

#2 – The Bible's Answer to the Same-Sex Question Various Passages

Pastor Todd Dugard November 9, 2014

- 1. What does it mean to have a "high view" of Scripture? How about a "low view"? What is your own view? Why is this an important issue relative to the same-sex question?
- 2. *Interpreting the Bible correctly.* Discuss the following interpretive factors: (a) historical, grammatical, and literary considerations; (b) authorial intent; and (c) original context. Be sure that you understand what these factors refer to. Why do they matter? How can one's interpretation of God's Word get off track if these are ignored or misapplied?
- 3. *Examining the biblical texts.* There are six key biblical texts that speak directly to the same-sex question: (a) Genesis 19; (b) Leviticus 18:22; (c) Leviticus 20:13; (d) Romans 1:26-27; (e) 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; and (f) 1 Timothy 1:9-10. Look up each passage and:
 - Explain what it seems to suggest about same-sex activity.
 - Rehearse how those affirming of same-sex relationships deal with it.
 - Weigh the relative strengths of the two perspectives.
- 4. Matthew Vines' *God and the Gay Christian* is a prominent, popular-level book that is affirming of same-sex relationships for believers. What is his main argument? Why is this problematic?
- 5. Seeing the bigger picture. Pastor Todd shared several other texts that speak more indirectly to the same-sex question: (a) Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7, 18-24; (b) Ephesians 5:22-33; and (c) Revelation 21:2, 9. Look up each passage and unpack its contribution to our overall understanding of God's design for sexuality. How significant is it that history begins (Genesis) and ends (Revelation) with complementary unions?
- 6. Pastor Todd said, "Everything we do is theology. That is to say, every decision we make and every action we take point to what we believe about God." Discuss this statement. Apply it to several ordinary activities (e.g., how we steward our money, how we treat others, etc.). How does this pertain to the realm of sexuality?
- 7. Following the path where it leads. In what way is Psalm 119:105 an encouragement? In what way is it also a warning? What difficult paths vis-à-vis the same-sex question could the light of Scripture lead us down? Are you willing to follow those paths no matter what? Why or why not?