

WHEN GOD LETS GO

Part Four

ROMANS 1:24-32

We left off in our last lesson (Part 3) of Man's Sinfulness Expressed with verse 27, where Paul said, "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 recompence of their error which was meet."

Those males in this verse, Paul says, left "the natural use of the woman," and "burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly." There is such a burning level of lust among homosexuals that I know of no term that could properly describe it. And, this type of lust is rarely seen among heterosexuals.

In a Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans that I have in my library, it says, in connection to this verse, "In the United States and many other western countries it is not uncommon for homosexual males to have 300 partners a year. Even when relationships are on a friendly basis, the most bizarre acts imaginable are committed, and mutilation is common. In his biography (Where Death Delights, by Marshall Houts [New York: Coward-McCann, 1967]), the New York City forensic expert Dr. Milton Helpert, who makes no claim of being a Christian and avoids making moral judgments about homosexuality, nevertheless comments that, after having performed thousands of autopsies, he would warn anyone who chooses a homosexual lifestyle to be prepared for the consequences: "When we see ... brutal, multiple wound cases in a single victim.. we just automatically assume that we're dealing with a homosexual victim and a homosexual attacker. . . . I don't know why it is so, but it seems that the violent explosives of jealousy among homosexuals far exceed those of the jealousy of a man for a woman, or a woman for a man. The pent-up charges and energy of the homosexual relationship simply cannot be contained. When the explosive point is reached, the result is brutally violent. ... But this is the 'normal' pattern of these homosexual attacks, the multiple senseless beatings that obviously must continue long after the victim dies" (pp. 269-70).

The homosexuals of Sodom were so consumed with their own lust for the males that had entered the city, that they ignored the fact that they had been blinded by the angels: "And they [the angels] smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door" (Genesis 19:11). Here is a case in point of a lust that there is no term to describe its meaning. These homosexuals of Sodom ignored the fact that they had been blinded and wearied themselves trying to find the door into Lot's house in order to satisfy their vile passion.

Both the Old and New Testaments condemn homosexuality in the strongest terms possible. Under the Old Covenant it was punishable by death. And Paul declares unequivocally that,



although homosexuality can be forgiven and cleansed just as any other sin, no unrepentant homosexual will enter heaven. Too, it must be understood, that no person who continually lives a life of sin will enter heaven (cf. Leviticus 18:22, 29; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-5; 1 Timothy 1:9-10; Jude 7).

God so abhors the sin of homosexuality that he determined that the disgraceful, shameful acts that women commit with women and men commit with men would result in their "receiving in themselves that recompense [due penalty] of their error." In other words, they would be judged by the self-destructiveness of their own sin.

One writer said, "The appalling physical consequences of homosexuality are visible evidence of God's righteous condemnation. Unnatural vice brings its own perverted reward. AIDS is frightening evidence of that fatal promise."

Jerry W. Arnold

