...just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, <u>serve as an</u> example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire. Jude 7 (ESV)

...if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly... 2 Peter 2:6 (ESV)

But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.

Revelation 21:8 (ESV)

And <u>if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire</u>. Revelation 20:15 (ESV)

Life Group Questions

- 1. Review the message. What was most impactful? If you didn't work through the questions from last week's message, they are a helpful addition to this study.
- 2. Read Genesis 2:18-25; 1:22. What do these verses teach us about why homosexuality is not God's design for human sexual relations? What do these verses tell us homosexual relationships can never provide?
- 3. If a friend was experiencing same-sex attraction, how would you answer them if they felt God gave them those desires and God wants them to experience sexual fulfillment by expressing those desires? Make sure you use what we learned from the message in your answer.
- 4. If you found yourself in a conversation with a homosexual, and they asked what you believed about homosexuality, how would you answer them in a loving but truthful way? Make sure you use what we learned in the message as guidance for your answer.
- 5. How are Christians to balance love for those struggling with homosexuality or other sexual sins without unwittingly muting the clear teaching in the Bible about sexual sin?
- 6. Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. Why is verse 11 so important? What does it tell us about where hope is found when it comes to any sin in our life, even powerful sexual sin?
- 7. Jude 7 and 2 Peter 2:6 describe the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah as an earthly preview of eternal punishment. Why must we bring the topic of eternal punishment into every faithful presentation of Jesus and the gospel? Which one do you think Christians undersell more: the power of Jesus to break the strongholds of sin in our life today or the power of Jesus to save us from eternal punishment?



Jude 7 – Homosexuality And Hell

September 12, 2021

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, <u>that Jesus</u>, <u>who saved a people out of the land of Egypt</u>, <u>afterward destroyed those</u> <u>who did not believe</u>. Jude 5 (ESV)

And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— Jude 6 (ESV)

...just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire. Jude 7 (ESV)

1. Homosexuality — The Bible's teaching on homosexuality is <u>clear</u>.

And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) Genesis 13:10 (ESV)

The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth and said, "My lords, please turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the town square." But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. Genesis 19:1–3 (ESV)

But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house. And they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them." Genesis 19:4–5 (ESV)

Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, and said, "I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly...
Genesis 19:6–7 (ESV)

Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof."

Genesis 19:8 (ESV)

But they said, "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came to sojourn, and he has become the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them." Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door down. Genesis 19:9 (ESV)

But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. And they struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house, both small and great, so that they wore themselves out groping for the door. Genesis 19:10–11 (ESV)

"Mr. Graham is entitled to his opinions and is free to express them, but there are consequences for doing so, when they are so repugnant and divisive... it would be good if other venues on your gospel tour would also exercise their freedom and not spread your message of hate toward the LGBTQ community." — https://www.huffpost.com/entry/franklin-graham-liverpool_n_5e3049e0c5b6ce51a4ec087f

A. Leviticus considers homosexuality a serious sin.

You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination. Leviticus 18:22 (ESV)

If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them. Leviticus 20:13 (ESV)

- In Leviticus, homosexuality is the only sin called an <u>abomination</u>.
- In Leviticus, homosexuality is the only sin with a <u>mandatory</u> death penalty for <u>both</u> parties.

B. Romans describes homosexuality as evidence of a life <u>far</u> from God.

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Romans 1:21–23 (ESV)

Therefore <u>God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they</u>

exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. Romans 1:24–25 (ESV)

For this 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. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. Romans 1:26–28 (ESV)

Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them. Romans 1:32 (ESV)

C. 1 Corinthians reminds us that practicing homosexuals, of any type, are not part of the kingdom of God.

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: <u>neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters</u>, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9–10 (ESV)

Men Who Practice Homosexuality — This phrase represents two Greek words.

- Malakoi soft passive effeminate homosexuality.
- Arsenokoitoi men bedder, active masculine homosexuality.

Paul uses both terms to cover all forms of homosexuality.

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:11 (ESV)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (ESV)

2. Hell — The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is an earthly example of just <u>eternal punishment</u>.