

Homosexuality & Dr. Seat

by Wayne Goff

I was given a newspaper article written by Dr. Leroy Seat entitled “My Fill of Phil” and was asked to comment on his remarks on 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 and homosexuality.

Dr. Seat wrote “However, the Greek word used in that verse was never rendered as ‘*homosexuals*’ in a Bible translation until 1946. And, no competent Greek scholar will say with confidence what the Apostle Paul really meant by the rather obscure word” [The Times-Tribune, vol. 151, #14, 1/22/14].

Here is the Scripture in the New King James Version: “*Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor **homosexuals**, nor **sodomites**, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.*”

The King James Version renders these Greek words as “*effeminate*” and “*abusers of themselves with mankind*” — as does ASV (1901) and RV. The NASB (1978) translates the Greek as “*effeminate*” and “*homosexuals*.” The NIV (1984) translates the terms as “*male prostitutes*” and “*homosexual offenders*.” I do not think it takes a great deal of effort to see the meaning behind these translations. Homosexuality certainly is *included* in the words. But let’s look a little closer at the Greek words:

“Homosexuals” (malakos, malakoi)

The Greek word means “soft, fancy; homosexual” according to *Strong’s Concordance*. It goes on to say “figuratively, a catamite.” *Mounce’s Greek Dictionary* says “an instrument of unnatural lust, effeminate, 1 Cor. 6:9.” *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon* says of the word “...metaphorically, and in a bad sense: *effeminate*, of a catamite, a male who submits his body to unnatural lewdness, 1 Cor. 6:9 (Dionysius Halicarnassus, *Antiquities* 7,2)...” In short, it has reference to one who is the passive partner in the homosexual act. Perhaps some would like to deny the obvious, but the translators understood that about which they referred.

“Sodomites” (arsenokoites)

This Greek word means “male homosexual” (*Strong’s Concordance*). *Mounce’s Greek Dictionary* says “a male engaging in same-gender sexual activity, a sodomite, pedarest, 1 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:10.” *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon* says “one who lies with a male as with a female, a sodomite: 1 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:10...” Again, this word leaves no doubt as to what is being condemned by God through the inspired apostle!

Romans 1:26-27

“For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 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.”

Paul clearly describes homosexuality in these two verses, not leaving the linguists to cloud the understanding. He calls the acts “*vile passions*” that are “*against nature*.” There is **MUCH** special pleading on behalf of homosexuals, but *in reality* if everyone practiced it, then the human race would cease to exist! It is therefore contrary to what is natural. It is contrary to what God intended when He made mankind.

Robertson comments on this passage and says “The degradation of sex is what Paul here notes as one of the results of heathenism (the loss of God in the life of man). They passed by the Creator” (*Word Pictures in the NT*, IV:331).

Jesus Christ & Marriage

In Jesus’ comments to the Pharisees on the subject of divorce, He said: “*Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate*” (Matt. 19:4-6). Since God created marriage for men and women, and that is the natural understanding of the word, then **continued on page 290502**