any wonder that Satan has designed his insidious plan to deactivate this vast storehouse of intellect and ability?

What can parents do? Parents should reinforce the abilities and interests which are God's gift to children. A loving heavenly Father, who has gone to great lengths to make every snowflake different, wants each child to be unique in his special way. When parents try to make their children fit some particular plan of their own choosing, they reject God's plan and the unique identity of the child.

The homosexual dilemma is a direct result of the consequences of sin. It is the coming of sin to the fully ripened stage, and the fruit of sin has been allowed to develop, to grow, and to mature, not only under the very nose of the church, but to be developed, grown, and matured in the very persons who should be the fruit of the church. By the lack of truth, apathetic silence, ever-growing ignorance, and subtle deception, the church has handed to Satan the fruit which would be born on the tree of salvation.

Before Jesus came, if an unclean person touched a clean person the clean person became unclean. That is no longer true. Since Jesus came, the clean person can touch the unclean, and wonder of wonders, the unclean becomes clean! Just as soon as the church is prepared to teach the truth and live by it, God will move within the homosexual community.

Change by displacement

When God comes into the life of a sinner, gives him new life, and begins a change process, this change always occurs by displacement. To get rid of darkness, we do not mess with the darkness. We do not try to push it together, grasp it in some way and herd it out of our presence. We do not try to get any handle on darkness whatsoever. We simply displace it with light. If our room is cold, we displace the coldness with warmth. Ignorance flees away when knowledge comes. Fear vanishes when love blooms, and sin leaves when truth comes. The world system of thinking asks us not to be afraid of the dark, to adjust to the cold, not to act stupid, and to call love that which is not love.

Most people want homosexuals to simply stop being homosexuals. It cannot be done. God's plan and way is to displace homosexuality altogether with the reality of creative living at its best. He wants to do this for everyone, regardless of their past or present sins. He wants to do this for the church, the pastor, and you. God's plan and purpose in redemption is the same — right straight across the board. Let's be done with thinking that certain sins are so bad that they require a special salvation, a special plan, or a special kind of teaching. God has no special plan for homosexuals or alcoholics or prostitutes or murderers or for you. The plan He has covers all contingencies. One plan, one way, one Lord, one purpose, one hope, one sacrifice, one Spirit.

The real prison door to homosexuality lies in the confusion and complexities surrounding the dilemma but which have little or nothing to do with it. Satan has kept the attention of the world system directed to the areas in which the answers cannot be found. The church, too, has allowed its attention to be focused in those same areas, because that's where everyone is looking.

Journey to freedom

The way out of the homosexual prison is simple, sure, and speedy. And for anyone who wants out, really wants out, the odds are one hundred to nothing in his favor. He can begin his journey to freedom any time he wants. How?

First, determine the evidence for the existence of God. Don't try to proceed on unsupported assumptions or hearsay. Search until you are convinced in your own mind and heart that there is indeed a God. Then search out and weigh the evidence concerning the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When you are convinced that Jesus Christ is Lord in your understanding, and that God raised Him from the dead, and will receive Him as your Savior, you will receive the Living Spirit of the risen Christ to abide within. It is the Holy Spirit who directs and effects the transformation of any sinner. You have God's Word on it.

Trust the Scripture. In those places where you do not understand or where you find seeming contradictions, assign the error to your own comprehension, not to the Bible. After all, if you knew the truth, you would already be free.

In this critical time of reconstruction for your life, you cannot afford to accept hodgepodge ideas on which to build your life. In the final analysis, you cannot trust the words I write on these pages simply because I write them. But you can trust the truth when you meet it. It will be confirmed deep in your mind by the Holy Spirit. He confirms the truth by an inner dawning, by the deep insight and the joyous response of the real you when some fallacy is displaced by the truth.

Commit yourself to know the truth, and focus your attention and energy there. Satan will keep dragging your mind back to the problem if he can. He will point out to you that your desires, behavior, and failures are still part of you, and that you are no different than you ever were. He is a liar and has been so from the beginning. He is the father of lies.

A new spirit

It is perfectly understandable that even though you are a new creation in Christ, your mind and body are not new. The mind (or soul) will be renewed as truth displaces deception. The body itself cannot be redeemed in this life. This transformation comes about because you have a new spirit in proper relationship to God. The Holy Spirit can now reside within you. As you are exposed to the truth, the Holy Spirit within will minister and confirm the truth in your own mind. As your mind is renewed, it in turn displaces sinful practices and habits of the body.

As the Spirit directs your attention to the next area of your mind due for renewal, He will let you know what is wrong or sinful. Confess the sin, accept God's forgiveness, stand on the truth you have just gained, and the process will be repeated. You will be transformed just as quickly as you are willing to know, accept, and obey the truth.

Satan will try to get you to determine your own program of transformation and will try to get you to exercise your willpower to accomplish the task. Don't be deceived. You have no willpower! He also knows that when you fail, you will most likely say God does not work. Of yourselves you can do nothing.

What then is your part? You have a will. It has no power of itself, but you can point it in the direction of God or in the direction of Satan. Keep your will open towards God. Obey God's leading and teaching. That is your part.

Remember, you are not the sum total of your behavior. That's world thinking. You are not now, nor have you ever been a homosexual by identity. You were not created that way.

The world system is built on the idea that people are conditioned by their past experiences and their lives today are the sum total of their past.

Possibilities for change are unlimited when you discover that your life now, in the present, is no longer conditioned by the past; it is conditioned by a bright, ever widening, never ending future. Just think of it! A sinner's life is conditioned by the past. A Christian's life is conditioned by the future.

Homosexuality cannot be displaced if the focus is on the problem; but it disappears from the thinking and behavior of any person as he opens himself to the light of truth and the light of love. Don't mess with the darkness; let the light come in!

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

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