

Homosexual marriage



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Thanks for such an honest, thoughtful, open response to the video I posted.

I appreciate that you took so much time to post your thoughts. You have the ability to make your position very clear in an inoffensive way, and that is a rare gift. If I understood the question that Ravi Z was responding to, it had more to do with how the homosexual who had a desire to follow Christ can look at his or her sexuality in light of that desire. I thought he did a good job overcoming a false assumption that is rampant in and out of the church??” that one can be gay, or one can be a Christ-follower, but that it??™s impossible to be both. He makes a very clear case that one can, indeed, be both. There is a cost involved, but there is a cost involved for everyone who decides to follow Christ.

What it amounts to is a choice. You mention that you have read some of the bible, and you probably noticed that one peculiar characteristic of scripture is how it consistently talks about God as an individual??” a person. And that he is constantly working toward developing a one-on-one relationship that is deep and intimate with individual people.

I mention that because I think you hit on another false assumption people make??” that if a person makes the choice to follow Christ, it may doom him or her to a loveless, cold, isolated existence void of life or hope. But the experience of millions, mine included, is that a relationship with Christ is so deep, intimate, loving, and complete that none of the relationships on this planet can compare. Even my relationship to Tim, precious as it is to me, doesn??™t compare.

I was really touched by Ravi??™ s remarks about Henri Nouwen??” I have a couple of his books on my shelf. He was really incredible, just an amazing Christ-follower. He had such a beautiful way of seeing God.

I knew he had chosen celibacy, but a lot of people in ministry do. I didn??™ t know he was gay. He never made it an issue. A quick note about the bible being used to support slavery??” yes, a few people did try to do that, but they were overcome by people using the bible to show that slavery was an abomination, including the use of passages that say if a person kidnaps another person and sells him into slavery, that person should be executed. It was bible-believing people like William Wilburforce and Abraham Lincoln who spent decades fighting against slavery that finally defeated it here and in England.

Anywho, I need to go if I am going to make my class. I am sorry if this hurt or offended you??” I truly wish you and Anna every happiness. Thanks again for being willing to join in this conversation with me??” I learn every time we talk about these things. Cindy” Hmn. I am going to preface this with the fact that I am not Christian, but do believe in a higher power, which I suppose for simplicities sake could be called God. I am also going to try my best to discuss this as calmly as possible when to be frank, this video deeply hurts and offends me.

Ill do my best. I hope you do not mind, as I always welcome the chance to open dialogue. This is likely going to turn into a small novel. Its something Im passionate about, for what I think is obvious reasons.

I am truly puzzled by the belief held in this video. I have never been more able to accept and see the divine in the world as clearly as I do when it manifests in the complete trust, love, and care between me and my partner. Im going to make an assumption that you feel blessed to have Tim in your life, that your life with him is a gift from God in its own way.

(let me know if Im misunderstanding anything, or assuming too much.) I hold many of the same feelings and hopes for my life with Anna. We obviously arent as far along yet, but I hope to get there. We certainly talk about that sort of long term commitment. I personally know for me that means a spiritual blessing of sorts in the ceremony.

Shes Catholic so I imagine she would like something like that in there too. That part is actually more important to me than the legal bits, though those would be nice simply because it makes life easier/safer. It is not good for man to be alone. Not at all. So why is it expected of gays and lesbians Its not a chosen attraction.

Im guessing you didnt wake up one morning and think " Well, Im going to like boys today instead of girls." I know I didnt have that morning. So trying to fall in love and be not alone with a man does not work at all in my life. I would remain alone simply due to being unable to connect in the right way. So am I to be alone No. I wont accept that. Because Ive been there. And it made my heart hard, the world was ugly and empty.

I was so clogged up by loneliness and sadness and self loathing that I couldnt feel any love, Gods or otherwise. So, a benevolent God creates me attracted to women, creates the most wonderful person Ive ever

encountered who has similar inclinations, a patient, kind, trusting, hopeful, enduring, true love grows, and this is sin God frowns on an instance of such love in this world filled with hatred, dectet, and neglect I dont think so. As Ive said, Im not a Christian, but have read the bible because it is one of the books I take into account in my theology. And Ive used that book that is filled with many good messages to defend gay marriage.

Im not quite the scholar Zacharias is. But I dont think the research I did was easily dismissed, as I used other respected scholars. I think this issue is a lot less black and white than many of the evangelical preachers make it out to be. The bible used to be used to condone slavery. We have to be incredibly careful about accepting someone elses word about it. Theres tons of discussion out there on the bibles stance on homosexuality, by many, many people.

How do we decide which is Gods interpretation I have solid faith that the interpretation that validates more love is correct. and have no doubt that there is love between same-sex partners. I think that is an issue Zacharias completely ignored.”