

Same Sex “Marriage” – Various Scriptures

Gen 1; I want to talk to you about Same Sex Marriage this weekend

An issue that’s particularly pertinent in IA these days, especially with the mid-term elections on Tuesday, but also for our nation as a whole

So if you’re from IL or any other state that hasn’t yet legalized SSM, stay tuned, b/c it’s coming soon to a court near you as well

And one of the main reasons I want to address it, is b/c many people don’t know how IOW many people sense that something’s *wrong* with SSM, but can’t articulate a response, or feel inadequate in doing so

So to help you with that, I want to cover it fr a biblical standpoint, a physical standpoint, and a social standpoint

And though this may be difficult for some of you to hear b/c it hits so close to home, I want to encourage you *especially*, to listen closely

B/c you’re on the front lines, and by virtue of your proximity to someone who’s involved, your voice will be especially *heard*

So I’m going to pray and commit our time to the Lord . . .

And if you have kids with you that are 5th grade or under, I would strongly recommend that you take them to CM while I do

Some of the content of this message is not appropriate for them, and they get better, age-appropriate teaching in CM anyway

SSM first of all, is morally wrong

It’s morally wrong

Wrong, b/c it’s contrary to God’s design for oneness, for marriage

That’s why I put marriage in quotes in the title – b/c it’s not really marriage in God’s eyes; it’s not his intent

Gen 1:27 – *God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

Notice that God created *two* sexes to bear his image, not one

And in 2:18 God gives us some of the background as to why – “*It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.*”

To solve the problem of being alone, God creates a helper – someone who would rule and have dominion over the earth with him

And notice that it’s a *woman*, not another *man*

Someone who’s *fit for him* – which in Heb. means “according to the opposite of him”

So, having been made in the image of God just like Adam – Eve was *like* him in terms of her ability to think, capacity for emotions, and responsibility to subdue the earth . . .

But *opposite* him in terms of her physical fit and emotional chemistry – something another man could *never* be

And we find in v24 that God does it that way, so they can be knit together as one flesh
Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh . . .

As only two people who are like one another, and opposite one another, can

Two people who are male and female

That’s God’s design for marriage, established at the beginning of time – 2 sexes, both like *and* opposite one another, for the purpose of becoming one flesh

All of which is affirmed by Jesus in **Mt 19:4-5**, where he said . . .

“Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?”

Jesus looked upon marriage *exactly* the same way Moses did in Genesis

And there’s no mention of anything else as a legitimate, God-sanctioned expression of our sexuality, anywhere else in the Bible *****

That’s the first reason that SSM is morally wrong – it’s contrary to God’s design

- Not only that, but it involves H – that’s the second reason SSM is morally wrong
It involves the pursuit of, and/or indulgence in, feelings or acts of a sexual nature with someone of the same sex; That’s H; And it’s referred to as *sin* in the Bible

Like in Gen 19 and Jude 7, where it’s called *wicked, immoral, unnatural*, and the cause of *great outcry to the Lord*

And Lev 18 and 20 where it’s called an *abomination*

And 1 Tim 1:8-11 where Paul includes people *who practice homosexuality* as among the *lawless and disobedient, the ungodly and sinners, and the unholy and profane*

Just like he does in 1 Cor 6 where he calls them *unrighteous*

H is a sin – I don’t know how the Bible could be any clearer

And if you want more detail on those passages, check out a message I preached on H two years ago; But for our purposes here, I’ll leave it at that

- Except for Rom 1:26-27

Them – referring to those in v25 who exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and failed to worship him; For that reason . . .

God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

Notice here that H relations are characterized as – *dishonorable, unnatural, contrary to nature, shameless*, and an *error*

Which means that SSM is morally wrong not only b/c it’s contrary to God’s design for marriage, but b/c it involves H which is morally wrong

Not only that, but . . .

It’s physically harmful (Rom 1:27)

Again, b/c it involves H; And Paul said in Rom 1:27, that those who indulge, *receive in themselves the due penalty for their error*

And you don’t have to look very far to find it these days

B/c most gays and lesbians, married or not, indulge in very, very unhealthy, sexually deviant acts – like sodomy

Which doctors say allows bacteria, viruses, and parasites to enter the body and suppress the immune system, even if there's no exposure to HIV
And that in turn, increases the risk of certain cancers and infections, to which a person would otherwise be resistant
And being in a "committed" same sex relationship doesn't help matters, b/c the acts are the same and the frequency is often higher

The result of which is a **cancer rate** in H men that's 90x higher than heterosexuals (CDC)
Meanwhile, the cancer rate for smokers vs non-smokers is only 10-30x higher
IOW smoking is way more healthy than H

And then there's **aids**, which is 50x higher in H's than heterosexuals (CDC) . . .
And an increased **incidence** of STD's, hepatitis, and other sex-related issues, in both men and women . . .
Which leads the **FDA** to refuse blood donations from only one lifestyle – H
B/c it's physically harmful to *them*, and potentially harmful to others

What's more, **H's are 20x** more likely to be abused by their partner than heterosexuals
All of which adds up to a **life expectancy**, 10 to 20 years shorter than average
It's physically harmful *****

- And that doesn't include psychological and emotional factors that lead to higher rates of things like depression, substance abuse, and suicide
In fact, listen to one of conclusions in a **report** by the *National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality*
After reviewing 600 studies spanning 125 years, they said . . .
There is a general consensus in the scientific literature that greater pathology [i.e. a greater deviation from medical/psychological/relational norms] exists among homosexually-oriented people than among heterosexuals. In fact, it is difficult to find another group in society with such high risks for experiencing such a wide range of medical, psychological, and relational dysfunctions.

All of which means that SSM is harmful, b/c H is harmful *****
And not just physically, but emotionally, psychologically, and relationally as well

It's socially destructive

For which, there are 5 reasons:

1. *B/c it erodes the healthy development of our kids*

Children do best, and develop most, in a home w/ *one* male and *one* female influence
Leave one or the other out, and they feel less secure, and more confused
Especially in the area of gender identity

Already studies are showing that adopted kids with two moms or two dads, are more confused as to their own masculinity or femininity, than those in traditional homes
And they also have a stronger tendency toward H when they grow up

2. *B/c it undermines the stability of marriage*

You can't dilute the most basic, fundamental building block of society, the family, and expect that society to thrive

And yet that's exactly what SSM does – it dilutes the purity of marriage, and decreases its stability

For instance, The Netherlands legalized SSM in 2000, and since then, several studies have been done to determine the implications

One of which found that the average male partnership in The Netherlands, lasts only 1½ years, with an average of 8 other sexual partners per year

And the anecdotal evidence here in the US isn't showing signs of improvement thus far
Which tells us that SSM, even among lesbians, though the #'s are better, is still short-lived and promiscuous, and therefore undermines the stability of marriage as a whole

And while the breakup of heterosexual marriages does the same thing, that in no way s/b used as an argument for SSM – two wrongs have never made a right
Better to strive for the ideal and fail, than actively work against it

3. *B/c it increases our financial burden*

We live in an intertwined culture, and the legalization of SSM forces everyone to bear the increased cost

Like the cost of increased health insurance rates, due to the proliferation of a harmful lifestyle – it will increase our financial burden, especially with universal health care
And the same is true of Medicare and Medicaid

And then there's the cost to employers who offer *spousal* benefits for health insurance
With SSM, if they offer them to heterosexual couples, they have to offer them to H couples – the cost of which either gets passed on to the consumer . . .
Or the benefit is eliminated; In which case the financial burden falls on the employee
So no matter how you slice it, it increases our financial burden b/c we live in an intertwined culture, where if one person lives poorly, we're all at risk

4. *B/c it promotes sinful, harmful behavior as normative*

Eventually, the gay lifestyle, not just SSM, but the gay lifestyle, will be taught as normative in every public school in America

And if u don't think so, consider Massachusetts that legalized SSM in 2003, just like IA

Less than a year later, NPR interviewed an 8th grade sex education teacher from Brookline, MA – a self-avowed lesbian . . .

Who said that she now discusses gay sex with her students as explicitly as she desires
Even telling them how lesbians can have intercourse using sex toys
And if anyone objects, she says, "Give me a break. It's legal now."

And then there's the Massachusetts Department of Public Health – a taxpayer funded arm of the state . . .

That helped produce a book ("The Little Black Book, Queer in the 21st Century") that was given to students in Brookline High School . . .

That included among other things – obscene homosexual pornography, and tips on gay sex that are so sick and disgusting I won't repeat them

And as if that wasn't enough, it also included a directory of bars in Boston where young men meet for anonymous sex
Given to high school students, and produced with the help of a government agency . . .

That's funded by taxpayer dollars, in a state that legalized SSM just like ours
It's socially destructive b/c it promotes sinful, harmful behavior as normative

5. *B/c it contributes to the decay of parental rights*

Like those of Rob and Robin Wirthlin, who complained that their 2nd grader in a MA elementary school, was being read a book titled "King and King" . . .
About 2 men who have a romance and marry each other, with a picture of them kissing
And when they asked to be notified of such teaching so that they could pull their child out for that segment . . .
The school responded by saying that they had no obligation to notify them, or allow them to opt their child out
And when they filed suit in a Federal court, it was thrown out
Essentially allowing the school's position to stand

- When sin is promoted, in whatever form, homosexual or heterosexual, it's socially destructive – b/c sin begets sin
One poor decision in one area of life, often leads to another poor decision in another area of life . . .
Until eventually, if enough people are doing it, we destroy the very fabric of our society – the fabric of morality and integrity

I love how **John Adams**, the 2nd President of the United States, put it; He said . . .
We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.

SSM is socially destructive; And if we continue down this path . . .

It's just the beginning

If *same* sex marriage is okay, why not polygamy – one husband and many wives?
Or polyamory – any combination of men or women; group marriage
And what about getting married to your pet? That might seem ridiculous . . .
But there's already been a court case in Missouri where a man sued the state for denying him the right to marry his horse
He said there's love, there's commitment, and there's partnership – everything you find in a same sex marriage, so why not?

And though the case was thrown out, there is no *legal* or *logical* reason for doing so *if* we continue to divorce the law from biblical morality
IOW if SSM is allowed on the basis of due process and equal protection apart from any consideration of morality, then why not any kind of marriage?

- It's just the beginning, and it doesn't stop there
Shortly after Canada passed *their* SSM law, they also passed a law making it illegal to speak publicly against H, punishable by fines and imprisonment
Which simply proves what a lesbian attorney in Canada correctly and honestly said – that the *real* battle is not between SSM and heterosexual marriage . . .
But between gay rights and religious freedom; Freedom of religion she said, will *have* to give way to the H agenda (Lutzer, *The Truth About SSM*, 10)

And though we're not there yet, we're close

Especially when you consider that Catholic Charities of Boston, a long-time adoption agency, closed their doors in 2006 . . .

After being forced to place children in the homes of SS couples, against their beliefs
It's already happening, and it's just the beginning

- And then there's the contention that SS couples have a *civil* right to marry one another
Similar to the civil rights of *racial* minorities or handicapped people to have equal opp under the law
IOW, SSM proponents argue that H is on par with being black
Which is an insult, b/c acting on homosexual tendencies is a choice, whereas being black or handicapped, isn't
Not only that, but H tendencies can and do change, whereas the color of your skin, can't and doesn't

But it won't be long before a suit is brought before a carefully chosen sympathetic court, arguing that the government is underwriting discrimination . . .
And contributing to the violation of civil rights, by offering tax exempt status to churches that refuse to do SSM's
And if they win, you'll see those tax exemptions start to be pulled, in an effort to force churches into line, or shut them down
It's coming; B/c SSM is just the beginning *****

- All of which means – we need to *pray* constantly, *respond* publicly, and *vote* accordingly
Gone are the days when we can talk to God occasionally, or to each other privately
We must overcome our fear and reluctance to make our views known . . .
And show people that it's not only right and prudent to oppose SSM, but it's possible to do so while *loving* those who desire it

We must respond publicly, and vote accordingly
We cannot sit on the sidelines and let things "work themselves out"
If we don't vote *for* those who stand with us on this issue, and *against* those who oppose us, then SSM is just the beginning
And the ending is not good – b/c it's morally wrong, physically harmful, and socially destructive