Homosexual Practice, Adultery, Sexual Identity, and Transgender Behavior

- * We believe the Bible says that anyone who has sexual activity outside of the marriage of a married man and woman is wrong. Man and woman were created for each other. Gen. 2:21-24
- * We define male and female as those who have true male and female identities known to be observed as such at birth. Gen 1:27
- * Male and female identities are identified at birth cannot be denied, given alternate identities, or changed.
- * The Bible says transgender behavior is wrong (Deut. 22:5). Dressing like your opposite sex, or purposeful talking or acting like the opposite sex from which you were born is wrong. There are neutral behaviors which are not defined by society and biblical behaviors that are not wrong. There are behaviors which are wrong which have nothing to do with one's sex. For example, harsh demanding behavior is wrong for either sex. The Bible says we are to be kind.
- * Leviticus 18 details forbidden sexual relations;

Not with close relatives, 18:6

Not with father, mother, sister, aunts, granddaughters, sisters-in-law, son's spouses; 18:7-16 Not with a woman and her daughter, sisters who are rivals; during period, neighbor's wife; 18:17-19 Not men with men, or with animals; 18:22-23

These behaviors contaminate the land (defile) so that these people will destroy the land; 18:27-28

* These commandments in Leviticus 18 are about men, but we believe they equally refer to women – as we see in Romans.

Shaul (Paul) said in Romans 1:26-28 CJB:

"God has given them up to degrading passions; so that their women exchange natural sexual relations for unnatural; and likewise the men, giving up natural relations with the opposite sex, burn with passion for one another, men committing shameful acts with other men and receiving in their own persons the penalty appropriate to their perversion. In other words, since they have not considered God worth knowing, God has given them up to worthless ways of thinking; so that they do improper things."

* When Shaul (Paul) talks about there is neither male nor female he is not saying there is no longer men and woman. He says that to mean that whoever we are, we all have the Holy Spirit when we believe in the Messiah Yeshua.

All the scriptures must be interpreted in the way they were originally meant to be understood (see <u>Understanding the Bible Correctly</u>). God's commandments are not to be added to improperly or taken away. Both the Old Testament and New Testament portions apply.