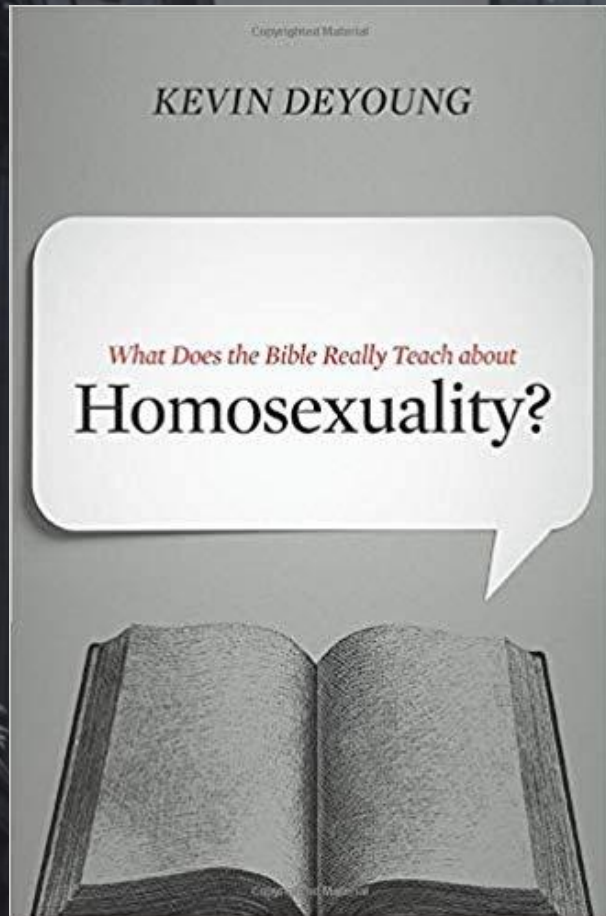
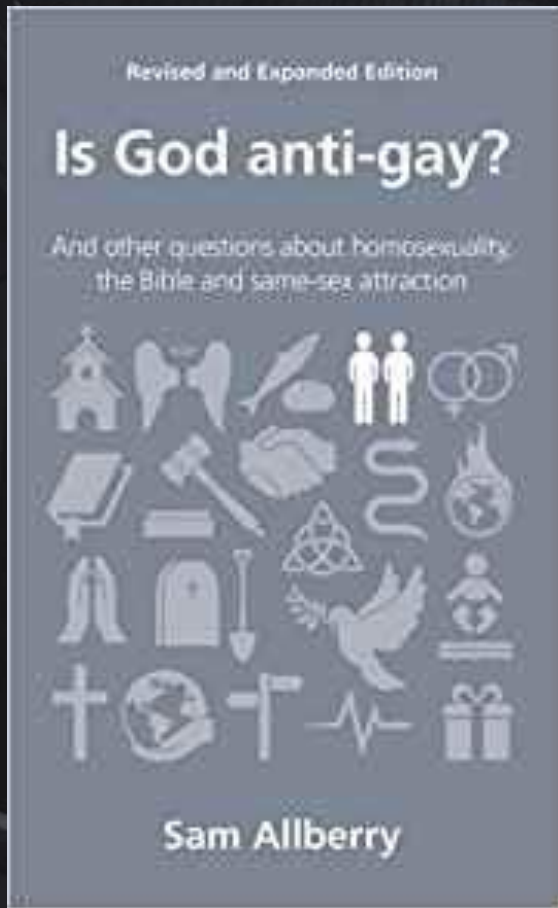


A dark, atmospheric photograph of a city street, likely in New York City, with tall buildings lining the street and a bus visible in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the image.

ENGAGING CULTURE

ISSUES IN CULTURE

HOMOSEXUALITY



Culture Shock
by Chip Ingram

Counter Culture
by David Platt

*The Church In
Babylon* by
Erwin Lutzer

Also online: Christianity Today: Rosaria Butterfield
"My Train wreck Conversion"

ISSUES IN CULTURE

Scripture is consistently clear:

God forbids homosexual activity.

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

Matt. 5:28 *"But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."*

HOMOSEXUALITY

Today's Agenda

1. How do we respond to people who have same sex attractions, or are practicing homosexuals?
2. How do we speak toward people in our culture who increasingly have the opinion that homosexuality is not morally wrong?
3. How should you as a Christian treat others who disagree with you?

ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

Titus 3:1-6

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. ³ For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

ISSUES IN CULTURE – HOMOSEXUALITY

⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared,
⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

HOMOSEXUALITY

Titus 3:1-2 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.

- Be obedient
- Do good
- Slander no one
- Be peaceable
- Be gentle
- Be humble

Why? Because this is how Christ treated us when we were living in rebellion to Him.

HOMOSEXUALITY

Questions we should ask ourselves when responding to this issue

1. Am I focusing on less common sins while ignoring more popular categories of sin?

HOMOSEXUALITY

Questions we should ask ourselves when responding to this issue

1. Am I focusing on less common sins while ignoring more popular categories of sin?
2. Am I expecting people to obey Christ who aren't committed to following Him?

HOMOSEXUALITY

Questions we should ask ourselves when responding to this issue

1. Am I focusing on less common sins while ignoring more popular categories of sin?
2. Am I expecting people to obey Christ who aren't committed to following Him?
3. Am I responding to homosexual sin the same way I would respond to heterosexual sin?

HOMOSEXUALITY

How do we respond to those who have same sex attraction?

- Remember that same-sex attraction is different from same-sex actions.
- The church should be the safest place for a person who is experiencing SSA.

HOMOSEXUALITY

For the person with same sex attraction,
No physical option feels hopeful.

- Choose celibacy—**it feels unbearable** (No pot of gold at end of rainbow)
- Choose heterosexual marriage—**it feels risky.**
- Choose homosexual life—**it is unbiblical**

HOMOSEXUALITY

How should I handle same sex attraction (or a friend)?

- Tell someone you trust to talk about it.
- Don't view your struggle with sin as different than other Christian's struggles.
- If you have a friend with SSA, the best thing you can do is open your home and life to them. Involve them in your life.

~~HOMOSEXUALITY~~

For every distortion you believe about God, there is a corresponding consequence.

For every distortion you believe about yourself there is also a corresponding consequence.

HOMOSEXUALITY

Objection: I was born gay. How can it be wrong?

- No scientific/genetic evidence exists proving a “gay gene” or that someone is born homosexual.
Note: study on identical twins

HOMOSEXUALITY

Objection: I was born gay. How can it be wrong?

- No scientific/genetic evidence exists that a person is born homosexual.
- However everyone is “born this way” with brokenness and sin and has propensities to certain sins.

HOMOSEXUALITY

So if people aren't born homosexual, why is it that some people feel this way?

- The Father's Role
- Developmental Factors
- Environmental Factors

HOMOSEXUALITY

Presuppositions of the Homosexual Community

- **I was born Gay. Therefore . . .**
 - Homosexuality is my identity.
 - Everything about homosexuality is normal and natural.
 - No other view of sexuality more valid than my alternative way to live.
 - My sexual orientation is a civil rights issue, not a moral issue.

HOMOSEXUALITY

Presuppositions of Historic Christianity

- God created sex to be a sacred expression of love within marriage of one man and one woman.
- All sex outside of that marriage is prohibited and morally wrong.
- A homosexual is not born that way. The thinking and behavior is learned, developed, or chosen. Homosexuality is not something that you are, (identity); it is something that you do.

HOMOSEXUALITY

Presuppositions of Historic Christianity

- Scripture doesn't teach that people are guilty for having same-sex attraction, only practicing homosexuality.
- Rather than being an acceptable "alternative" way of living, it is actually a destructive lifestyle to those who practice it.
- Homosexual behavior is a moral issue which something wrong is being promoted as something right.

ISSUES IN CULTURE

- Is the church more like a job interview, or a Doctor visit?

Titus 3: 4-6 ⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,