



News and Current Events :: Christian singer admits he's gay

Christian singer admits he's gay, on: 2008/9/15 8:02

I really struggled about whether to post this because I don't want it to appear as gossip or like I'm pointing fingers at someone.

- 1) it can't be gossip since he has already gone public with this and is proud of his sin.
- 2) I'm not pointing fingers, but rather asking the brethren to be in prayer for this deceived man.

Ray Boltz, who is famous for the songs "Thank You (For Giving To The Lord)" and "I Pledge Allegiance To The Lamb" has admitted to having struggled with homosexuality for decades, and has embraced the lifestyle as a gift from God.

This is tremendous deception and delusion, and we need to be in prayer for this man.

Here is what has been written about it.

September 12, 2008 4:24PM

Ray Boltz Comes Out

ChristianityToday.com
Mark Moring

Ray Boltz, who sold about 4.5 million records before retiring from Christian music a few years ago, came out of the closet Friday to announce that he's gay.

In an interview with the gay magazine *The Washington Blade*, Boltz said he came out to his family and some close friends in December 2004, but only now decided to go public with the news.

"I'd denied it ever since I was a kid," Boltz, 55, told the magazine. "I became a Christian, I thought that was the way to deal with this and I prayed hard and tried for 30-some years and then at the end, I was just going, 'I'm still gay. I know I am.' And I just got to the place where I couldn't take it anymore... when I was going through all this darkness, I thought, 'Just end this.'"

One reason Boltz decided to come out now might be because he's performing Sunday at Jesus Metropolitan Community Church in Indianapolis, and then next Sunday, Sept. 21, at the Metropolitan Community Church of Washington, D.C. Both congregations are a part of a denomination that embraces the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community.

Boltz is perhaps best known for his song "Thank You," about a dream in which a Christian thanks the Sunday school teacher who led him to Jesus. It was the GMA song of the year in 1990. Other Boltz hits include "Watch the Lamb," "The Anchor Holds," and "I Pledge Allegiance to the Lamb."

Boltz also told *The Blade* that **he doesn't want to get into debates about Scripture** and has no plans to "go into First Baptist or an Assembly of God church and run in there and say, 'I'm gay and you need to love me anyway.'"

For him, the decision to come out is much more personal.

"This is what it really comes down to," he says. "If this is the way God made me, then this is the way I'm going to live. It's not like God made me this way and he'll send me to hell if I am who he created me to be... I really feel close to God because I no longer hate myself."

Earlier, Boltz had alluded to the issue on his official website, saying that if people "knew who I really was, I would never be accepted."

Interesting that he doesn't want to debate scripture. "Don't confuse me with the truth!" When the Word of God convicts you of your sin you have two choices... repent, or dump the Word of God.

Unfortunately in Ray Boltz's case he has chosen to ignore God's Word.

It's very sad, especially considering his sin led to his divorce, and caused much hurt for his 4 children.

We should pray that God will lead him to true repentance... which is going to be a miracle because now Boltz is playing in gay churches where no doubt he will be raised up as their poster child. He will find human acceptance there and it will be like heroin to a junky.

Krispy

Re: Christian singer admits he's gay - posted by HopeinChrist, on: 2008/9/15 8:38

This truly is heartbreaking. I will pray for the truth to penetrate the darkness. It seems certain sins have such extra negative connotations with them, homosexuality definitely being one of them. I think because most of us can't relate to the struggle at all, it is easier to point fingers. (not alluding that is your intention) But, if homosexuality is the weakness of one's flesh then I see it as no different than other "struggles" of the flesh. It is a desire that has to be crucified by way of surrendering your will to His. It is the same for a whore munging who must crucify his lust or a glutton forsaking their idol or fill in the blank. I've always heard the argument from the gay community saying God made me this way. That's ridiculous. God is not the author of sin. He didn't make people gay anymore than he made them fornicators or gluttons. It is a choice to yield to our sinful nature or to yield to his perfect will.

That said, I do sympathize with him. I understand because I have struggled with gluttony all my life. And there is a fine line between striving against the said sin with our own strength versus laying down our right to it. Any time we rely on our own strength to fight against sin, we will lose. And one grows weary when they battle sin this way. When you simply surrender it, it is so much easier.

Please do pray for Ray Boltz. His music has been an encouragement to many believers over the years. The first time I heard Watch the Lamb I nearly had to be peeled off the floor.

Hope

Re: Christian singer admits he's gay - posted by enid, on: 2008/9/15 8:39

You have to feel sad for his family. What they have gone through and will go through, emotionally, and the remarks others will make, both Christian and non-Christian, well, let's leave it to guess work.

You have to wonder how many more 'Christians' are there like him.

Enough said.

Re:, on: 2008/9/15 8:50

Quote:

-----I think because most of us can't relate to the struggle at all, it is easier to point fingers

Yes, and that's why I have tried to address this with some sensitivity. I don't understand what gay people go through. But that also doesn't mean that we should not declare what God says about such sins.

I have to die to myself daily on a number of different things. Lust of the eyes being one of them. Most Christian men won't admit they struggle with this, but hey... I'll be honest about it. I do!

So on some level I can relate to Boltz's struggle.

I will say this though, homosexuality is one of the few sins that the Lord specifically calls an "abomination". So I do think there

There are certain sins which the Lord considers more serious. All sin is serious, but some more than others. I don't know how else to explain what I'm trying to say... but hoping y'all catch my meaning.

Krispy

Re: Christian singer admits he's gay, on: 2008/9/15 10:13

He left a comment on his website:

<http://www.rayboltz.com/>

Re: Christian singer admits he's gay - posted by brentw (), on: 2008/9/15 10:54

WOW!! I think about in the last days sin WILL grow worse and worse...

I know of a "evangelical" church that allows gay people serve in the church and sing in the choir. The church doesn't stop them because they feel "we all have sin" and if we stop them from serving in the church then they won't hear the gospel and ruin the chances of them getting right with God.

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2008/9/15 11:04

brentw,

The thing is, compromise won't get them right with God either.

So either way, they perish, unless God Himself moves on their hearts.

Re:, on: 2008/9/15 11:17

Quote:
-----I know of a "evangelical" church that allows gay people serve in the church and sing in the choir. The church doesn't stop them because they feel "we all have sin" and if we stop them from serving in the church then they won't hear the gospel and ruin the chances of them getting right with God.

I've heard and seen that reasoning before too... and it's utter foolishness.

First off, yes we all sin. However there is a difference between being a sinner saved by grace... and a sinner not thinking that his sin is a sin.

I struggle with sin in my life. We all do. But when someone stands up and says "God made me this way... and so I will embrace this", that is absolute rebellion against God. In fact it is an accusation against God. How cruel for God to create people gay, and then call it an abomination!

When someone embraces a sinful lifestyle, no matter what that sin might be... and refuses to repent, then scripture actually exhorts the church to put them out, not let them participate.

If the church lets them participate it gives that sinner a false sense of security... that what they are doing is acceptable to God. It also sends a message to others within that church that a little bit of sin isn't so bad.

That's exactly why scripture says "put them out".

I exhort everyone here to pray for Ray Boltz and his family... especially his ex-wife. However, at the same time, unless he repents he is not welcome (as a brother) in my church. If he came sincerely seeking the truth then our arms are open,

but if he remains unrepentant and claims he is living as God meant for him to live, then for the spiritual protection of the church... he would not be welcome.

Does that make sense?

Krispy

Re:, on: 2008/9/15 11:30

At a church our family attended awhile back they had a youth leader who my oldest kids discerned was gay. He would not openly say he was gay but you could discern that he was by his behavior ect..One time he suggested that we make all of the kids shirts pink.

The pastor of the church even preached (I believe prophesied)once that he believed eventually homosexuals would pu sh their agenda on the church not realizing it was happening in his own congregation. I told the youth pastor about it and warned him to do something so the blood is not on my hands.

I don't know if they ever did do anything about it but it's in the Lord's hands now.

Re:, on: 2008/9/15 11:39

Yea, I know a guy who was the music director at a Pentecostal church. I consider him a friend. I know there had been so me rough patches in his marriage, but he never has gone into any detail... but by his mannerism I get a real sense that it had to do with him struggling with homosexuality.

Now, I can say pretty safely that he is dying to those desires daily. In that particular case I dont have a problem with that. There is no difference between him seeking the Lord's strength to die to homosexual desires as there is me asking God to give me the strength not to look upon a woman with lust.

You can't really control what tempts you. Some are tempted by alcohol, some lying, almost all lust. The issue is what we do about it. If we hit our knees and rely totally on God's strength being sufficient for us... then we are clean before our Lo rd. If we gleefully indulge in our sinful desires with no repentance at all ... we are seperated from God.

Krispy

Re: - posted by Ruach34 (), on: 2008/9/15 11:52

Wow, this is disappointing to me and I agree with your comments, Krittr.

Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiisss (), on: 2008/9/15 11:54

Disappointing.

I actually liked some of Ray Boltz' older music. I haven't heard any new music from the guy in years, and wondered whatever became of him. It is heartbreaking to learn this.

I suppose that the only good thing about all of this is that Boltz realized that this was a sin for many years. Somehow, it seems, he was recently deceived to think that this was "normal" or "acceptable." Perhaps Mr. Boltz hasn't fallen so far into sin as to be beyond repentance? Perhaps believers can reach out with the love of God and explain the error of his thinking?

This news makes me wonder the origin of one of his songs:

Do you still feel the nails?

by RAY BOLTZ

©1989 Shepherd Boy Music/ASCAP and SonWorshippers/ASCAP

They tell me Jesus died
For my transgressions
And that He paid that price
A long long time ago
When He gave His life for me
On a hill called Calvary
But there's something else
I want to know

CHORUS:

Does He still feel the nails
Every time I fail?
Does He hear the crowd cry,
Crucify, again?
Am I causing Him pain?
Then I know I've got to change
I just can't bear the thought
Of hurting Him

It seems that I'm so good
At breaking promises
And I treat His precious grace
So carelessly
But each time He forgives
What if He relives
The agony He felt on that tree?

CHORUS

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord

Do you still feel the nails
Every time I fail?
Have I crucified you, Jesus,
With my sin?
I'm tired of playing games
I really want to change
I never want to hurt You again

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord

:-(

May the Lord use someone to reach out with the truth to this fallen singer! Please join in prayer for this man and his family!

Re:, on: 2008/9/15 13:04

Can you imagine if we all decided that it was ok to just live out our desires... because after all, God created us like that (with those desires)?

It would be total chaos!

This whole idea that we should live out who we "really are" is absurd. If I lived out my own desires I would have murdered someone by now... be living inside a whisky bottle, coon doggin' after every short skirt I saw... etc etc. But hey, I would be who I truly am!

Thank God we have been set free from who we truly are! No one is righteous, yet that is what we are called to. God didn't call us to be ourselves, He called us to be like Him.

Krispy

Re: - posted by Ruach34 (), on: 2008/9/15 14:25

Go ahead Krittr, preach it! this is why the preaching of the cross must be top priority in this day and age. Preachers must preach the total death of believers through Christ or else there is easy-believism and everyone does what is right in their own eyes.

O Lord, we have diminished your finished work on the cross and consider it to be a license to remain in sin. Forgive us and may we walk in complete death and abandonment to our self life so that we may show the world what it truly means to be born-again, saved, holy, and a christian!

Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiiss (), on: 2008/9/15 14:26

It sounds so much like people are selfishly becoming "lovers of themselves" rather than loves of God!

This is truly heartbreaking! I feel for this man -- and pray that he repents! I also pray for his family. May God give them strength in the midst of such pain. May these children fix their eyes upon Jesus rather than the sins of their father!

:-(

Re: Two good things - posted by JoanM, on: 2008/9/15 14:45

I can see two good things that might come out of a discussion of this issue: FIRST, examining ourselves (individually and as the Body of Christ) and SECONDLY, learning application of the Word of God regarding this sin from one another here.

May we examine ourselves in these days.

30 years in what is called Christian music. 30 years in resisting the outward acting on temptation. 30 years is a long time to never come across someone with discernment, never come across a pastor or a mature Christian who knew the way to reconciliation and restoration, who knew the Love of God, who knew ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED. Was there no one to confide in? Alone, possibly unsaved, in a 30-year struggle.

To know the Divine Love of God, the accepted in the Beloved, nothing can separate us from that including the sin of fellow believers (the ones with discernment and Truth but not enough with Love to spiritually restore). Here there is no need to seek acceptance with unredeemed sinners blinded by false doctrine.

I know there are those who give a testimony of freedom in Christ from this sin and even have outreaches, and present facts to lawmakers and professional organizations (AMA, APA). Where are the "such were some of you" in the Body?

Krispy, OF COURSE he risks being raised up as a poster child where false doctrine abounds. The "believing" church does this very thing so why wouldn't these congregations.

I do not want to discuss this man. Who here walked with him? No one here ministered to him. Maybe he did not struggle with sin, but how many do struggle that we walk with, knowing the scripture (or some of it) but not the power of God. Who on this site does NOT know struggle? Who on this site does not desperately cling to the "little" they have,

grateful (even rightly), satisfied with making do, with just getting through until ... What? ... Until our own flesh death? Until the rapture?

What ever it is that has happened in the Body of Christ, at least in North America and the "West", we need the manifest presence of God. **We need Revival.** So ... Is the truth presented everywhere on this site about revival believed? Prayed for? Do we forget that it is not natural to anyone to pray? "The carnal mind is enmity against God." (Ryle) "Tell him you would pray better, but you cannot, till he pleases to help you." (Watts Sr. from prison to his 11-year-old son, Isaac Watts). Do we even know prayerlessness as sin? What it means about our condition, our faith, and our intimacy with God? I think it is a device of our enemy that lulls believers into thoughts like "it is enough that God answers my prayers for my children, for what job, for the strength to resist the temptation of lust, etc.". If in fact God does. **Prayers for biblical revival, now that's a different thing in this war.** How God saves and equips the Saints in revival.

I pray his "coming out" be transformed in his thinking to his coming to the end of his hypocrisy. I have hope for anyone who sings about the Lamb of God. I pray his death-grip hold on the lie (God made me this way) becomes sawdust in his mouth and that any heart-cry for Christ he knew in music plague him. Who will bring the truth of our sin nature, after the fall, to him? But I am drifting into the SECOND GOOD THING that could come out of a discussion of this issue. Another post.

Re:, on: 2008/9/15 14:52

Joan, good post!

Just would like to point out that everyone here that has posted has said only caring things about Ray Boltz. I cant imagine the struggle he has had... and the fact that as you pointed out, no one picked up on it and helped him. But as Boltz said, he worked hard to keep it from everyone. So it's not exactly the church's fault.

Also, this is exactly what the church gets when they put someone up on a pedestal. We put so much pressure on these people to be perfect and almost super human. We cant continue to do that. The church did that to Bob Dylan... and drove him away.

Krispy

Re: The second thing - posted by JoanM, on: 2008/9/15 14:59

Drifting into the SECOND GOOD THING that could come out of a discussion of this issue, I know little here.

In my whole life I have had only one discussion with a homosexual that God later saved and freed. It was rooted in Romans 1:19 and Romans 1:21. A four-plus hour conversation with someone who DID believe God was. It included some puzzling through creation rather than evolution but what little uncertainty they had there did not matter to them, because they believed God was. What they had never done, and what they did that day was, in prayer to God alone; they glorified God as God and thank Him. The thanksgiving that poured out humbled me. And the prayer that followed it (coming from the rest of Romans 1). That is all I have witnessed in this specific area. I have never heard or read specifically how others have met God on this.

God deals so individually with us. Do we wait until someone asks?

I do notice that this sin leads directly to vain imagination and darkening a foolish heart. Like a fast track or something. As I read Romans 1 today, I do wonder if, and then how, this might be particularly offensive to God. He hates ALL sin. The only things I can think of is that making an idol out of the very flesh of man (rather than a tree, or money, or your neighbors wife, or a name for yourself), touches worshiping the FALLEN image of God, the flesh of man itself. I think that maybe somewhere in here is a double turning to Self as God, both in the concrete flesh and in "spirit" (not certain of the word here, human spirit? soul?). It strikes at the root (or close to the root) of God's design of man. If homosexuality had any part in God's character there would be no creation. Maybe God particularly hate lies and liars because of Truth (Christ, the Word of God), and drunkenness because of His Holy Spirit.

I need to examine the list that His Word points out and meditate on why that list, why elaborations on some sins and not

others. We all understand something of God's focus on adultery in the Old Testament. Closer to the nature of the heart of God's character, His purposed will in creation, seems a possibility.

There is so much we will not know until we see Him. I thank God for every bit of Himself that He reveals to us.

Re: - posted by JoanM, on: 2008/9/15 15:07

Still reading posts.

I love the Body. I do think it is revival or ruin. Oh that we could grow and be equipped, and bring, NO WITNESS, an end to lies about Christ, for His Name's sake.

I think I am ruined for posting here anymore. Every post goes to revival. So sorry, I've lost the ability to type.

edit; praying

Re:, on: 2008/9/15 19:45

Quote:
-----I will say this tho, homosexuality is one of the few sins that the Lord specifically calls an "abomination". So I do think there are certain sins which the Lord considers more serious. All sin is serious, but some more than others. I dont know how else to explain what I'm trying to say... but hoping y'all catch my meaning.

I do catch your meaning but wanted to lovingly point out that there are a few other sins that we ourselves could be committing that are an abomination to God . . . Like eating shark, swordfish, catfish, shrimp, crabs, lobsters, clams, oysters, and many others. Oh, and of course, bacon!!! (Pork and rabbit, just to name a couple.) Leviticus says, "they shall be an abomination unto you:"

Lest anyone get caught up of the words of "an abomination 'unto you'," here are some that are very serious abominations UNTO God . . .

And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.
Luke 16:15

Let me ask myself and everyone else . . . Since we have been born again, have we EVER misled anyone, exaggerated the truth ever so slightly, or just flat out deceived or lied? These are an abomination UNTO God. Proverbs 11.1; 12.22; 20.10; 20.23; Rev 21.27.

Quote:
-----So I do think there are certain sins which the Lord considers more serious.

I think those are just as serious in the life of a believer but I'm not trying to argue just point out that there are just as serious sins.

And last but not least, lest any think their abomination is any less than a homosexuals is: A proud heart is an abomination to God. Proverbs 16.5

"He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone..." John 8.7b

I really like what Joan said, I can see two good things that might come out of a discussion of this issue: FIRST, examining ourselves (individually and as the Body of Christ).

This is just my personal opinion; I know we may not like homosexuality, but no one said loving the sinner would be clean and pretty!! I honestly think if we cannot present the truth in love (like Joan did for 4 hours), then we should not even att

empt to confront anyone in sin until we've first examined ourselves in light of Scripture.

Having said all that.... Joan said again, If homosexuality had any part in God's character there would be no creation. Maybe God particularly hate lies and liars because of Truth (Christ, the Word of God), and drunkenness because of His Holy Spirit.

I've never seen it like that but I'm leaning towards agreeing with you. 2 Thess 2.10b says, "because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Here is the rest 2 Thess 2.11-12 - And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

I'm not talking about Boltz or homosexuals in particular here. I'm talking about ANYONE in any walk of life (from the pastor, deacon, blog owner, blog reader, and teacher to the lay person). I'm seeing for myself, that I must be in prayer continually to have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying unto the Church so that I might know what the love of the truth is AND receive it. The love of the Truth is not usually in the Best Selling Christian books either!! (huge grin)

God bless, I just dropped in!! Gotta go.

Re: Christian singer admits he's gay - posted by AbideinHim (), on: 2008/9/15 21:57

It is sad that much of the Church accepts practicing homosexuals into their congregation without preaching the truth to them.

The Apostle Paul had to write a very strong letter to the Corinthian believers because they were allowing a man to live in an immoral relationship and still be called a brother.

We are facing a day in this country that to preach against homosexuality will be outlawed as a hate crime.

Jesus died for the homosexual, and He is not willing that any should perish but that all would come to repentance.

We are not helping homosexuals by allowing them to feel secure in their sin.

Mike

Re: - posted by BenBrockway, on: 2008/9/15 22:28

Quote:

Intens4Him wrote:

I do catch your meaning but wanted to lovingly point out that there are a few other sins that we ourselves could be committing that are an abomination to God . . . Like eating shark, swordfish, catfish,shrimp, crabs, lobsters, clams, oysters, and many others. Oh, and of course, bacon!!! (Pork and rabbit, just to name a couple.) Leviticus says, "they shall be an abomination unto you:"

Acts 10:11-16

11He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. 12It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air. 13Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."

14"Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean."

15The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

16This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven."

Plus, I could have sworn there were a few fishermen in the Bible...

:(:-)

Re: 2 Thess. 2: 10-12/"christian music gospel" - posted by JoanM, on: 2008/9/15 23:08

Wonderful find Intens4Him: 2 Thess 2.10b -12 says, "because they **received not** the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

I had underlined "the love of the truth" before. I am going to explore if both meanings that occur to me today apply: receive a caring for the truth AND/OR receive the LOVE that is (in) the Truth. In this second way, I am thinking received the Love of God in the Truth of God, the Father in Jesus and Jesus in the Father (John 14:10-11). The Word of God says, "God is Love" and Jesus is Truth/the Truth. Thank you for pointing out that verse. Maybe we can make progress (equipping progress) in understanding this subject. Still thinking and praying.

This is encouraging in that loving the truth, and walking that out in transparent honesty, could put a person on speaking ground with God even if they had not yet heard Divine Truth.

Here are the pieces of this man's life, reported in an interview with him, that stood out to me. Again, 30-years and no Gospel preached? And no one to pray with and for him? What is it, academic teaching? HmmHm just posted a message: (https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id25192&forum34) The Holy Spirit's Power that may address this.

1. He discovered rock music in high school. Lying on his bed at age 17 hearing the Allman Brothers' "Whipping Post" awoke him to the possibilities of music.
2. the Jesus Movement,
3. a visiting minister invited him to Jacob's Well, a Christian coffeehouse
4. saw gospel group the Fisherman perform and had a life-altering experience.
5. "That evening had a profound impact on my life," he says. "I realized that this was the truth and that Jesus was alive... that's really where I made a commitment to Christ. **I decided I could be born again and all of the things I was feeling in the past would fall away and I would have this new life.**"
6. Indiana — for some reason that's never been fully explored — had become a hotbed of Christian music.
7. "I basically lived an 'ex-gay' life — I read every book, I read all the scriptures they use, I did everything to try and change."
8. "There's absolutely no question about it... I believed what I sang but in the back of my mind, I always felt I could never quite measure up."
9. "It's there on every single record," he says. "That struggle of accepting myself and my feelings. There's a lot of pain there and it connected with a lot of people. They weren't struggling with the same thing necessarily but we all suffer with our humanity."
10. "I don't want to be a spokesperson, I don't want to be a poster boy
11. He and Carol Boltz remain close (their divorce was finalized early this year). She's become involved with the gay advocacy group Soulforce but declined, through Boltz, to be interviewed for this story.

Number 5 is a strong argument against the words of today's "Christian music" ministering life.

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2008/9/16 1:46

You gotta wonder what is going through a person's mind to turn to homosexuality. Then you gotta wonder what makes them confess it and instead of seeking cleansing, seek to find acceptance.

He was a superstar. What goes up must come down.

David

Re:, on: 2008/9/16 7:50

Intens4Him... Ben hit the nail on the head. We can point to the NT and show where we are set free from the Law because it was fulfilled thru Jesus Christ. The Word specifically tells us that all those things you pointed to as being abominations in the OT were declared clean by God in the NT after Jesus' death burial and resurrection.

However, homosexuality and other forms of sexual immorality were **never** declared clean... and in fact condemned in the NT just as strongly as it was in the OT.

You're comparing apples to oranges, brother.

Kinda surprising to me that you use the same exact "defense" (alho I know you're not defending homosexuality) that homosexuals use. Call it an abomination and the sodomite begins to list off abominations like eating shell fish, etc. That argument only makes sense if you take it out of context of the WHOLE Word of God.

Krispy

Re: Christian singer admits he's gay - posted by crsschk (), on: 2008/9/16 9:26

Quote:
-----Can you imagine if we all decided that it was ok to just live out our desires... because after all, God created us like that (with those desires)?

Precisely.

Went over to the link presented earlier and did not see anything explicitly stated other than the aforementioned; *"Earlier, Boltz had alluded to the issue on his official website, saying that if people 'knew who I really was, I would never be accepted."* And my question would be, why the reserve? Perhaps I didn't look hard enough ... But the wonder is if there is not still some shame associated that hedges at a full disclosure.

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 1Co 6:9,10

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. Rev 21:8

The comparable sin listings that often come about in these situations I find somewhat suspect in that they try not to play down the one in question but inevitably end up doing so anyway.

Nevertheless there is enough reproach to go around, not short of the so called 'church' mentioned in this article and linked by way of his blog *The Metropolitan Community Church of Washington, D.C. Both congregations are a part of a denomination that embraces the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community.* A glance at the hierarchy alone is decidedly wrong and the cowards are men - There is more to the role-reversals than the agenda of acceptance going on here.

This precisely where the church at large is now upside down well detached from its moorings. It is practically inconceivable to see it as it is in plain sight and not be aghast - Have you no shame?

Much could be said and I find it difficult to find much sympathy with the struggle bereft of some truly needed perspective. That is difficult to put that way but I mean it differently than it may sound. I am going somewhere with this but first what strikes me cold is the self-centered life. Even the interview itself is full of personal application; *"I, me, myself"*. And these 'churches' feed it to the masses - Self realization (Your Best Life Now), self-acceptance, self - 'expression' which translates into "This is just who I am". The logical deduction from all this is that we should therefore have churches of thieves, that can steal from the collection plate (because they cannot help themselves), add full bars to go along with the coffee stands to support the drunkards, a toddlers area for the grown up cowards ... Where does it end? KFC for the gluttonous?

Unapologetically I present that these messages ought to be placed in every church in the nation and beyond - They ought to be heard for their own merits of how far astray the church is. Be it these in question or the Word of Presumption, prosperity driven, prophecy contorted, anemic, dead ... parsed bible society mindset that has overtaken whole denominations and constructs. It is madness and apostasy.

(https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id25079&forum34#196592) Spurgeon - Mueller - An Important Series ~ Piper's Biographies

There are two that stand out more at the moment as they are still fresh in my mind and in the challenge of perspective. It is interesting to hear two different time frames back to back. First listening to the life of Athanasius and then the tremendous recognitions by comparison, to that of Adroniram Judson.

In the former it was the adamantcy of the importance of doctrine- scripture - definitions. The madness that Athanasius went up against in defending the faith before the heresies of his time by the way the bishops went about whispering to each other and stating that they believed the same things. I cannot do it justice here but it is well worth the listen.

The later, Adroniram Judson is a devastating blow to what and I will speak only for myself here, to what constitutes *suffering*, this new blight on Christianity, that it must be eradicated when the Lord Himself spoke of it factually, as to be expected and in Pipers words, is by *design*. What it amounts to compared to what this saint went through is that I know next to nothing, am a million miles away - My complaints, my hardships are the equivalent of gnats buzzing about, a mere annoyance - At the worst, in the trails inwardly they might be a small infestation. I have NO complaints any longer. I know of such little sufferings that I found myself ashamed and smiting myself for the sheer overlooking of so much. It is folly and incomparable. This man presented what it means to die to oneself like no other I have heard, light afflictions is too strong a word for what most of have or go through ...

Re:, on: 2008/9/16 11:42

Psalm1 asked:

Quote:

-----You gotta wonder what is going through a persons mind to turn to homosexuality.
Then you gotta wonder what makes them confess it and instead of seeking cleansing, seek to find acceptance.

Here's the answer...

Ephesians 4:18-20

*Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the **ignorance** that is in them, because of the **blindness** of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.*

Romans 1:21-32

*Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him **not as God**, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. **Professing themselves to be wise**, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore **God also gave them up** to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*

I think that answers your question.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2008/9/16 22:03

Quote:
-----Intens4Him... Ben hit the nail on the head. We can point to the NT and show where we are set free from the Law because it was fulfilled thru Jesus Christ. The Word specifically tells us that all those things you pointed to as being abomination in the OT were declared clean by God in the NT after Jesus' death burial and resurrection.

However, homosexuality and other forms of sexual immorality were never declared clean... and in fact condemned in the NT just as strongly as it was in the OT.

You're comparing apples to oranges, brother.

Kinda surprising to me that you use the same exact "defense" (altho I know you're not defending homosexuality) that homosexuals use. Call it an abomination and the sodomite begins to list off abominations like eating shell fish, etc. That argument only makes sense if you take it out of context of the WHOLE Word of God.

Krispy

Obviously, several of you never made it past the first paragraph. My point was NOT the eating shell fish. PLEASE reread the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th paragraphs:

Quote:
-----by Intense on 2008/9/15 19:45
. . . here are some that are very serious abominations UNTO God . . .

And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.
Luke 16:15

Let me ask myself and everyone else . . . Since we have been born again, have we EVER misled anyone, exaggerated the truth ever so slightly, or just flat out deceived or lied? These are an abomination UNTO God. Proverbs 11.1; 12.22; 20.10; 20.23; Rev 21.27.

Krispy, are you telling me that Christ's death and resurrection cleansed us from the following:

A false balance is abomination to the LORD:but a just weight is his delight. (Prov 11.1)

Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.(Prov 12.22)

Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD.(Prov 20.10)

Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD.(Prov 20.23)

Finally, this scripture in Revelation tells us that they did NOT come through the cross or resurrection.

Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD.(Rev21.27)

For some of you, are those Scriptures WHOLE Word of God enough for you?

I'll choose to think that maybe it's because some of you never made it past the first paragraph that it seems like the "same exact defense" that homosexuals use.

Judge me and my words, but I am of the belief that if homosexuals actually experienced the "WHOLE Love of God," the

y would receive the love of the truth." And then be set free.

In my post, I never said that Ray was right for what he was doing or did. I have my own opinion, but it is MINE, my hum an opinion and I hope I will never again hide behind scriptures in order to judge someone else's abomination while I daily or monthly, (or whenever) I take part in my own abominations. THAT was the point of my first post, not shellfish.

And another point while I have your attention, Really think about this and pray about it but what if our so-called "righteous" judgments on others keeps us from being delivered from our own lusts or sins of the flesh? Just a thought.

Lisa

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2008/9/16 23:39

This man wrote some good music(i think he wrote his own stuff?).

Anywayhe sang it with such apparent conviction.

My comment was trying to connect the dots.

How a minister of heaven could at the same time not just slip but defect and bring shame to the kingdom.

Has anyone prayed for him? I have to confess I have not but after this I will correct that..

What a terrible thing for this man(brother) to defect like this.

Just sad,sad,sad

Lord Jesus help this man. Deliver him by your power and might. May this horrible report be turned around.

David

Re:, on: 2008/9/17 7:25

Lisa... you misunderstood my points as much as I may have misunderstood yours. But I'm not gonna spend time going back and forth over it.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2008/9/17 7:30

It's a good thing that he has made the admission and at least is not living a lie any more. This is a new beginning. But the next is a step in the wrong direction, away from the truth and from the Lord.

In fact, what does "I am gay" mean? It means that you don't feel remorse over it. That YOU accept YOURSELF as such, even though PEOPLE may not accept you. It means willfully blaspheming the Holy Spirit and turning your back on the Lord, who is altogether absent from your consideration.

I am not familiar with the man or his work, but how sad that he cannot see the apparent contradiction in his admission. Admitting your sin is one thing, forsaking it is another. Of course, he has sinned and he is a sinner--as all have sinned--and we don't expect him to assert that in his flesh there is anything good. But that is why Christ died, so that the flesh might be put to death and we should not obey its lusts any more.

How few people today know the meaning of the word "repentance"! And it is the beginning and foundation of the Christian life.

Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2008/9/17 8:37

Must be brief but I have some misgivings over the earlier rant yesterday. Lacking prayer and in fact should have been praying rather than just spouting off is my confession. I was very tempted to edit it wholesale but it serves as a reminder ...

This is an issue of one thing primarily; *Sin*. And it is a specific one here with tentacles branching off of it. My contention is that the matter gets cloudy when we begin to go off subject and start bringing in comparables, others sins, our sins, whether or not we should be judging etc. etc.

The reason I do not have a great deal of empathy/sympathy is because I do not find anywhere in Scripture nor among Brethren that I should be coddled in my sin. We all have struggles with temptation and sin and the very last thing we need is an affirmation in it and acceptance of it. As was pointed out in one instance equivalent ...

To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

The scriptures flood the mind;

You have not resisted to the point of shedding blood. If your hand, your eye causes you to sin ... deny yourself and perhaps just this one comment from the article;

“I had a lot of questions, but at the bottom of everything was a feeling that I didn't hate myself anymore, so in that sense I felt closer to God.”

Luk 14:26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

A Christian does not *quit*. Does not capitulate to the enemy. Does not seek to find deliverance by going to a Church of Satan ... That is one which turns the truth of God on its head and affirms people in their sin. No. Wrong is wrong and falsehood is false, it will ever be so.

Krispy is dead on the point earlier and honest enough to state it - It is the crux of the whole argument ultimately, just what we would do short of being kept ... Resistance, endurance, *death* to our 'self'. This is a battleground not a playground ..

The reason for the mentions of the messages earlier is just to gain some perspective - They are tremendously challenging and rightly comparable .. I could but pray for a hearing ...

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2008/9/17 9:21

Yes, I believe Steve is right. Imagine if we all gave into our hedonistic passions even for a moment. Many of us have, since conversion, though behind closed doors and we immediately felt the effects of a decimated conscience. For some of us, the pain involved was too much to bear...and it drove us back to Jesus in tears, with confessions and repentance.

We all have failed God in private. Each and every day our minds are assailed by impure thoughts, selfish impulses, temptations to deny God and just cave into sin. Hopefully we learn from previous failures that the price of giving into a momentary pleasure is grossly in proportionate to the pangs of grief and agony we experience from our lacerated consciences. God will allow us to fail over and over and over again until we at last learn *there is nothing good within ourselves and the flesh can never be improved*. Perhaps this is something that this singer (I have no idea who he is - I have been totally out of touch with commercial Christianity for years) is going through to reach this conclusion. If it is, this is the greatest blessing that could happen to him...if it leads to godly sorrow and repentance. But if he is only going public about it to "confirm" God's alleged sanction of this sin upon his life, this is another story. In any case, it's not the homosexuality that matters in this case - it's a deeper cause. Down deep somewhere there's an unaxed root still bringing forth this kind of fruit. The root was never dealt with in the right way, it's toxic fruit never feared.

The best way to inoculate oneself against a poison is to ingest a little bit of it over a period of time...with increasing doses. This is what people do with allergy shots, booster shots, vaccinations - the key is to introduce a weakened, yet "live

specimen" to the system (the scientific word for this is 'attenuation') and let the body build up its own immunity to it. Increase the specimen's strength, and the body gradually increases its own resistance, until finally, one day, you can introduce an unattenuated full-strength virus or allergen or toxin and the body can effectively fight it off.

Satan knew about vaccinations before Louis Pasteur, I can assure you. If the root is not dealt with, the fruit will continue. ..but in very small, hidden amounts. The mind becomes slowly desensitized, and eventually accepts it in small dosages. It's like a reverse vaccination; here instead we have the toxin breaking *us* down, and conditioning *us* to receive more and more of the influence until finally it unloads its loathsome tentacles inside us, full bloom. By then we are gripped, strangled, inoculated, we believe the lie, we are handed over to the subverter.

Doctors tell us to take *all the antibiotic* when we have an infection, and this is so we don't stop half-way through killing the bugs and allow them to regroup and build a resistance to that specific weapon. In the same way we are told to *flee* your thful lusts by the Word of God for a good reason. We are told to mortify indwelling sin by the Spirit of God. It is crucial that we never stop this business of mortification; we can't ever stop the treatment and just sit down and relax. Especially once we've begun God's prescribed treatment and have begun mortification therapy. If we do, sin, like bacteria, will be afforded a chance to build a resistance and wound our mind, and bring the weapons we have been using to nought. Sin is opportunistic! It creeps. This is why we must quarantine our dear infected brethren like the inspired Apostle Paul taught by the Spirit.

Re: - posted by ACcrawford (), on: 2008/9/17 9:38

I have to die to myself daily on a number of different things. Lust of the eyes being one of them. Most Christian men won't admit they struggle with this, but hey... I'll be honest about it. I do!

___, - - - I agree with you Enid, and with you KK Homosexuality is the only sin in the eyes of God that is an abomination. Who are we to judge?— God loves the sinner but hates the sin.

What is the difference between a Homosexual and a Prostitute?

Re:, on: 2008/9/17 11:42

Quote:
-----What is the difference between a Homosexual and a Prostitute?

Lipstick...?

(Just kidding! A little political humor there...)

There isn't any difference as far as both being lost and needing God's grace and forgiveness.

However, let's keep in mind that scripture says several times that homosexuality is something that is very much against nature itself, in other words: against creation. From this we can derive that God never intended for the human body to do homosexual acts. Whereas the prostitute is committing moral sin, but not "acts against nature".

Romans 1:26 *For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature...*

Also, homosexuality is mentioned in scripture as something that God turns a person over to... indicating that God has said "Enough! If this is what you want... this is what you get...". I'm not saying every homosexual is a person who God has turned over to their own lusts, but I do believe most are. Otherwise, why would God say that?

Romans 1:24 *Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves...*

And while God was pretty descriptive about how He perceived sin... homosexuality seems to get a greater degree of attention than most other sins... indicating that it is of particular abhorrence to Him.

Romans 1:24 *Wherefore God also gave them up to **uncleanness** through the lusts of their own hearts, to **dishonour their own bodies between themselves...***

Romans 1:26 *For this cause God gave them up unto **vile** affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature...*

Romans 1:27 *And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is **unseemly**, and receiving in themselves that **recompence** of their error which was meet.*

Living an unrepentant life no matter what the sin will end you up in hell. We all agree on that. We also all agree that any homosexual can be saved by the grace of God. We also all agree that like any other sinner saved by Grace... the homosexual will have to die to himself daily, take up his cross and follow Christ.

But my point with this post is that yes, God does seem to have a particular hatred for homosexuality over other sins. Homosexuality is an indicator that the person, as well as society is extremely sin sick and very close to judgement and cursing from God.

If you study history and look at how other great societies fell... they generally fell from the inside. Usually in those great societies they fell into sexual decadence as their society and culture began to deteriorate. One of the last things to come on the scene and gain popularity in those cultures just before they went under... was homosexuality.

I don't think that is a coincidence.

Krispy

Re: - posted by ACcrawford (), on: 2008/9/17 11:54

Quote:
-----What is the difference between a Homosexual and a Prostitute?

KK, the question was not based on any such act, but sin itself and it being an abomination in the eyes of God. KK you like to expand on the sin of Homosexuality as being the greater sin, but again my question to you, is "What is the difference between a Homosexual and a Prostitute"?

Re: - posted by MaryJane, on: 2008/9/17 12:17

Greetings ACcrawford

Not to step in and answer for Krispy but he did actually answer your question if you read his post. He stated.....

There isn't any difference as far as both being lost and needing God's grace and forgiveness.

However let's keep in mind that scripture says several times that homosexuality is something that is very much against nature itself, in other words: against creation. From this we can derive that God never intended for the human body to do homosexual acts. Whereas the prostitute is committing moral sin, but not "acts against nature".

.....

I meant to add that I am praying for Ray Boltz to see the sin that he is now embracing as such and that he will repent and return to the Lord. It is sad to see someone who has written such beautiful music fall away and be deceived.

God Bless
MJ

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2008/9/17 13:00

sin is insanity.

David

Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2008/9/18 9:31

Quote:

-----We all have failed God in private. Each and every day our minds are assailed by impure thoughts, selfish impulses, temptations to deny God and just cave into sin. Hopefully we learn from previous failures that the price of giving into a momentary pleasure is grossly inproportionate to the pangs of grief and agony we experience from our lacerated consciences. God will allow us to fail over and over and over again until we at last learn there is nothing good within ourselves and the flesh can never be improved. Perhaps this is something that this singer (I have no idea who he is - I have been totally out of touch with commercial Christianity for years) is going through to reach this conclusion. If it is, this is the greatest blessing that could happen to him...if it leads to godly sorrow and repentance. But if he is only going public about it to "confirm" God's alleged sanction of this sin upon his life, this is another story. In any case, it's not the homosexuality that matters in this case - it's a deeper cause. Down deep somewhere there's an unexposed root still bringing forth this kind of fruit. The root was never dealt with in the right way, it's toxic fruit never feared.

Well said Paul, all of what you said here, This is still vexing me - There is a collision of contradictions that just cannot be. We can not have it both ways, something or Someone has to be denied in the process. I am just as unsure whether it is the *church* that is more aggravating than what this ... man has allowed himself to be deluded into, likely it is equal - To find an outlet of acceptance that soothes the conscience and makes it "Okay" to have both sin and Christ. God forbid.

You just do not up and end your marriage to satisfy your lust's ... the discussions and turmoil we have had here over just the issue of remarriage and divorce alone, multiple pages on multiple postings and yet somehow when it turns to the homosexual there is this strange equivocating even if it is but subtle.

This is utterly selfish, to the core. It gives the world a decidedly poor example and a very wrong proscription of what a Christian *is*, what it means, what it *demand*s.

There is also the matter of music itself here. There is something about being emotionally toyed with, manipulated by it, even deceived by it that shouldn't be overlooked.

I am just as well praying for him, but I am praying that he might be made absolutely *miserable* and full of shame and conviction that leads him right back into 'the closet' and to suffering if he must - So be it. Welcome to the club, just like the rest of us who are fighting on day after day striving against sin ...