

A dark, atmospheric photograph of a city street, likely in New York City, with tall buildings lining the street and a bus visible in the foreground. The text "ENGAGING CULTURE" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font, with a thick yellow horizontal bar passing through the middle of the letters.

**ENGAGING CULTURE**

**ISSUES IN CULTURE**

# ENGAGING CULTURE

## Today's Agenda

1. Set the standard of Grace & Truth
2. Look at what God says in all six passages of Scripture that speak about homosexuality.

Note: Please try to attend both message on this subject.  
This is not a stand alone topic.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

John 1:14, 17

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. . . .

For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground. <sup>2</sup> "My lords," he said, "please turn aside to your servant's house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning." "No," they answered, "we will spend the night in the square."

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>3</sup> But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, baking bread without yeast, and they ate. <sup>4</sup> Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom-- both young and old-- surrounded the house. <sup>5</sup> They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them."



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>6</sup> Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him <sup>7</sup> and said, "No, my friends. Don't do this wicked thing.

<sup>8</sup> Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them. But don't do anything to these men, for they have come under the protection of my roof."

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>9</sup> "Get out of our way," they replied. "This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now he wants to play the judge! We'll treat you worse than them." They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door. <sup>10</sup> But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. <sup>11</sup> Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>12</sup> The two men said to Lot, "Do you have anyone else here-- sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here,  
<sup>13</sup> because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the LORD against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it."



# HOMOSEXUALITY

## Genesis 19

- This is not consensual, monogamous homosexual sex.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

## Ezekiel 16:49-50

<sup>49</sup> Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. <sup>50</sup> They were haughty and did an abomination before me. So I removed them, when I saw it.

# HOMOSEXUALITY

## Genesis 19

- This is not consensual, monogamous homosexual sex.
- This account cannot be used to **prove** that all homosexual behavior is sinful. It doesn't **condone** or **approve** consensual, monogamous homosexuality.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>6</sup> "You are not to come near any close relative for sexual intercourse; I am the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> You are not to violate the intimacy that belongs to your father and mother. She is your mother; you must not have sexual intercourse with her.

<sup>8</sup> You are not to have sex with your father's wife; she is your father's family. <sup>9</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your sister, either your father's daughter or your mother's, whether born at home or born elsewhere. You are not to have sex with her.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>10</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your son's daughter or your daughter 's daughter, for they are your family.

<sup>11</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your father 's wife's daughter, who is adopted by your father; she is your sister.

<sup>12</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your father's sister; she is your father's close relative. <sup>13</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your mother's sister, for she is your mother's close relative.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>14</sup> You are not to violate the intimacy that belongs to your father's brother by approaching his wife to have sexual intercourse; she is your aunt.

<sup>15</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your daughter-in-law. She is your son's wife; you are not to have sex with her. <sup>16</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your brother's wife; she is your brother's family. <sup>17</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with a woman and her daughter. You are not to marry her son's daughter or her daughter's daughter and have sex with her. They are close relatives; it is depraved.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>18</sup> You are not to marry a woman as a rival to her sister and have sexual intercourse with her during her sister's lifetime. <sup>19</sup> "You are not to approach a woman during her menstrual impurity to have sexual intercourse with her. <sup>20</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with your neighbor's wife, defiling yourself with her.

<sup>21</sup> "You are not to sacrifice any of your children in the fire to Molech. Do not profane the name of your God; I am the LORD.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>22</sup> You are not to have sexual relations with a man as with a woman; it is detestable.

<sup>23</sup> You are not to have sexual intercourse with any animal, defiling yourself with it; a woman is not to present herself to an animal to mate with it; it is a perversion.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

## Leviticus 18:22

<sup>22</sup> You are not to have sexual relations with a man as with a woman; it is detestable.

## Leviticus 20:13

<sup>13</sup> If a man has sexual relations with a man as with a woman, they have both committed a detestable act. They must be put to death; their death is their own fault.



# HOMOSEXUALITY

## Which OT Laws Still Apply?

- Is it repeated in the New Testament? (Y)
- Is it a law about food? (N)

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

## Mark 7:18-19

<sup>18</sup> And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, <sup>19</sup> since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.)

# HOMOSEXUALITY

## Which OT Laws Still Apply?

- Is it repeated in the New Testament? (Y)
- Is it a law about food? (N)
- Is it a law about a ceremony or sacrifice?(N)



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

## Colossians 2:16-17

<sup>16</sup> Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.

<sup>17</sup> These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

# HOMOSEXUALITY

## Which OT Laws Still Apply?

- Is it repeated in the New Testament? (Y)
- Is it a law about food? (N)
- Is it a law about a ceremony or sacrifice?(N)
- Is it a civil law for the nation of Israel? (N)
- Only the moral law repeated in the New Testament still apply.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

## Romans 1:24-27

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature;

<sup>27</sup> 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.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

1 Timothy 1:8-11 <sup>8</sup> Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, <sup>9</sup> understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, <sup>10</sup> the sexually immoral, **men who practice homosexuality**, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, <sup>11</sup> in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>9</sup> 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 homosexuals, nor sodomites, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE

## Summary

- Homosexuality is serious and sinful
- Homosexuality is not a lifestyle to be celebrated but a sin to be forgiven.
- Homosexuality is not inescapable.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

<sup>9</sup> Do not be deceived . . . Neither homosexuals, nor sodomites . . . , <sup>10</sup> will inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

# ISSUES IN CULTURE

Scripture is consistently clear:  
God forbids homosexual activity.

---

God condemns **every** form of sexual  
activity outside of marriage between  
husband and wife.



# ISSUES IN CULTURE

The wonder of the gospel is that every sin can be forgiven and doesn't need to define you.

---

# ISSUES IN CULTURE

The wonder of the gospel is that every sin can be forgiven and doesn't need to define you.

---

Your sin may be your life long struggle. But it doesn't need to be your identity.