

"Outside Are The Dogs"
Pastor Tim Bushong
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My friend Robert Sparkman regularly writes letters to the editor for a local Kendallville, IN newspaper, the KPC News. Recently, Robert took aim at the tactics employed by those who desire an alphabet-soup society, and did a very fine job of exposing their strategies—the now-classic unholy trinity of desensitization, jamming, and conversion. The message is clear: All you normal people better get used to homosexuality or else! He also listed some of the horrific physical dangers risked by being involved in homosexuality.

Of course Mr. Sparkman ruffled some feathers—Kendallville has some kind of organized gay thing going on—called 'Noble County Pride' (not terribly original, plus the obvious 'look, ma—looky what I accomplished—I'm gay!!!' lunacy), and so a local Democratic politician wannabe, Walt Sorg, took umbrage at my friend's attempt to inform the public of the facts.

Walt Sorg is a terribly confused man—he ham-fistedly quotes from the Bible, making a mishmash of it, and has also decided to throw in his lot with the alphabet-soup promoters in his district. Perhaps he's a United Methodist...? Let's see if his recent letter to the KPC News holds any water—he begins (and I quote him in full):

To the Editor: I am deeply saddened by the recent letter from Robert Sparkman of Rome City, condemning an entire group of people in our community: LGBTQ+ people. Why the animosity toward our LGBTQ+ neighbors? Mr. Sparkman uses religion to justify hatred, yet true faith calls for love and acceptance.

Fine—be deeply saddened, but don't lie about Mr. Robert Sparkman in your response. He condemned *no one*, and I don't know what 3rd-grade you attended, but disagreement isn't the same thing as hatred. We'll get to "true faith" in a moment...

The core message of the Bible rings clear: love your neighbor as yourself (Leviticus 19:18).

Sure, that is *a* message in the Bible, but love for one's neighbor has no basis in ethics or even in definition without first obeying the greatest commandment, to "love the Lord your God with all of your heart, ...soul, ...mind, and ...strength." Without this taken precedence, as Jesus taught, love for neighbor means anything at all. And you really, *really* need to read Leviticus 18 before you go all 'full acceptance' on us!

Nowhere does Scripture condemn loving relationships based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Genesis 1:27 tells us God created humanity "male and female." This passage celebrates the beauty of diversity, not a limitation. God doesn't create cookie cutter people; He delights in the rich tapestry of human experience.

Truly amazing—it actually teaches the polar *opposite* of what Mr. Sorg clams. That same passage places absolute limitations on all lawful human sexual expression: It's utterly binary. Continue the passage and it says "Thus, the two shall become one flesh."

There is not even the *possibility* of a 'one-flesh' union taking place between two homosexual men or two lesbians—they're simply not designed for it. Yes—God really does delight in the "rich tapestry of human experience," but never when it violates His moral Law and His creation norms.

Likewise, in Galatians 3:28, Paul emphasizes that in Christ “there is no Jew or Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Faith transcends earthly categories, uniting us in God’s love.

What Galatians 3:28 is addressing is the status of literally everyone who has repented and trusted in Christ for salvation. Faith never, *ever* transcends categories that God created and blessed and called “good.” Faith *in Christ* transcends your own sin, since your faith is being placed in the sin-bearer, Jesus Christ—and *He* said “Go and sin no more” to the woman caught in sexual sin; He calls for full repentance! To try and extrapolate some kind of sexual egalitarianism from that text is sheer fantasy.

Some point to the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, but a closer look reveals the true sin. These cities were destroyed for rampant violence and inhospitality (Ezekiel 16:49-50). LGBTQ+ people simply desire to live with dignity and respect — the very qualities Sodom and Gomorrah lacked.

Again, Mr. Sorg presents only *part* of a text—and this is an all-too common trope that is used by the pro-homosexual lobby. Yes—let’s look *even closer*..

Just pick up a few vs’s right before the passage he appealed to, and then keep reading—it says in vs. 47: “Yet you have not merely walked in their ways or done according to their *abominations*...” and at the end of vs. 50 it states “they were haughty and committed *abominations* before Me.” (There is no mention of violence, either—our confused friend had to insert that category)

I wonder what the word “abomination” is referring to? *Nowhere* in the Old Testament Law is “inhospitality” ever listed as an abomination. But male anal sex is, as is the practice of women exchanging what is natural with men (and created by God) for ‘sex’ with another woman.

Just compare with Jude 7 (“just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh”) and there is no question whatsoever the authors are saying.

Jesus himself associated with the marginalized, the ostracized. He dined with tax collectors and sinners (Luke 15:1-2), showing compassion for those deemed “unclean” by society. Following Jesus’ example, shouldn’t we extend the same kindness to all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity?

Jesus not only associated with social outcasts, He called them to repent and to believe in Him. Back to our “Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female” theme, any person on the planet can be “one in Christ,” but *only* if they trust in Christ alone for salvation, repenting of their sins. The Bible outright condemns homosexuality as a vile sin, and yet one that can be repented of and the sinner forgiven; made clean.

Homosexuality, both as a practice and an identity, will keep a person out of God’s kingdom, that is, His beneficent rule. The Good news is this: “Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.” (1 Cor. 6:11)

Let us move beyond fear and prejudice. The Bible is a book of love, not hate. Let's create a community that reflects God's love for all His children, offering acceptance and celebrating the rich tapestry of human experience. As state representative I will work for equal legal protections for all Hoosiers regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation.

Walt Sorg
Auburn

Hey, Walt—you left out a whole bunch of Hoosiers who know the exactly what would be the outcome of your 'sexual orientation' political paradise—ever visit San Francisco?

See, what Walter forgets is that there are most definitely things that God *hates*, and at the top of the list is anyone who tampers with His revealed Word—Walt Sorg, you have done just that. You're doing nothing but offering a deception—you're lying about what God thinks and has revealed regarding sexual perversity. That makes you, and those who follow your fake theology, excluded from the Kingdom and from fellowship with God.

Rev. 22:15: "Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying." Walt, you only get one life, and then you will be judged—so repent of your lying, of your wicked manipulation of God's precious Word, and of your tacit support for those who have given themselves over to vile affections, who desperately need the *real* Jesus—the One Who can free them from their sexual slavery.