



WHAT ARE THE

CLOBBER

PASSAGES?



"Clobber Passages"

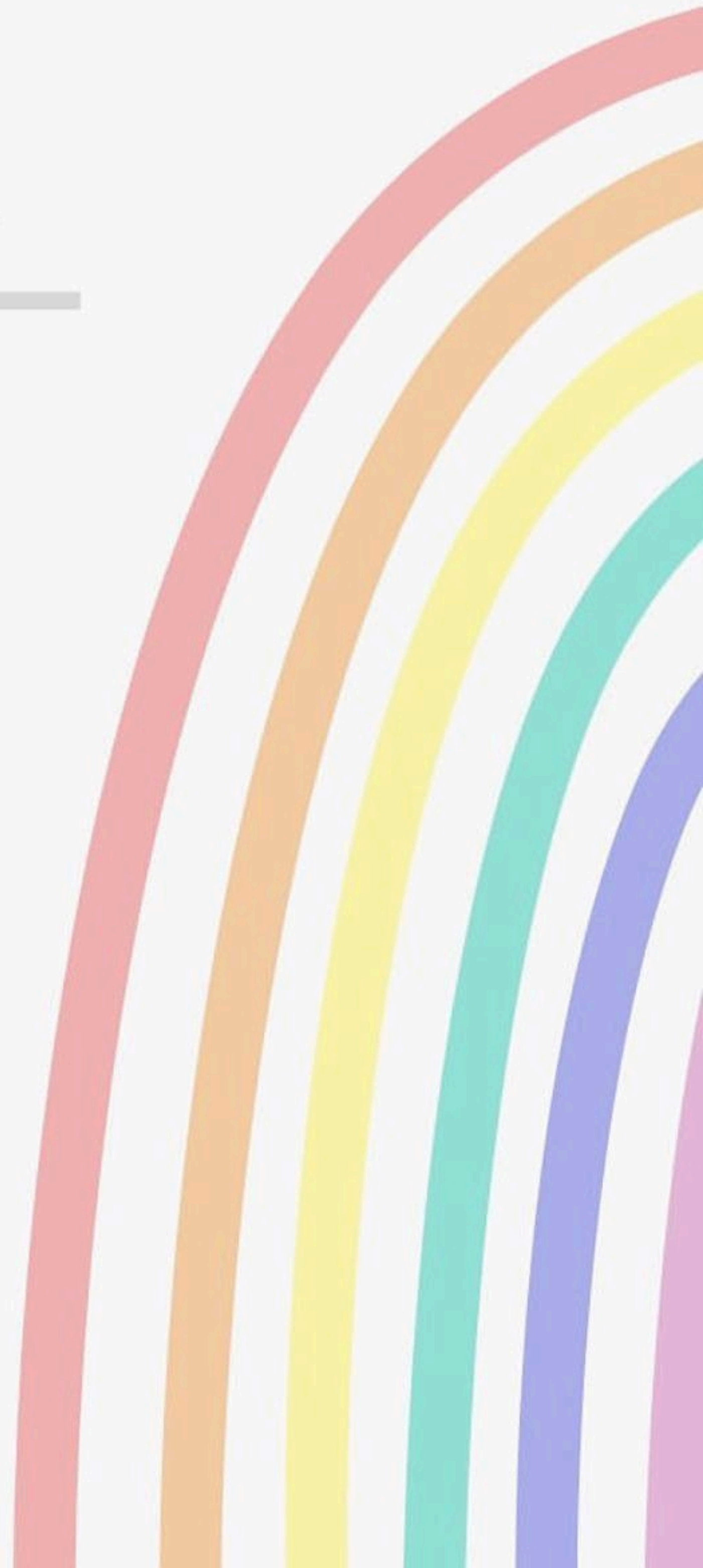
There are SIX passages in the bible that have been used to make people believe that being LGBTQ+ is a sin and cannot be Christians.

These passages became known as the "clobber passages"

What are these

Six Passages:

1. Genesis 19:4-25
2. Leviticus 18:22
3. Leviticus 20:13
4. Romans 1:26-27
5. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
6. 1 Timothy 1:9-10



HOW THEY HAVE BEEN **MISINTERPRETED**



(Old Testament)

GENESIS 19:4-25

The sin of Sodom was same-sex intercourse.

LEVITICUS 18:22

Male same-sex intercourse is prohibited.

LEVITICUS 20:13

Male same-sex intercourse is prohibited.

(New Testament)

ROMANS 1:26-27

Practicing same-sex behavior is unnatural.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11

Those who practice same-sex behaviors will not go to heaven.

1 TIMOTHY 1:9-10

Those who practice same-sex behaviors will not go to heaven.

THE PASSAGES EXPLAINED

PART 1

(Old Testament)

GENESIS 19:4-25

This passage is addressing gang rape, not same-sex intercourse. In Ezekiel 16:49, it is mentioned that the sins of Sodom were murder, theft, power abuses, oppression of the poor. Same-sex intercourse is never mentioned.

LEVITICUS 18:22 & 20:3

Male same-sex intercourse was prohibited because it was seen as degrading to men. It reduced their status of the passive male to the lower cultural status of a female. For those who believe that men and women have equal value in Christ, the logic does not apply.

THE PASSAGES EXPLAINED

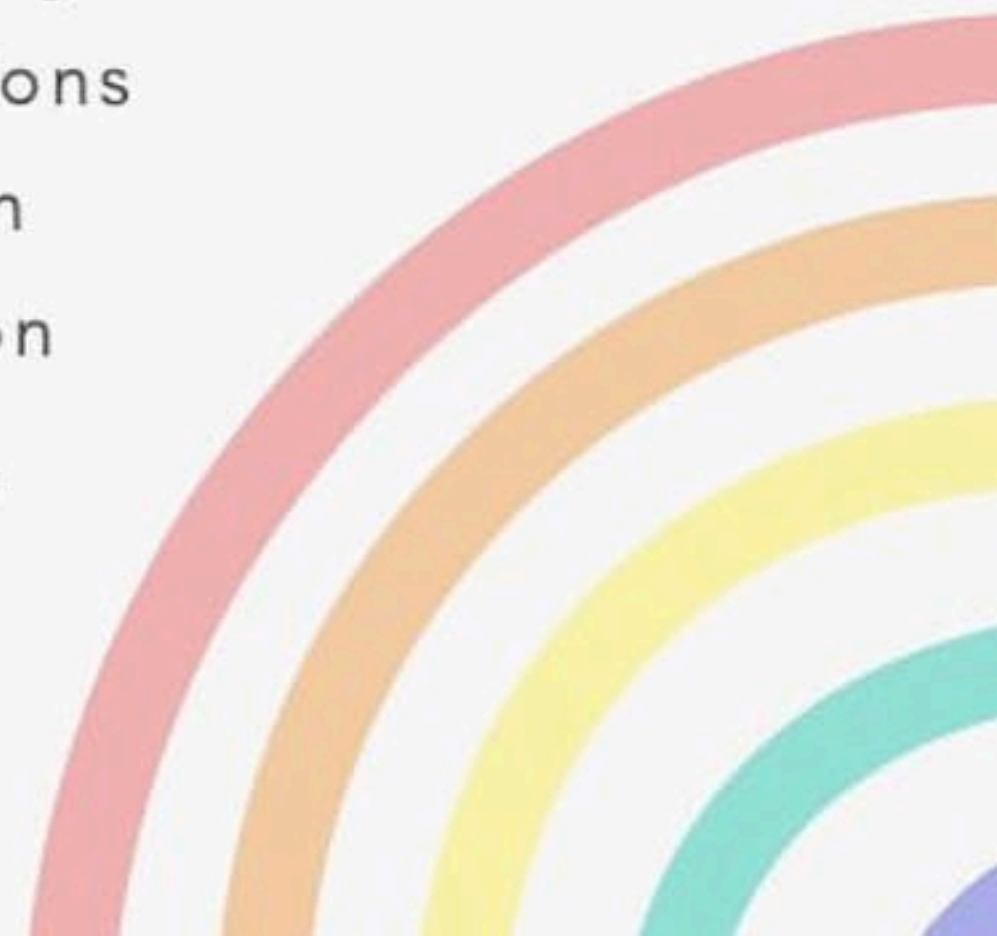
PART 2

(New Testament)

ROMANS 1:26-27

During this time, the only context they had about sex was between a man and woman. People who went beyond this and engaged in same-sex intercourse were viewed as being excessive. Therefore, Paul is not condemning same-sex behavior as opposed to opposite-sex, but rather self-seeking excess as opposed to moderation.

We must also take into consideration that this passage is not talking about "laws of nature" but rather actions that contradict one's nature. With this in mind, when LGBTQ+ people are forced to be a sexual orientation and/or gender identity different from who they are, they are going against their nature.



THE PASSAGES EXPLAINED

PART 3

(New Testament)

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11 & TIMOTHY 1:9-10

The Greek words used by Paul in these passages are *malakoi* & *arsenokoitai* as part of a list of wrongdoers who will not inherit the kingdom of God.

- ***Malakoi***: means "soft." When applied to people, it describes lack of self-control.
- ***Arsenokoitai***: arsen means "male" & koites means "bed." The context of this passage indicates that by using this word, Paul was referring to sexual or economic exploitation not same-sex behavior.

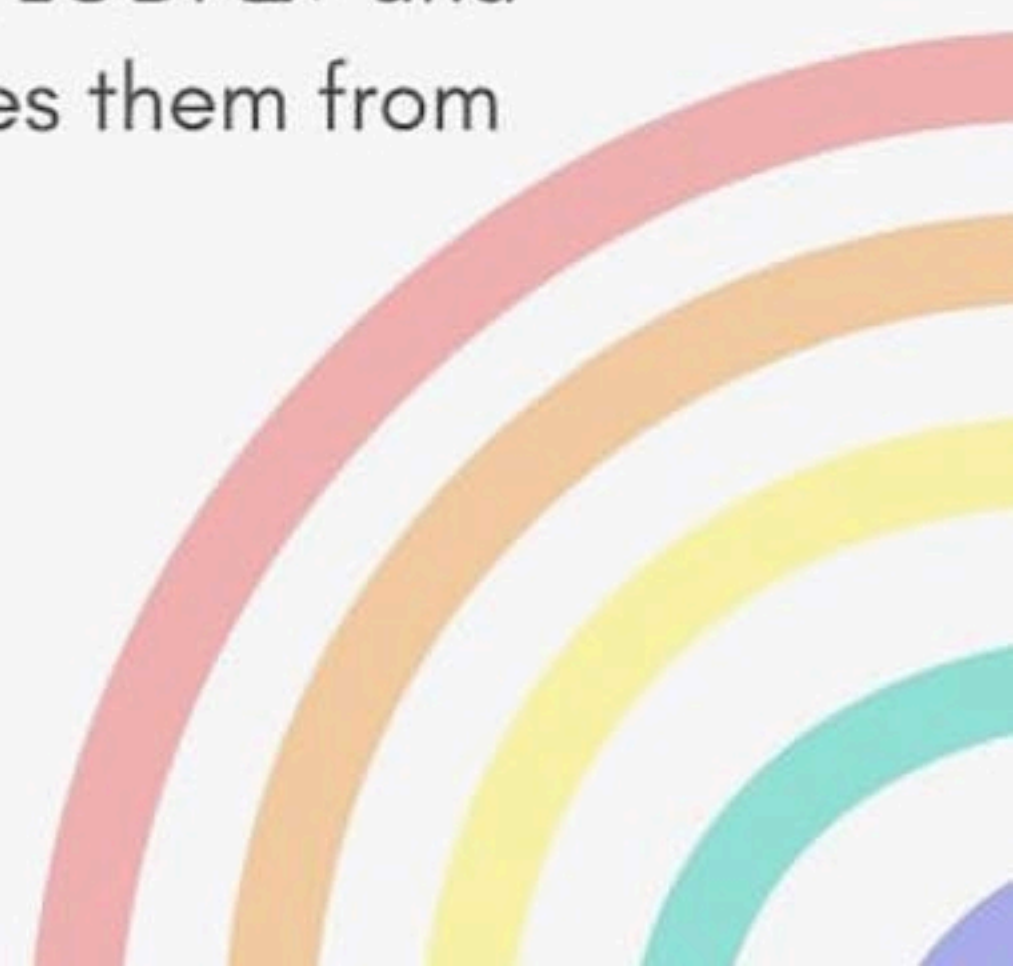
However, a group of American translators believed that *Malakoi* & *Arsenokoitai* meant "homosexuals" and included it in the Revised Standard Version Bible in 1946. They later admitted their error and replaced it with "sexual perverts" and published the changes in 1971. But it was too late, and the damage had already been done...

IN CONCLUSION

As you can see, the six "clobber passages" used to exclude LGBTQ+ folks are talking about counter-cultural sexual acts, gang rape, excessive lust, exploitation, and abuse. Sexual orientation, gender identity, and same-sex behavior are not mentioned because they were viewed differently from how we see and understand it today. Even relationships between a man and a woman were transactional, making sex a way to assert one's power. In fact, Jesus never mentions any objections to homosexuality!

Therefore, to say "the Bible is clear on homosexuality" is incorrect. There is nothing to suggest that being LGBTQ+ and having same-sex intercourse prohibits or excludes them from being Christian.

To sum it all up, being queer is not a sin!





**"The Bible tells us we are
ALL made in God's image
so we are ALL godly and
perfectly made."**

-Rev. Martha Bays

RESOURCES

- The Reformation Project
- Beloved Arise
- "*God and the Gay Christian*" by Mathew Vines
- "*Torn: Rescuing the Gospel from the Gays vs. Christians Debate*" by Justin Lee
- "*Walking the Bridgeless Canyon*" by Kathy Baldock
- 1946 The Movie

