

## Commonsense Christians? Same-sex marriage

### 1. What does the Bible say?

#### **Genesis 1:26-31**

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the animals, all the earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; He created him in the image of God; He created them male and female. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth." <sup>29</sup> God also said, "Look, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the surface of the entire earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. This food will be for you, <sup>30</sup> for all the wildlife of the earth, for every bird of the sky, and for every creature that crawls on the earth-- everything having the breath of life in it. *I have given* every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw all that He had made, and it was very good. Evening came, and then morning: the sixth day.

#### **Genesis 2:21-25**

So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place. <sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God made the rib He had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> And the man said: This one, at last, is bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called woman, for she was taken from man. <sup>24</sup> This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. <sup>25</sup> Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.

#### **Leviticus 18:22**

You are not to sleep with a man as with a woman; it is detestable.

#### **Leviticus 20:13**

If a man sleeps with a man as with a woman, they have both committed an abomination. They must be put to death; their blood is on their own hands.

### **Matthew 19:1-6**

When Jesus had finished this instruction, He departed from Galilee and went to the region of Judea across the Jordan. <sup>2</sup> Large crowds followed Him, and He healed them there. <sup>3</sup> Some Pharisees approached Him to test Him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife on any grounds?" <sup>4</sup> "Haven't you read," He replied, "that He who created them in the beginning made them male and female, <sup>5</sup> and He also said: For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh? <sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, man must not separate."

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

This is why God delivered them over to degrading passions. For even their females exchanged natural sexual intercourse for what is unnatural. <sup>27</sup> The males in the same way also left natural sexual intercourse with females and were inflamed in their lust for one another. Males committed shameless acts with males and received in their own persons the appropriate penalty for their perversion.

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11** <sup>9</sup> Do you not know that the unjust will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: no sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, homosexuals, <sup>10</sup> thieves, greedy people, drunkards, revilers, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom. <sup>11</sup> Some of you were like this; 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.

## **2. Dealing with the slogans**

### **John 3:16**

For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

### **1 John 4:7-16**

Dear friends, let us love one another, because love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and

knows God. <sup>8</sup> The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent His One and Only Son into the world so that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, if God loved us in this way, we also must love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God remains in us and His love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we remain in Him and He in us: He has given to us from His Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and we testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God-- God remains in him and he in God. <sup>16</sup> And we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him.

### **3. Dealing with reality**

#### **Romans 13:1**

Everyone must submit to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist are instituted by God.

#### **Acts 5:29**

But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than men..."

#### **1 Timothy 2:1-6**

First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is good, and it pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, a man, Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who gave Himself-- a ransom for all, a testimony at the proper time.