the table are offerings given by the people in appreciation to God for his blessings on them during the previous year. There are also some Bibles in the Lisu language which we took to give to some of the church members.

STACKING BUNDLES OF RICE

We rented some land and raised some rice to feed the children and students. Since they basically still handle the rice as they did 500 years ago, the rice is cut with knives and when dry tied in bundles. Here I am stacking bundles of rice in the field.



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