#### Romans 1:25 (NLT)

They traded the TRUTH about God for a LIE. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator Himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.

#### Romans 1:28-29 (NLT)

Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, He abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done.

<sup>29</sup> Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip.

#### Romans 1:30-31 (NLT)

They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. <sup>31</sup> They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy.

#### Romans 1:32 (NLT)

They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

# God GAVE them OVER

**Romans 1:26-32** 

From IDOLATRY to IMMORALITY is just one short step. If man is his own god, then he can do whatever he pleases and fulfill his DESIRES without fear of judgment. Wiersbe

Romans 1:18 (NIV)

The WRATH of God is being revealed from heaven

against all the **godlessness** and **wickedness** of men

who SUPPRESS the TRUTH

by their wickedness...

Romans 1:25 (NIV)

They EXCHANGED the TRUTH of God for a LIE, and worshiped and served CREATED things RATHER than the CREATOR - who is forever praised.

Amen.

Man's refusal to acknowledge and glorify God leads to a downward path: first, worthless thinking; next, a moral slide into depravity; and then, religious stupidity... BKC

# They Exchanged...

- >the TRUTH of God for a LIE
- >NATURAL relations for UNNATURAL ones

Just as idolatry is unnatural (contrary to what God intended), so too homosexuality is contrary to nature in that it does not represent what God INTENDED when he made men and women with physical bodies that have a NATURAL way of interacting with each other and NATURAL desires for each other. ESV

# **WRONG STATEMENTS**

- homosexuality is **OK** as long as children are not involved
- homosexuality is **OK** if it is between committed homosexuals

# Careful OBSERVATIONS

- ➤ God does **NOT** make **Mistakes**
- ➤ Sin has **Distorted** and Perverted **God's Design for Sex**
- ➤ Sin is Sin homosexuality is the not the WORST

# At its CORE Homosexuality is a...

- > Rejection of God's DESIGN
- ➤ Rejection of God's INTENT for Sex

Matthew 19:4-5 (NLT) Haven't you read the Scriptures? Jesus replied. They record that from the beginning 'God MADE them MALE and FEMALE.' 5 And He said, 'This explains why A MAN leaves His father and mother and is JOINED to His wife, and the two are **UNITED** into one.'

# → You REAP what you SOW

<sup>27</sup> In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women...

and **received** in themselves the **due penalty** for their perversion.

#### Galatians 6:7-8 (NLT)

Don't be misled - you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. 8 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.

Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

So let's not get tired of doing
what is GOOD. At just the right time we
will reap a harvest of blessing
if we don't give up.

God does not cause this steady progression toward evil. Rather, when people REJECT Him, He allows them to live as they CHOOSE. God GIVES them OVER to experience the natural consequences of their sin. LAB

Romans 6:23 (ESV)

For the **WAGES** of sin is **DEATH**,

but the **FREE GIFT** of God

is eternal life IN Christ Jesus our Lord.

Because of men's refusal to RETAIN God in their knowledge, either as Creator,
Sustainer, or Deliverer,
God GAVE them OVER to a debased mind
to commit a catalog of other forms
of wickedness. McDonald

### DOWNWARD SPIRAL... LAB

- > REJECT God
- >MAKE UP their own IDEAS of god
- > PURSUE sin
- **>** grow to **HATE** God
- Encourage OTHERS to Hate God as well

# → You become LIKE that which you WORSHIP

<sup>26</sup> ...God **GAVE** them **OVER** 

# When TRUTH is Repeatedly REJECTED,

in time the ability to

Recognize and to RECEIVE TRUTH is IMPAIRED. BKC

#### Hosea 9:10 (NLT)

The LORD says, "O Israel, when I first found you, it was like finding fresh grapes in the desert. When I saw your ancestors, it was like seeing the first ripe figs of the season.

But then they deserted ME for Baal-peor, giving themselves to that shameful idol. Soon they became VILE, as vile as the god they WORSHIPED.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NIV) Do you not know that the wicked will NOT inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders <sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

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.

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NET)

BUT GOD, being rich in mercy,
because of His great love with which
He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even though we were
dead in transgressions,
made us alive together with Christ by GRACE you are SAVED!