

Presbyterian Changes On Homosexuality

Leviticus 20:13: If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an **abomination**: they shall surely be put to death ...

Romans 1:24,26-27 Wherefore God also gave them up to **uncleanness** through the lusts of their own hearts, to **dishonor** their own bodies between themselves ... For this cause God gave them up unto **vile** affections: for even their women did **change the natural use** into that which is **against nature**: And likewise also the men, **leaving the natural use** of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is **unseemly**, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their **error** which was meet.

We've seen the dramatic change in USA society toward accepting homosexuality since about the year 2000.

1978 ... Homosexuality is not God's wish for humanity ... On the basis of our understanding that the practice of **homosexuality is sin**, we are concerned that homosexual believers and the observing world should not be left in doubt about the church's mind on this issue during any further period of study. (Minutes of the 190th General Assembly [1978], United Presbyterian Church in the USA, pp.261-62)

1980 Homosexuality presents a particular problem for the church. It **seems** to be contrary to the teaching of scripture. (Minutes of the 192nd General Assembly, Presbyterian Church in the United States, p.213)

1991 The church should **"re-evaluate its definition of sin to reflect the changing mores of society."** ... the church should sound "a call for widening the circle of the faithful ... with ... gays, lesbians, and heterosexual singles who practice 'safe sex.' We feel that marriage is not what legitimates sexual gratification. (*Roll Over John Calvin*, Time Magazine, 5-6-91, p.59)

2010 Presbyterian leaders voted ... to allow non-celibate gays in committed relationships to serve as clergy, approving the first of two policy changes that could make their church one of the most gay-friendly major Christian denominations in the U.S. ... Several major Christian denominations have voted in recent years to allow non-celibate gays to serve as clergy if they are in committed relationships. Among them are the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ... (Newsmax.com, 08 Jul 2010)

2015 The Presbyterian Church made a historic decision ... to formally recognize gay marriage and allow same-sex couples to marry in its congregations. ... The ... denomination voted to redefine the church constitution on marriage to include 'a commitment between two people ...' (Time Magazine, 3-18-2015)

I Corinthians 6:9-10 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers. Neither **homosexuals**, nor **sodomites**, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, will inherit the kingdom of God. (NKJV)

The Episcopal Church approved its first openly gay bishop ... the Rev. Gene Robinson. ... Robinson ... replied ... "We have many times departed from ... Scripture." ... Robinson cited the examples of ordaining women priests and accepting divorce in the church as departures ... **"Just simply saying it departs from ... Scripture does not necessarily make it wrong."** (Birmingham News, Aug 6, 2003)

Leaders ... said they had agreed to allow ... the United Methodist Church to permit same-sex marriage and LGBT clergy for the first time in its history. (The Washington Post, Jan 3, 2020)

Almost all type churches have made similar changes on homosexuality or on other topics:

- Matt 19:9 acceptance of adulterous marriages led to this new acceptance of gay marriages
- Acts 8:35-37 addition of infant baptism
- Acts 20:7 denominations changed the frequency of the Lord's Supper from once a week to less often
- Gal 5:4 started teaching Once Saved Always Saved
- I Corinthians 14:34-35 almost all churches used to forbid "women preachers" - now almost all allow it
- many other changes/departures from the Bible over the centuries (II John 9-11)