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COLLEGE STATION, TX Feb 23 1994

MAIL CALL

Homosexuality debate rages on:

I was greatly disturbed by the letter of Mark Martin on Feb. 21. I went to my Bible and found two pieces of scripture that disprove what Martin stated.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 18-20: "Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. 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.

"Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. Jesus speaks - Matthew 15:18-19: "The things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean'. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

I do not judge homosexuals. We know what the word of God says, and it says homosexuality is wrong.

Adonis Bitar
Class of '97

Martin accuses others of citing a few verses out of context when in guilty of the same crime himself. I would like to suggest that maybe he read the whole Bible instead of just the parts that sound good to him.

To set the record straight, Jesus did speak against homosexuality and all types of sexual immorality. In Matthew 15:19-20 he says: "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man." Fornication is having sexual relations out of wedlock, and last time I checked, same-sex marriages were not legal.

Also in Romans 1:27: "Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

I am a Christian, not a "bubba." I hate the sin of homosexuality, but not the person. Rather I pity Martin and the church he attends. Yes we all sin, but Christians choose God over sin. You cannot live a life of Godliness and blatantly sin at the same time. Any church who would accept a person who has publicly chosen a life of sin into their congregation is condoning his sin and is just a guilty as the sinner.

Jim Fyffe
Class of '97

abomination and put in the company of bestiality and incest in the surrounding verses. Since God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, Jesus would have said something if it had changed.

One mistake Christians sometime make is to hate homosexuals. This is not right, for homosexuality is just another sin, and we are all sinners. I believe that God will be just as unhappy with the person who is given to drunkenness as he will be with the person given to homosexuality - as he will be to the person given to whatever sin. Sin comes in one color and that's dark black. The Bible doesn't leave much room for gray.

A parting note from 1 John 2:4: "Whoever says 'I have come to know him' but does not obey his commandments is a liar and in such a person the truth does not exist.

The world would be a better place if others employed the "tolerance to a degree" that I believe in. Jesus never said that homosexuals were in danger of facing the wrath of hellfire. He did argue, however, a much stronger statement - that all of us lack the union with our Creator that we were created for. All who are born into human existence, he claimed, have a sort of need that only God in Christ can fill.

Also, the term "God" is becoming empty these days, in the sense that many, many people throw this word around, employing very different contents. Truth itself, in Western philosophy, is becoming more and more vague as a term. It will be interesting to see where the pluralism that our world is so strongly clinging to will lead us in the next century. My relevance is precisely this: If by "God" you mean the God of the Judeo-Christian world view, who has reached out and searched for humankind like no other religion claims, then I disagree with your thinking here, for the God I believe in did not create us as machines, but instead as beings that have choice, and thus can choose even to turn him away; this is love. God accepts us not as we should be, but as we are, otherwise his acceptance would be unattainable, however, although God accepts us as we are, I believe, he does not accept that we stay as we are, but instead that we strive to live life as we believe he intended.

In scripture Jesus never mentioned homosexuality. So what does the Bible say when it is addressed? Every time homosexual acts are mentioned in scripture, they are condemned.

But what about "Judge not, lest you be judged?" Matthew 7:1 doesn't instruct us to become undiscerning simpletons, not judging what is right and wrong, but is an exhortation to be merciful because we are all sinners. In fact, the next thing Jesus says is not to throw pearls before swine, which requires a judgment about who is swine.

Nevertheless, the biblical stance on homosexuality doesn't rest on the negative, but on God's purpose for sex. God didn't create or intend people of the same gender for such a union.

Yet many claim to be made homosexuals. I agree that some people

experience homosexual early in life for various reasons. However, the existence of inclinations has little to do with moral precepts. For example, today we know people can be disposed to alcoholism, but wrong to hold up sobriety as moderation as moral values, though it's difficult for some, not others? No - people's inclinations don't invalidate God's standards.

When you condemn in our society (yes, gays are part of society) in the name of Christianity, you are not acting for God. You are acting as God. Saying homosexuality is morally wrong based on personal morals, not one else's. I don't see my gay lesbian friends as "flawed" or them as fellow Aggies who have accepted themselves, which is more important to them than acceptance of others.

Homosexuality is not a choice in today's society, who choose to be stereotyped, persecuted, hated and feared based on sexuality? Jesus said, "Let who is without sin throw the stone."

Instead of fighting against whatever it is you think homosexuals stand for, why not "simply" to understand it? Whatever mature, consenting adults want to do in the privacy of their homes, their business, not anyone else's.

I would like to ask - is a code of values the same as a society's code of values? I'm talking about prejudice against our Aggies only because of their sexual preference, which actually none of your business.

Morality is an individual thing. Just because you believe in a moral doesn't mean that it is everyone else. Besides, who you the right to judge a person? I'll answer that for you - ONE! As far as health, the AIDS used to be tied to homosexuals. It is now also tied to heterosexual people.

I think the use of religion as a point is a cop-out of intellectual argument. I feel the need to argue some religious points. For God has the only right to judge and say who is right or wrong morally not you. Secondly, some people obviously are saying of the homosexual students don't serve rights like any other being. Are you not also saying they are different than you or prior to you? Sure sounds like it.

By saying that you have against one big thing that God specifically said about all men and women - love your neighbor you love yourself. That is a basis of Christianity, at least I've learned. To me, it is very critical to go against that rule and call yourself a Christian. Thirdly, the Constitution of the United States says ALL men are equal. To think that homosexuals don't deserve their rights is what comes from that, feeling they are inferior is not only obeying God's rule but also the notion that we live in today.

It is not the people who fight the rights that they deserve are going to ruin this community the nation and the world. The people who are going to ruin this community, nation and world are those gay bashers, racists and people who can't get over their ignorance and see past the differences in people and accept them for who they are.

Wake up people.

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