

HOMOSEXUALITY

TEXTS & HERMENEUTICS

DR. CHRISTOPHER YUAN

WWW.CHRISTOPHERYUAN.COM

1

Hermeneutics

I. Historic Christian (Biblical) View of Sexuality

- A. Scripture
- B. Reason/Science
- C. Experience

II. Revisionist View of Sexuality

- A. Experience
- B. Reason/Science
- C. Scripture

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

3

“High View” Hermeneutics

I. Inspiration. Inerrancy. Authorial intent.

II. Exegesis (not eisegesis)

- A. Genre, word meanings, grammar, syntax

III. Context: literary, historical, canonical

A. Canonical context

1. Interpreting a verse or passage in light of the whole canon of Scripture, 66 books, not just literary/historical
2. Quotes, allusions (intertextuality, cross references)
3. Scripture affirms Scripture

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

4

Old Testament Hermeneutics

I. What is the meaning?

II. Does it apply to us today?

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

5

Texts

I. Genesis 19 - Sodom

A. Revisionist View

1. Sin of gang rape
2. Sin of inhospitality
 - a. Ezek 16:49 “arrogant, overfed and unconcerned”; Matt 10:14-15
 - b. “To know” means “to interrogate” not “to have sex”
יָדָע (*yada'*) Gen 19:5

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

6

Texts

I. Genesis 19 - Sodom

B. Traditional View

1. Gang rape and homosexuality
2. Inhospitality and homosexuality
 - a. Ezek 16:50 “They were haughty and did an abomination before me.” תועבה (*to'evah*) from Lev 18:22; 20:13
 - b. According to context, *yada'* can mean “to know sexually.” Lot’s daughters didn’t “know a man”

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

7

Texts

II. Leviticus 18:22; 20:13

A. Revisionist View

1. Only refers to idol temple male prostitutes
 - a. Gay sex is OK, but not in idol temple.
2. Abomination = impurity (eagles, lobsters)
3. Holiness Code doesn’t apply to us
 - a. Sex with menstruating woman (18:18; 20:18), mate diff animals (19:19), mixing seed/fabric (19:19), cutting side burns (19:27), tattoos (19:28)

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

8

Texts

II. Leviticus 18:22; 20:13

B. Traditional View

1. Idol temple male prostitutes = קִדְּשִׁים *qedeshim*
 - a. Inconsistent with context of Lev 18-20
 2. *To'evah* refers to immorality (Pro 6:16-19)
 - a. Canonical context (read OT in light of NT)
 3. Penalty: unclean or death
- וְאֶת־זָכָר לֹא תִשְׁכַּב מִשְׁכָּבִי אִשָּׁה תוֹעֵבָה הוּא

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

9

Texts

III. David and Jonathan

A. Revisionist View

1. David and Jonathan were lovers
 - a. “love...more wonderful than that of women” 2 Sam 1:26
 - b. “Jonathan became one in spirit with David” 1 Sam 18:1
 - c. “Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David” 1 Sam 18:4
 - d. “They kissed each other and wept together” 1 Sam 20:41

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

10

Texts

III. David and Jonathan

B. Traditional View

1. The love of two men doesn't have to be sexual
 - a. God's love is most wonderful. Does this mean it's sexual?
2. One in spirit/soul, not flesh (1 Sam 18:1)
3. Never mentioned they had sex
4. David's issue was women not men
David and Jonathan had wives

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

11

Texts

IV. Slavery

A. Revisionist View

1. Bible condones slavery and is wrong. Bible's wrong on homosexuality as well.

B. Traditional View

1. Modern slavery ≠ Ancient slavery
2. Never condoned *modern* slavery
3. Bible is critical of slave trade
 - a. Exo 21:16

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

12

Texts

V. Jesus' Testimony

A. Revisionist View

1. Jesus was silent about homosexuality

B. Traditional View

1. Silent about bestiality, incest, etc.
2. Homosexuality universally condemned
 - a. Jesus corrected misunderstandings (like Sabbath)
3. Jesus affirms biblical sexuality (Matt 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-9)

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

13

Texts

VI. Romans 1:26-27

A. Revisionist View ("unnatural" *para fusin*)

1. Acting opposite to one's orientation
2. Excessive sexual desire/lust

B. Traditional View

1. Clear allusions in Romans 1 to Genesis 1

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

14

Paul's allusions to Genesis 1

"ever since the creation of the world" (Rom 1:20) - "the Creator" (Rom 1:25)

Romans 1:23, 26-27

"human" ἄνθρωπος 1:23

"image" εἰκών 1:23

"resembling" ὁμοίωμα 1:23

"birds" πετεινόν 1:23

"animals" τετράπους 1:23

"creeping things" ἔρπαιόν 1:23

"men" ἄρσεν 1:27

"women" θήλυς 1:26

Genesis 1:26-27

"human" ἄνθρωπος 1:26

"image" εἰκών 1:26

"likeness" ὁμοίωσις 1:26

"birds" πετεινός 1:26

"livestock" κτήνος 1:26

"creeping thing" ἔρπαιόν 1:26

"male" ἄρσεν 1:27

"female" θήλυς 1:27

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

15

Texts

VI. Romans 1:26-27

A. Revisionist View ("unnatural" *para fusin*)

1. Acting opposite to one's orientation
2. Excessive sexual desire/lust

B. Traditional View

1. Clear allusions in Romans 1 to Genesis 1
2. Natural = God's created order in Genesis
 - a. Unnatural = against God's created order in Genesis

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

16

Texts

VII.1 Cor 6:9-10, 1 Tim 1:9-10

A. Revisionist View

1. *Arsenokoitai* = sexual *and* economic exploitation (pedophilia)

B. Traditional View

1. *Arsenokoitai* is from Lev 20:13 (LXX)
 - a. Male (*arsēn*) + bed (*koite*)
2. *Arsenokoitai* = "Men who sleep with males"

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

17

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.

1 Corinthians 6:11

<http://yuan2.us/1h>

18



holysexuality.com

20