

## Rethinking Gay Marriage | Part 09 | Sodom & Gibeah

How we interpret the Bible says more about us and our perspectives than it does about our Good GOD.

When men hear the story of Sodom & Gomorrah, they would naturally feel vulnerable. I'd be surprised if they didn't picture themselves as a solo traveler faced with a mob outside their hotel room demanding to have sex with them.

A woman reading the stories of Sodom & Gomorrah in Genesis 19 and Gibeah in Judges 19 will recognize there are two types of villains in these stories. First, there's the obvious mob of wicked men outside. Second, there are the wolves in sheep's clothing inside. Holy Spirit emphasizes this interpretation by sharing what happened to a Levite, his concubine, and his male servant that stopped in Gibeah for the night and was given shelter by an old man.

***While they were enjoying themselves, some of the wicked men of the city surrounded the house. Pounding on the door, they shouted to the old man who owned the house, “Bring out the man who came to your house so we can have sex with him.”***

***The owner of the house went outside and said to them, “No, my friends, don’t be so vile. Since this man is my guest, don’t do this outrageous thing. Look, here is my virgin daughter, and his concubine. I will bring them out to you now, and you can use them and do to them whatever you wish. But as for this man, don’t do such an outrageous thing.”***

***But the men would not listen to him. So the man took his concubine and sent her outside to them, and they raped her and abused her throughout the night, and at dawn they let her go.***

**- Samuel in Judges 19:22-25 NIV**

Since Moses wrote about Sodom, interpretations have focused on gay men being the evil boogey men in the Jewish and Christian religions. Since women and their perspectives were silenced, Christianity experienced a blind spot. Holy Spirit tried to expose this blind spot with the story of Gibeah. If GOD included these stories in the Bible to warn us about gangs of gay rapists, the Levite would have thrown his male servant to the gay mob to satisfy them. Instead, he threw

his female concubine to the wicked mob that raped and abused her to death while he enjoyed his sleep.

Only our Good GOD and His angels acted justly. If we're supposed to think like Jesus does, generalizing that all gay men are like those in Sodom is not what He did. King Jesus destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah based on the cries from their victims. A mountain of evidence had been gathered against them. Even so, GOD promised Abraham He would judge each individual separately and He wouldn't have destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah had He found 10 righteous people treating others as they would want to be treated.

No one should consider Lot a victim or a good guy since he was willing to sacrifice his daughters. Lot wasn't righteous; he was saved for Abraham's sake. When our religious experts teach us that the Bible is inerrant, could some believe it's Biblical to sacrifice others to protect themselves? When we don't follow our King Jesus' teaching to reject any Biblical opinion that can't help us love our Good GOD and others better, evil is called good **and Biblical**.

Being Biblical seems to justify all kinds of evil. When Christians make excuses for abusing the weak and vulnerable, we are advancing the evil empire's doctrine of might-makes-right. Since GOD promises us that we will harvest what we plant rather than our good intentions, self-awareness is vital.

### **How Does This Help Us Love GOD More?**

Leaders that justify sacrificing others to save themselves are the antithesis of our King Jesus. As our Perfect Leader, our King Jesus is GOD and the Creator of the Universe. He didn't value Himself above us and leave us to figure out our sin problem on our own. Instead, He came to Earth as a vulnerable baby. Stepping outside of Heaven's safety is like stepping outside of Lot's home. He sacrificed Himself to save us.

### **How Can This Help Us Love Others Better?**

The more we act like our King Jesus and display His type of leadership that went to the cross to protect us, the more we will be known for our love. As we are conformed into our King Jesus' image, we'll become powerful Jesus Magnets to draw others to Him.

Jesus taught us to reject every Biblical teaching that doesn't help us love our Good GOD and others better. Let's follow our King Jesus' example of judging each person as an individual and from evidence. If there isn't any evidence to convict them of treating others as they would hate to be treated, we should proclaim them innocent according to the Law of Liberty:

***'For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. [...] Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, '***

**- James in James 2:10,12 NIV**

If we choose to hold everyone else to the Law of Liberty (which is asking others to treat others as they would want to be treated), then we will be held to the same Law of Liberty. When our King Jesus teaches us to judge others as we would want to be judged, it encompasses the methods we use to judge others.

***' Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. '***

**- King Jesus in Matthew 7:1-2 ESV**

However we judge others is how we will be judged according to the One who will be our Judge. If we allow our religious experts to speak for us & use our authority to resist gay marriage, understand what we are doing. We are accusing every gay man of being a gang rapist like the men in Sodom. Declaring our need to protect children from being adopted by gay men is accusing every gay man of being a pedophile.

Since our King Jesus promises us we will harvest what we planted, all Christians must be viewed to hate GOD'S rainbow people. We judged every gay man as 'Birds Of A Feather' instead of as individuals, therefore Christians harvest being judged as 'Birds Of A Feather.'

In addition, critics of Christianity claim we are a malignant source of evil in society. They refuse to look at any evidence to the contrary like we refuse to look at any evidence that would exonerate gay men from being Christianity's evil boogymen. We are harvesting the same seeds we planted.

Limiting our charity to widows and orphans is like the Pharisees trying to calculate who GOD considers their neighbor. When we include rainbow people as our King Jesus' vulnerable ones, we will begin to love them like He does.

As we boldly stand up and courageously protect the weak from being harmed by the powerful, we are acting like our King Jesus. Being like Jesus means that we must challenge our Christian Pharisees.

What happened in Sodom & Gibeah demonstrates how an Evil Empire works. In its might-makes-right system, everyone is willing to sacrifice someone else to save themselves. We see this everywhere in the Bible. No one is safe in an Evil Empire. There's always someone or a group of someones more powerful than us. It's a false illusion to believe that anyone is powerful enough to be safe in an Evil Empire.

Our only hope is based on our King Jesus establishing His Tree of Life Kingdom on Earth as it is in Heaven. In His Kingdom, we become His branches to love, lift, protect, and care for others. His mightiest servants will be His lowest branches serving the greatest number of His vulnerable ones.

To recap how the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah helps us assess if same-sex marriages are good or evil:

- Like King Jesus, look at real evidence. Judge others by the Law of Liberty. Are the participants treating others like they would want to be treated?
- Like King Jesus, judge people as individuals. Don't group people together to make sweeping, uncharitable assumptions about whole swaths of people in groups.

By using Sodom to justify our opposition to same-sex marriages and adopting children, we are accusing every gay man of being a gang-rapist of men and a pedophile. Making wild and false accusations about whole groups of people tells the world that we are not a reliable source for truth.

If we want our King Jesus to protect us from abuse but refuse to do so for others, we are wolves in sheep's clothing like Lot.

Please watch the fifth part in this series to discover what's at stake, it's more important than many realize!

Thank you for listening to Part 09 of Rethinking Gay Marriage. I hope you will join me for Part 10! Until then, keep your eyes on Jesus so you can be wiser than Satan and as harmless as Dovee and may our King Jesus' Force be with you!

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