

- that sin would have fewer takers if the consequences were immediate....(JM) These are passions of dishonor and disgrace and depravity—regardless of what public opinion is today. God abandoned them not only to **idolatry**, the ultimate expression of man’s **spiritual degeneracy**, but also to degrading passions, which he identifies in these two verses as **homosexuality**, the ultimate expression of man’s **moral degeneracy**.

**Biblical Principle:** When man forsakes the AUTHOR of nature, he inevitably forsakes the ORDER of nature. (JVM) HUA

**?Question:** How can you use this perspective in your defense of Biblical World view?

### DO | What are you going to do about it?

#### *Ephesians 6:13*

*Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and **having done all**, to stand firm.*

- God says your preparation is in the strength of the Lord. Your equipment is in the armor of God. Your enemy is formidable, the devil. You need to understand his schemes. You’re engaged in a real struggle, and your struggle is not just with humans but it’s with a supernatural force, a complex structure, a hierarchy of demons that operate in the heavenlies. **This may seem more than you could ever be able to bear, but the truth of the matter is, if you put on the full armor of God, you will be able to resist in this evil day, this era of evil that dominates the fallen world, and when it’s all over, you can stand firm.** For us, as Christians, while all is well in an eternal sense, **as long as we remain in this world, we are engaged in a very serious battle, a warfare.** It is in some ways a life-and-death struggle, a struggle with the unseen hordes of wickedness behind the visible evil in the world, and these are **demonic forces that control the minds of men and the cultures of the world to activate the purposes of their leader, who is none other than Satan himself.**

**Biblical Principle:** Satan’s goal- turn us away from God and back to sin! HUA

**?Question:?** Are you conscience and engaged in the battle around you? Ignorance is not an excuse for silence!!

### -----Stories from the Field-----

*There is a Gathering Storm over gender and sexuality. It is now a collision between revelation and revolution. The revolution is demanding a complete reordering of society and civilization while rejecting the revelation of God and his creational mandates – the goodness with which he designed sex, maleness, and femaleness.*

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This revolution did not come randomly, its big impetus was the advent of birth control liberating human sexuality from reproduction. Contraception severed the union between sex and procreation, giving rise not only to a pandemic of sexual intercourse outside the boundaries of marriage, but also in the reimagining of human sexuality and gender. When the sacredness of sex was diminished, the lifelong covenant of marriage was downgraded to the temporary contract of marriage. Then in 1973, abortion separated pregnancy from responsibility and unwanted children could be easily discarded and eliminated.

The Stonewall riots moved the gay rights movement into the public eye, and it now continues to re-orient the moral fabric of our country. The LGBTQ+ revolution demands not only equality but also the suppression of divergent world views- Christian worldviews. They define marriage as a symbol of oppression of sexual liberties championed by the LGBTQ+. They seek a comprehensive upending of the entire moral system of sexuality. Now the Transgender movement is attempting to redefine humanity. They take the objective distinctions of male and female and reorients it around subjective, individual experience and identity. Now gender identity will be an act of our own creation. This world view has abandoned the goodness of the created order. It has exchanged the truth about God for a lie and chosen instead to worship the creature rather than the Creator.



**Men of Valor**

### **Gathering Storm #6**

**Biblical Manhood:** To love and follow Jesus by being Men of the Word and Men of Prayer while Accepting Accountability, Taking Responsibility, Leading Intentionally, Persevering through Adversity in their domain to make God Known

When societies reject the natural created order that God put in place, chaos and confusion follow. The sexual revolution must totally redefine the morality, cultural authority, personal identity and more. The subversion of marriage and the family has been one of the most devastating results of the modernity, and this very subversion is central to the ambition of the sexual revolutionaries. Now this revolution seeks the utter destruction of historic Christianity!

The biblical worldview leaves no room for capitulation nor room for surrender. The theological questions that surround gender and sexuality challenge our very identity as humans and our view of the character of God. In response to the storm gathering over gender and sexuality, Christians must do at least two things: 1 – preach true gospel liberty in the face of erotic liberty and stand ready to receive the refuge of the sexual revolution. The people of God serve as the embassy for God to a lost and dying world,

### **Talk about it:**

**Question for contemplation and discussion:** What did God enlighten to you in the text?

## **KNOW | What does God want us to know**

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### ***1 Corinthians 7:2-4***

***But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband. The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.***

- **Anything that opposes the scripture can not lead to human flourishing.** If a single believer **did not have self-control**, that person should seek to **marry**. If a Christian is single but does not have the gift of singleness and is being strongly tempted sexually, he or she should pursue marriage. **Let them marry** in the Greek is in the aorist

imperative, indicating a strong command. “Get married,” Paul says, **for it is better to marry than to burn**. The term means “to be inflamed,” and is best understood as referring to strong passion. A person cannot live a happy life, much less serve the Lord, if he is continually burning with sexual desire—even if the desire never results in actual immorality. And in a society, such as Corinth’s or ours in which immorality is so prevalent and accepted, it is especially difficult not to succumb to temptation.

- **Sexual temptations are also difficult to withstand because they appeal to the normal and natural desires that God has given us.** God provides marriage as a way to satisfy these natural desires and strengthen the partners against temptation.

**Biblical Principle.** Marriage has the responsibility to care for each other – not each seek it elsewhere.

**? Question:** Knowing this is God’s perspective -how will you respond to the culture who thinks it is the individual’s freedom and responsibility?

## **BE | How does God want us to become more like Him?**

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### ***Romans 1:26-27***

*That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other*

- **Human same sex passion and activity is contrary to nature and God’s design.** God’s abandoning sinful mankind has a dual sense. First, in an indirect sense God gave them over simply by withdrawing His restraining and protective hand, allowing the consequences of sin to take their inevitable, destructive course. Sin degrades man, debases the image of God in which he is made, and strips him of dignity, peace of mind, and a clear conscience. Sin destroys personal relationships, marriages, families, cities, and nations. It also destroys churches... Fallen men are not concerned about their sin but only about the pain from the unpleasant consequences sin brings. Someone has well said