



CULTURE SHOCK

“What Christians are not saying about homosexuality”

Lesson #18

Recording date: May 7, 2013

Summary

In this lesson, the confession of homosexuality by a prominent professional athlete (Jason Collins) will be analyzed in contrast to a prominent television personality's (Chris Broussard) response to his coming out.

Resources

1. <http://thelightnetwork.tv/tag/culture/>
2. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/early-lead/wp/2013/04/30/espn-supports-broussard-after-controversial-jason-collins-comments/>
3. <http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/magazine/news/2013/04/29/jason-collins-gay-nba-player/>
4. <http://preachinghelp.org/wordpress/a-phone-call-from-the-president>

1. THE EVENT: Jason Collins' coming out contrasted with Chris Broussard's response

- (1) The current climate of the discussion regarding homosexuality.
- (2) Jason Collins comes out as a "homosexual" (see news article).
- (3) Chris Broussard's response (see news article).

2. THE ISSUES

- (1) The heralding of homosexuality as being "brave."
- (2) The selective adherence of biblical principles.
- (3) Persecution of those who plainly and lovingly declare what the Bible states.
- (4) The media framing the issue of the homosexual "hero" and the hateful, Christian "bigot."

3. THE ANALYSIS

- (1) Sin is brushed aside as an archaic and outdated concept (Isa. 5:20).
- (2) Selective application of biblical teaching is not Christianity (Acts 20:27).
- (3) Ad hominem attacks do not deal with the issues at hand.
- (4) Christians are **not** saying that they hate homosexual **people** (Mt. 5:43-44; Gal. 5:19-20).
- (5) Christians are not saying that there are not people who have homosexual attractions (Jas. 1:13-15).
- (6) Christians are not saying that those who practice homosexuality do not have any capacity to exhibit virtuous behavior (Rom. 1:26-32; Eph. 2:8-9).

4. THE CONCLUSION

- (1) It should be the goal of Christians to respectfully, lovingly, but boldly and confidently address and confront the practice of homosexuality, and any other sin.
- (2) It should be the goal of Christians to minister to those who are struggling with heterosexual and homosexual temptation and show them the love of Christ.

Thoughts for Discussion:

1. In what ways does the media contribute to public perception of moral and political issues?
2. How will the increasing public support for homosexual marriage in the United States pose unique issues/opportunities for the church?
3. Discuss the relationship between being **tempted** to sin and the **act of committing** of sin (see James 1:13-15; 1 John 3:4-8; cf. Matthew 5:27-30).
4. Discuss what the Bible says about God's plan for human sexuality (see Genesis 1:27-28; 2:18, 24; Mark 10:6-9; Matthew 19:4-5; Ephesians 5:31).
5. Discuss what the Bible says about the practice of homosexuality (see Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; 1 Timothy 1:9-11; Romans 1:21-27; Genesis 19:4-8; Jude 7; Judges 19:16-24).