



**A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO  
*OBERGEFELL V. HODGES***

- ◆ All people are created in the image of God (Gen 1:27-28) and deserve dignity and respect; Christians are commanded to love our "neighbor" (Luke 10:25-37) and even our "enemies" (Luke 6:27; 1 Pet 2:23)
- ◆ God created marriage as a lifelong, sexually exclusive relationship between one man and one woman (Gen 1:27-28, 2:18-25, Matt 19:4-6); the Supreme Court decision establishes a redefinition of marriage in the US

- ◆ Human beings, individually, and humanity as a whole have been profoundly broken by the entrance of sin into God's "very good" creation (Gen 3); this explains the origin of all temptations to sin (Jam 1:14-15) and explains why marriage often does not live up to God's design (Matt 19:8)

- ◆ Same-sex sexual activity violates God's design for human sexuality, that is why Scripture unvaryingly calls it sin (Lev 18:22, 20:13; 1 Cor 6:9; 1 Tim 1:10; Jude 7) and describes it as "contrary to nature" (Rom 1:26-27). But, it is a sin from which we can be washed clean (1 Cor 6:11)
- ◆ Christians should teach and model the truth about biblical sexuality in a way that demonstrates the attractiveness and wisdom of God's design (Gen 2:18-25) and brings healing to a sexually broken culture

- ◆ When Christians remain faithful to God's will (for marriage and other ethical issues), they can expect opposition from non-Christians who hold differing views; on many issues Christians will have to choose who they will please: God, or our culture (Matt 5:11-12; 1 Pet 4:4-5; Jam 4:4)

- ◆ Though Christians should stand firm regarding timeless and unchanging truths (like sexuality and marriage), our primary responsibility and calling is to engage in Jesus' mission (Matt 28:18-20): to proclaim the good news that God sent his Son to live a perfect life, die the death we deserved to die, and rise from the dead so that by believing we may have life in His name (1 Cor 15:1-11; John 20:31)

