

Does God Hate Homosexuals?

The simple answer is NO!

Why do I say this?

1 John 4:15-17 [NIV] *“If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. **And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him.**”*

“*God is love.*” What is the full meaning of the Greek word translated “love” [agapaō]?

This is a spontaneous love that is given irrespective of the response of the recipient of that love.

This word is used only of God and those who have the active indwelling of the Holy Spirit within them.

This word expresses the deep and constant love and interest of a perfect Being [God] towards entirely unworthy objects [human beings], producing and fostering over a time a reverential love in them towards the Giver [God].

This word expresses a practical love towards those who are partakers of the same love from God, and desire to help others to seek the giver [God].

Because of this understanding of God’s Love I can confidently state that God does **not** hate the person who finds themselves to be homosexual.

God loves them, but **not** what they practice.

Why does God hate the practice of homosexuality?

Allow God Himself to explain in His own Words the reason and His thinking and motivation behind His love of the person but hatred of the act.

In this article I will start explaining this by looking at the very beginning of God’s creation that centres on the creation of human beings.

I am, however, only able to answer the original question **if** you accept certain principles as being true.

a) **There is a God**

God means one being who is supreme in power, sovereignty and perfection.
Only one being can hold such a title.

b) **This One God created all the universe out of nothing**

c) **All life is totally dependent on this One Creator Being.**

d) **This One God has revealed Himself in measure to humanity through His Word.**

The Written Word [The Holy Christian Bible], and the personified Word [Jesus the Christ].

You must admit that the only safe way to get to the true answer, to know if God does hate or love homosexuals, is to ask God Himself to answer this question in His own words and stated motivations.

John 1:1-5 [Living Bible] *“Before anything else existed, there was the Word [Christ] with God. He [the Word] has always been alive and is Himself God. He [the Word] created everything there is, nothing exists that He did not make. Eternal life is in Him, and this life gives light [illumination or understanding] to all humanity. His life is the light that shines through all the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.”*

The darkness is symbolic of the ignorance in this society about God and His ways and only acceptance of what the Word [Jesus Christ] tells us will bring us into the light of understanding.

John 1:9-10 [Living Bible] *“... the one who is the true light arrived to shine on everyone coming into the world, but although He [Jesus Christ] made the world, the world did not recognise Him when He came.”*

John 1:11-12 [Living Bible] *“... only a few would welcome and receive Him. But to all who received Him [Jesus Christ], He gave the right to become created children of God...”*

John 1:14 [NIV] *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

John 1:14 [Living Bible] *“And Christ [the Word] became a human being and lived here on earth among us and was full of loving, forgiveness and truth...”*

As we see the key to understanding God’s Words and motives is His Word, the Christian Bible, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Who is God, [2 Peter 1:20-21] written and personified in His Son Jesus Christ.

Now let us move forward in time to the original creation of humanity.

This was long after the original creation of this universe, the earth and millions of years of existence filled with non-human animals of great variety.

Genesis 1:26 [Amplified Bible] *“Then...”* [after all this previous millions of years of creation of various animals, etc.] *“God said, let us. ‘God the Father, the Son [Christ the Word] and the Holy Spirit’ make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness.”*

Here we see stated God’s motive behind the creation of humans.

God considered this supreme project and then He proceeded in this physical but eventually spiritual way to create humans, to become first in His image [a physical image or shadow, not the real thing] then in His likeness [character].

John 4:24 [Amplified Bible] *“God is a spirit”* [a spiritual being].

Genesis 1:27 [Amplified Bible] *“So God created humanity in His own image, in the image of God He created them, male and female He created them.”*

Note certain things in this original statement of God about the creation of the first humans.

- a) The original project involved creation of both image and likeness.
- b) The first creation was limited to image [no likeness as yet].
- c) Male and female were created. Different in many ways but as we will see with the intention of creating beings who were perfectly balanced, as God Himself, who is a perfectly balanced person.

God continued to reveal further details of this supreme project by giving a command to both the **male and female** He had created.

Genesis 2:24 [Amplified Bible] *“Therefore...”* [meaning the reason for what has gone before, that is being created male and female] *“a man [male] shall become united and cleave to his wife [female], and they shall become one flesh.”*

God had created the male and female in such a way that a sexual union was pleasurable, easy and natural, for both partners.

God had also in a previous command told this first couple, one male [Adam] and Eve [his wife] female, to become fruitful.

Genesis 1:28 [Living Bible] *“And God blessed them, and said to them, **be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth** and subdue it, with all its vast resources, and have dominion over ... every living creature that moves upon the earth.”*

Adam and Eve promptly obeyed these commands [undoubtedly with the pleasure that God intended them to experience] and the first fruits of their union arrived.

Genesis 4:1 [Amplified Bible] *“And Adam knew Eve [become one flesh] his wife and she became pregnant and bore Cain, and she said, I have gotten and gained a man with the help of the Lord [by obeying what God had commanded].”*

The “*Lord*” [Hebrew “*yehôvâh*”] means the self-existent eternal God.

We have now been shown the original plan that God has for humanity.

To create beings in His image and the job of multiplying such beings was delegated to the original created human couple through the process of sexual union between a male and a female.

Anything outside of such a sexual union was not commanded by our Creator God and is an act of rebellion against His Sovereignty as Creator of life and the giver of light [truth].

Such an act is in the eyes of the One and only God a **sin** that will only earn us in the end eternal death.

Romans 6:23 [Amplified Bible] *“For the wages which sin pays is death, but the bountiful free gift of God is eternal life **through or in** [spiritual] **union with Jesus Christ our Lord.**”*

This statement about the ultimate result of all rebellion [against our Creator and His Sovereign plan for created humans] is linked with an escape clause so that we can avoid eternal death.

With the introduction of eternal death we are now raising our sights from the physical to the spiritual.

Genesis 2:7 [Amplified Bible] *“Then the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground...”*

Genesis 3:19 [Amplified Bible] *“... for dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”*

We all know from personal visual experience that the last part is true, we end up this physical life as dust.

But there was something other than dust that was involved in the original creation of humanity.

Genesis 2:7 [Amplified Bible] *“... and [God] breathed into His [man’s] nostrils the breath or spirit of life, and man became a living being.”*

There is no record of God having done this in creation of any being before this time, this was a “*first*”.

For humanity, and humanity alone, we now move into the second phase of God's original creation plan, that of "likeness".

This is speaking about character, the attributes of the very Creator Himself, the major attribute is that of love!

Job 32:8 [Amplified Bible] *"But there is a vital force, a spirit of intelligence in humans, the breath of the Almighty that gives humans understanding."*

1 Corinthians 15:45 [Amplified Bible] *"... thus it is written, the first man Adam became a living being, an individual personality..."*

This was the result of the injection by the Creator God of a spiritual component into this being created out of dust.

1 Corinthians 15:45 [Amplified Bible] *"... the last Adam [Christ] became a life-giving spirit restoring the dead to life."*

The Word [Christ] who came as a human being, brought to an end the limited physical part of God's Creation the "image" of God, the last Adam. Christ through His perfect life as a human being died and ended this Adamic race. The resurrected Christ then introduced the new spiritual-orientated race, the "Emmanuel" race.

Christ after ascending to His heavenly throne sent the Holy Spirit to replace Him on earth and to make available eternal, spiritual life for all humans.

John 14:15-18 [NIV] *"If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another [exactly the same] Counsellor to be with you for ever, the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."*

1 Corinthians 15:46 [Amplified Bible] *"... but it is not the spiritual life that came first, but the physical and then the spiritual."*

The key to this change is the coming of Emmanuel ["God with us"] Jesus Christ and our accepting Him as our Saviour.

But far more than this, is also accepting Christ as the future bridegroom who will marry His bride at His Second Coming.

Revelation 19:7 [Amplified Bible] *"Let us rejoice, and shout for joy, exulting and triumphant! Let us celebrate and ascribe to Him [Christ] glory and honour, for the marriage of the Lamb [Christ] at last has come and His bride has prepared herself."*

Before we read on let us pause to consider where the creation of Adam and Eve, a male and a female, has led us.

From a physical union of a male and a female in a marriage commanded to become fruitful we have arrived at the end result, a marriage union between Christ, the **male** Son of God, and His **female** bride in a spiritual union which will produce spiritual fruits.

Who is this female bride in this highly exalted position?

Revelation 19:8 [Amplified Bible] *"She has been permitted to dress in fine, radiant linen, dazzling and white, for the fine linen signifies and represents the righteousness of the upright, just and godly living in deeds and conduct, and right standing with God, the saints, God's Holy people."*

The Christian [Christ-like] church, God's people, composes the bride to marry Christ the Son of God.

Revelation 19:9 [Amplified Bible] *“Then the angel, the messenger of God said, write this down, blessed, happy to be envied, are those who are summoned, invited, called to the marriage supper of the Lamb [Christ] and He [the messenger of God] said to me further these are the true words, the genuine and exalt declarations of God.”*

Here we see the union of the church and God’s Son that will result in the fruitful marriage multiplying the Emmanuel Kingdom, the Kingdom of God.

Revelation 21:1-4 [NIV] *“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”*

The new Jerusalem is the dwelling place of God [Jesus Christ, the Son of God] and His new bride, the Church.

Revelation 22:12, 14-15 [NIV] *“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.” ... “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. **Outside are the dogs, those who practise magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practises falsehood.**”*

Not everybody will be within the presence of God, to dwell with Him eternally.

Two of the groups of people rejected are “*dogs*”, this is the Judaic term for male prostitutes and “*sexually immoral*”, those outside the God-appointed sexual practice of male and female within a marriage union.

Revelation 21:8 [NIV] *“But the cowardly, the **unbelieving**, the vile, the murderers, the **sexually immoral**, those who practise magic arts, the idolaters and all liars, their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulphur. This is the second death.”*

The “*unbelieving*” and the “*sexually immoral*” will experience the second and final death, unless they repent, and leave behind them the sexual practices that besmirch and belittle the beautiful relationship that God desires with His people, symbolised by the physical marriage union of a man and a woman.

Can we now see how God looks on the marriage union as sacred and any sexual union outside of it is eventually in the final judgement to be destroyed.

But God is very reluctant for the pinnacle of His Creation, to end up evaporated in a burning fire, even the memory of them to fade away in the minds of those who live eternally.

Revelation 22:17 [NIV] *“The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.”*

The Holy Spirit of God and the Church, the bride of Christ, give the final appeal for all humans to change and harmonise with the loving desires of their Creator.

2 Peter 3:9-14 [NIV] *“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. **He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.** But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, **what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.** That day will bring about the destruction of*

*the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, **make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.***”

God’s deepest desire is that every human being will repent [turn away from sin] so that He can save them from eternal death through their having faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ His Son.

Then allowing the Holy Spirit to mould them into a being that is created in God’s likeness.

1 John 1:5-10 [Message Bible] *“This, in essence, is the message we heard from Christ and are passing on to you: God is light, pure light; there’s not a trace of darkness in him. It we claim that we experience a shared life with him and continue to stumble around in the dark, we’re obviously lying through our teeth, we’re not living what we claim. But if we walk in the light, God himself being the light, we also experience a shared life with one another, as the sacrificed blood of Jesus, **God’s Son, purges all our sin.** If we claim that we’re free to sin, we’re only fooling ourselves. A claim like that is errant nonsense. On the other hand, if we **admit our sins**, make a clean breast of them, he won’t let us down; he’ll be true to himself. **He’ll forgive our sins and purge us of all wrongdoing.** If we claim that we’ve never sinned, we out and out contradict God, make a liar out of him. A claim like that only shows off our ignorance of God.”*

What has been shown is the true purpose of life and how our sexuality is an important part of that life.

A proof of our understanding, the true purpose of life is how we conduct our sex life, in harmony with God’s purpose or in rebellion against it.

Our eternal life is at stake!

May the Holy Spirit give all humanity a true understanding behind sexual practices in this physical life and the influence they have on our future eternal life.

1 John 2:1-2 [Message Bible] *“I write this, dear children, to guide you out of sin. But if anyone does sin, we have a Priest-Friend in the presence of the Father: **Jesus Christ**, righteous Jesus. When he served as a sacrifice for our sins, he solved the sin problem for good, not only ours, but the whole world’s.”*

Special Letter Supplement

The Christian church receives many letters from young people with questions and concerns about homosexuality. I would like to share some of these with you.

Question: I am an 18 year old gay male and the past few years of my life have been very confusing and stressful. I did not choose the lifestyle that I lead. Why would I choose to have to live with the frustration and humiliation that goes with being gay? What I cannot understand is if The Bible says that homosexuality is an abomination to God, and I didn't choose to be the way I am, how did it happen and why me? Why is it wrong?

Answer: You are not alone in your struggle. Many young people are struggling with homosexual thoughts or feelings write to the church, often pouring out heart-rending stories.

The letters nearly always include stories of struggling with loneliness, hopelessness, regret, feeling condemned by God, feeling unloved, needing affection, lacking friends, turning to drugs or alcohol, and lacking self-respect.

Some few, though, have told of learning, coping, changing and building a right relationship with God.

A study of the Christian Bible shows that God created a natural order of life that homosexuality disrupts.

That is what the apostle Paul meant in **Romans 1:26-27** when he labelled homosexuality as “*unnatural*”.

Normal, healthy sexuality within a normal, healthy marriage would not yield those feelings of frustration and humiliation that you mention are associated with homosexuality.

You say you did not choose to be gay. I believe you. In one sense that choice was made a long time ago when humanity chose the original alternative lifestyle, to live apart from God in their lives. This explains, in principle, how and why it happened.

Humanity as a whole has rejected God and chosen to dishonour and disobey Him. The result? The list of damages is long, and includes all sorts of things that are “*not fitting*” behaviour, sexual immorality, envy, murder, strife, deceit, gossip, slander, violence, pride, inventing evil things, rebelling against parents, being unloving, unforgiving and unmerciful, and homosexuality.

Every one of these actions can have terrible effects that plague generation after generation. For example: a child in a family where there is a lack of parental love will have certain difficulties as he or she grows up. Add sexual abuse and you have created a strong potential for the child to develop homosexual tendencies.

By the time that child is old enough to know what is happening sexually, he or she is already deeply affected.

Many homosexuals tell of early emotional abuse, lack of affirmation of their maleness or femaleness, or a lack of affection, love and companionship in the home. Many have suffered traumatic, scarring ordeals from other people.

Many researchers believe that the roots of homosexuality are deeply woven into many other bad behaviours springing from generations of wrongdoing.

So homosexuality is just one of many problems resulting from humanity's choice **not** to obey their Creator God.

It is **not** necessarily from what you as an individual choose.

Is there any good news in all of this?

Yes!

Read the next letter.

Question: I know that God looks on us gays as being sinners. I have seen in God's Word, the Christian Bible, God's attitude towards myself and others like me. I have tried to control my urges, but to no avail. Is God going to punish me for being homosexual when I did not choose to be one? How am I going to deal with this?

Answer: Let us look at the Christian Bible for an answer.

John 3:16 [NIV] *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

God does **not** look on you any different than He does any other person in the world, for all of us are rebellious against His lifestyle in one way or another.

Romans 3:23-24 [NIV] *"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."*

God hates sin, but He loves the sinner.

Romans 5:8 [NIV] *"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

The Bible reveals a God who wants to save **all** people out of their sins, **not** one who delights in punishing them.

2 Peter 3:9 [NIV] *"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."*

God's desire is for all to come to a position where He can offer them eternal life not eternal death. God does denounce homosexuality, but He also holds out hope to the homosexual, as to any other person.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 [NIV] *"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."*

Paul wrote to a church in Greece [where homosexuality was commonplace] that homosexuals, along with adulterers, thieves, drunks, etc. would **not** be invited to join God in the eternal family He is creating.

But remember this was said to Christians who used to be listed among such people.

Paul could write the same today to people living in other towns or cities.

People throughout the history of humanity have come out of sinful ways of life. Alcoholics, thieves, liars, sex addicts, drug addicts and homosexuals have all found, in their relationship with Jesus Christ, forgiveness, acceptance, love and help to change.

Those homosexuals in Paul's day might **not** have chosen to be homosexual either, but they did control one choice, to follow God. God's forgiveness gives us a chance to make that choice.

Let us be realistic, though. It involves more than just a choice to change ingrained habits. Arm yourself with accurate knowledge, learn the difference between a homosexual inclination and a homosexual lifestyle.

Other events in life may have shaped your tendencies, but you can shape your lifestyle.

Sexuality is **not** an irrepressible, uncontrollable drive for which must have an outlet.

Many have chosen to lead lives of abstinence. It may be difficult, but it can be done.

I know recovering alcoholics who abstain from drinking alcohol, ex drug addicts who abstain from drugs and homosexuals who abstain from practising homosexuality.

It is difficult for them sometimes, but with God's help using the wisdom that is found in the Christian Bible, effective counselling, support and dedication, they are leading happy guilt-free lives as they turn around the damage of the past.

Young Person's Question: Ever since I was young I remember noticing how other guys looked. I never thought anything about it until recently when one of my friends came "*out*" admitting he was gay. I know my feelings are wrong, but what can I do to change? I was born this way, like they say on TV? Is it in my genes?

Answer: It is **not** uncommon for young people to go through times of confusion about their sexual identity.

Most young people become aware of how other members of the same sex look. It is part of growing sexual awareness and adolescents are intrigued with others for all sorts of reasons from curiosity to envy.

You should **not** be too quick to assume, though, that you are gay.

Many young people are easily confused on this subject because of popular media views urging acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle. Even if some identify strong homosexual tendencies, they wrongly feel that the only way to deal with these tendencies is to accept homosexual behaviour. That is just **not** true.

Neither should you assume you are predetermined to be gay because of some unknown birth factor.

Sensational reports grab the headlines, but researchers are greatly divided. Some recent studies do **not** suggest genetics to be a significant reason for homosexuality. A myriad of other influences can, however, have a powerful effect. Fear of parents, fear of the opposite sex, lack of love, lack of gender identity, traumatic sexual experiences (molestation, incest, rape), early sexual experimentation, lack of social skills, weak father or mother relationships, high sensitivity or vulnerability, parental favouritism of one child over another and lack of security are all factors that can play major roles in a child developing homosexual tendencies.

In other words, it is a complicated puzzle and you may want to seek counselling from a compassionate trained Christian counsellor to help you address your particular circumstance and give you proper direction.

Right now, though, you need to guard against a big danger. In your confusion, you may be very vulnerable. So whether you truly have homosexual tendencies or are just confused, protect yourself by **not** becoming sexually active in any way.

If you choose to act on sexual urges (and this goes for both homosexuals and heterosexuals) you awaken a budding sexual longing that is extremely powerful.

Once a sexual door is opened, it is very hard to shut. And if it is **not** acted upon in the right environment (in love, within marriage), it can create long-term problems.

That is one reason why sexual abstinence until marriage is so important. It is not just an AIDS preventative, as portrayed in TV commercials now, it is important to your entire psychological, emotional and spiritual well-being.