

What God Says About Same-Sex Marriage: What is Sex?

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I. Introduction

Marriage is one aspect of Same-Sex Marriage but so is sex. So what is sex? The Bible says that sex in the genders is complimentary in nature, thus, the opposite genders fit together sexually and not just physically. But can't two of the same gender produce the same oneness that the Bible talks about in marriage and sex?

II. An Aspect of *Same-Sex Marriage* is Marriage but so is Sex, So What is Sex?

The word *sex* in *Same-Sex Marriage* refers to gender, so why bring up sexual intercourse in a discussion about *Same-Sex Marriage*? Because sex is an integral part of marriage and because each gender was designed as a sexual being. And as is the case with marriage, there's a complimentary nature to sex, i.e., it is also a bringing together of two different yet complementary halves.

Sex, why can't it be boy/boy or girl/girl; why must it be boy/girl? In short, because sex was designed by God with a built-in complimentary aspect. That is, sex is the bringing together of two different yet complimentary halves not two of the same. In fact, God's entire creation reveals this complimentary aspect: day/night, heaven/earth, sea/dry land, sun/moon, male animals/female animals, and the pinnacle of God's paring: man/woman. Every one of these has its counterpart and with the animals and mankind, the complimentary aspect was also sexual in nature in order to produce offspring, Genesis 1.

So when we look at the creation of the first woman, she was taken out of man in the form of a rib. This left Adam incomplete. God then takes the rib and forms another person, a **woman**. She is like Adam, but different physically, emotionally, and sexually. God then brings the woman to Adam and performs the first wedding ceremony, which is culminated in the sexual act that makes them "one flesh." Thus, Adam is now complete, Genesis 2. This oneness cannot be created by two of the same gender. Why not? Because one of the purposes for sexual intercourse is to produce offspring, which cannot be accomplished by two of the same sex. The male and female sexual organs complement each other in order to produce babies.

But this is not the only complimentary aspect of sex. When God says "one flesh" He's not just referring to sexual intercourse. He's also referring to the emotional and spiritual nourishment that is now to be provided by the man's wife as opposed to his parents, Genesis 2:24. Thus, sex is the ultimate intimacy between a man and a woman because it connects the body, soul, and mind of the two opposite genders to create the oneness of marriage. But can't two of the same gender who love each other deeply create the oneness of marriage? Not according to God and not according to science. That is, because of the biological differences between the sexes (which produce not only physical differences but emotional ones—in general, men are more aggressive and dominant and women are more sensitive and relational) two men or two women cannot produce the same complementary oneness that a man and woman can. They can mimic it, but even here, one of them has to play the role of the opposite gender, especially in sex. Why do many gay men take on feminine characteristics and gay women take on masculine characteristics? Because it takes both genders to produce the oneness of marriage.

When sex is abused, and not just by homosexuals, there are consequences, when it comes to sin, God doesn't play favorites; He punishes all sin. And Christians who believe that AIDS is God's punishment on homosexuals should take note that heterosexuals have also contracted and died of AIDS. Ultimately, homosexuals are not the only ones God punishes for sexual sins. This fact is important because it shows once again that sex was designed for a man and a woman not for two of the same gender. Huh?

In Leviticus 20:10-21, God required the death penalty for having sex with someone else's spouse, anyone who had sex with their stepmother/stepfather, anyone having sex with their son/daughter-in-law, homosexual sex, anyone marrying a daughter and mother (or son and father), bestiality, and having sex with your sister/brother or stepsister/brother. Additionally, God prohibited having sex with an aunt/uncle or with a sister/brother-in-law. Yes, homosexual sex is mentioned, but why did God require death for all these other sexual acts?

Further, in Deuteronomy 22:13-30, God demanded that individuals remain virgins until they marry. He also demanded the death penalty for: adultery, an engaged woman and the other man she had sex with, and a rapist. God also demanded that those who have sex out of wedlock must be married. Finally, having sex with your step-mother (or step-father) was prohibited. Again, why such restrictions, punishments, and consequences for these sexual sins? What's the big deal? Yes, God demanded the death penalty for homosexual sex, but why for the rest? What's the common thread that runs through all these heterosexual sex sins? They all violate God's design for sex: it is to be between a man and a woman in the covenant of marriage and nowhere else, not out of wedlock, not with the same gender, not with an animal, not with two people, not with anyone who is not your husband or wife of the opposite gender. Why? Because it's designed for procreation and the physical, emotional, and spiritual completeness of the complementary halves: a man and a woman.

But aren't we dealing with prohibitions that are obsolete, Leviticus doesn't apply today? It's not that God wants you to keep all 613 commands contained in the Mosaic Law. It's what the Law reveals about God's thinking on all matters pertaining to life. This is why God says in Romans 15:4, 1 Corinthians 10:11, and 2 Timothy 3:16-17 that the things written in the Old Testament are profitable for us today. It is why Jesus and others quoted Leviticus (e.g., Mark 12:31), because it reveals God's thinking on matters today not just back then. This is why adultery and incest are still sins, Matthew 5:27-30; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13. Thus, it's not that God wants you to keep specific sex laws in Leviticus, it's that He's informing you what He thinks about sex always: it's sacred and only belongs between a husband and wife. And if you abuse it, there will be serious consequences.

Is there any scientific proof of the complementary nature of sex inherent in the genders?

The biological makeup of men and women lead to many differences including in their sexuality. Because of the major hormones involved (testosterone in men and estrogen in women), not only is there a physical difference between men and women, there's also an emotional one. In general, men are more aggressive and dominant while women are more sensitive and relational. This affects the way each gender views sexuality, in particular the driving force behind men and women's sexuality: study after study shows that sex in men is driven more by the physical versus the emotional/relational in women. This affects several aspects of sex, e.g., source of stimulation and the desired frequency. In general, the man is the initiator, the woman the responder; the man is stimulated by the physical connection while the woman by the emotional/relational connection. WebMD in an article titled *Sex Drive: How Do Men and Women Compare?* says, "Men and women travel slightly different paths to arrive at sexual desire. 'I hear women say in my office that desire originates much more between the ears than between the legs,' says Esther Perel, a New York City psychotherapist. 'For women there is a need for a plot -- hence the romance novel.

It is more about the anticipation, how you get there; it is the longing that is the fuel for desire," Perel says. Women's desire "is more contextual, more subjective, more layered on a lattice of emotion," Perel adds. Men, by contrast, don't need to have nearly as much imagination, Perel says, since sex is simpler and more straightforward for them. That doesn't mean men don't seek intimacy, love, and connection in a relationship, just as women do. They just view the role of sex differently. "Women want to talk first, connect first, then have sex," Perel explains. "For men, sex *is* the connection. Sex is the language men use to express their tender loving vulnerable side," Perel says. "It is their language of intimacy."

Mark Kastleman,¹ in an article on netnanny.com titled *The Difference Between the Male and Female Brain* states the difference in the driving force, as he quotes Anne Moir and David Jessel's book, *Brain Sex: The Real Difference Between Men and Women*, "Women are not, in the main, turned on by pictures of nudes . . . Women may be aroused by pictures of couples coupling- because what they are seeing, in however sterile a sexual context, is a relationship in action. . . . Men want sex, and women want relationships. Men want flesh and women want love. Just as boys wanted balloons, toys, and carburetors, the girls have always wanted contact, and communion, and company. The female mind is organized to place priority on relationship, the male on achievement."

On sharecare.com, Dr. Castellanos (a psychiatrist specializing in sex therapy) answering the question, "What is the difference between male and female sexuality?" states, "For most men, all it takes is a little visual stimulation to get in the mood for sex. That's why men are the predominant consumers of porn and why something like Viagra works so well for men, but not for women. Men are more easily aroused. Female sexuality is a little more complex. In fact, one of the main differences between male and female sexuality is that guys don't need to feel emotionally connected to the person they're having sex with in order to want to have sex. There's actually scientific research to support the observation that women tend to feel sexual desire towards those men for whom they feel an emotional connection."

Thus, in general men are driven by the physical and women by the emotional or relational aspect of sex. How are these two complimentary? Recall that the woman is there to complete that which is missing in the man. Since men are mostly driven by the physical, what happens to men (and the societies they live in) who are only driven by the physical? They become insensitive and desensitized to the emotional part of their relationship with a woman and they also end up mistreating women, seeing them only as sex objects. Therefore, the woman's emotional focus acts as a check on the man's physical drive, keeping him from becoming a sexual predator and providing him a complete sexual experience with both halves: emotional and physical. How does the man's physical drive complement the woman's emotional drive? It will ensure that the woman's desire to have children will be fulfilled and ensure one of the two mandates given by God to husband and wives: "be fruitful and multiply." God designed men and women's sexuality to fit together like a puzzle.

III. Conclusion

Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

¹ Author of a book many scientists, psychologists, therapists, and religious leaders consider to be one of the most important works on the terrible effects of internet pornography titled *The Drug of the New Millennium - The Brain Science Behind Internet Pornography*.