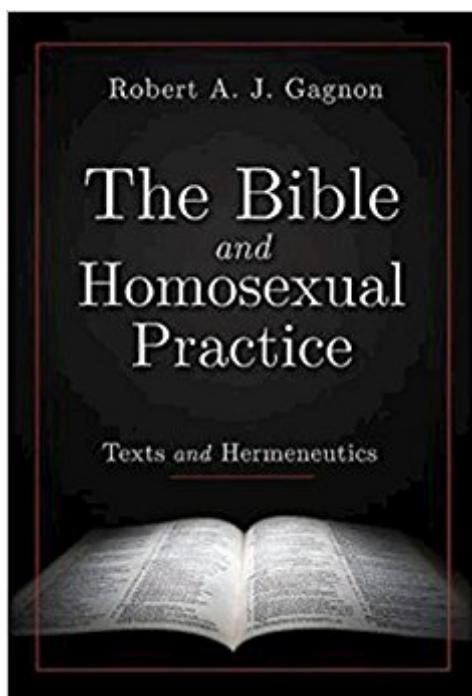


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# The Bible And Homosexual Practice: Texts And Hermeneutics



## Synopsis

Gagnon offers the most thorough analysis to date of the biblical texts relating to homosexuality. He demonstrates why attempts to classify the Bible's rejection of same-sex intercourse as irrelevant for our contemporary context fail to do justice to the biblical texts and to current scientific data. Gagnon's book powerfully challenges attempts to identify love and inclusivity with affirmation of homosexual practice. . . . the most sophisticated and convincing examination of the biblical data for our time. —Jürgen Becker, Professor of New Testament, Christian-Albrechts University

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"...In its learnedness, [Gagnon's] book will...be in the vanguard of its position and cannot be ignored...." -- Martti Nissinen, University of Helsinki, and author of *Homoeroticism in the Biblical World* (From the Jacket Flap)"...the fullest and best presentation of the conservative position...expressing the case same-sex intercourse sympathetically and convincingly." -- I. Howard Marshall, Professor of New Testament, Emeritus, University of Aberdeen, Scotland (Blurb Inside Book)"...the most thorough examination of the scriptural and theological...perspectives on same-sex relations....a tour de force." -- Marion L. Soards, Professor of New Testament, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (From Jacket Flap)"Gagnon has offered a learned, judicious, and comprehensive examination of the biblical testimony....fair and compassionate...a major resource...." -- Brevard S. Childs, Sterling Professor of Divinity (Hebrew Bible), Emeritus, Yale Divinity School (From Inside Book)"Gagnon's book is an extremely valuable contribution to the

current debate....I recommend this book wholeheartedly." -- C. E. B. Cranfield, Professor of Theology (New Testament), Emeritus, University of Durham (From Inside Book)"Gagnon's incisive logic, prudent judgment, and exhaustive research should make this book a dominant voice in the contemporary debate." -- Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, O.P., Professor of New Testament, Ecole Biblique, Jerusalem (From the Back Cover)"I believe that this volume will become a classic in the ongoing discussion of the church's...response to homosexuality." -- Duane F. Watson, Professor of New Testament, Malone College (From Inside Book)"I know of no comparable study of the texts and interpretive debates that surround homosexual behavior." -- Max L. Stackhouse, Stephen Colwell Professor of Christian Ethics, Princeton Theological Seminary (From the Jacket Flap)"No Christian concerned with homosexuality can afford to ignore this book." -- John Barton, Oriel and Laing Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture, University of Oxford (From the Back Cover)"This is a brilliant, original, and highly important work,...indispensable even for those who disagree with the author." -- James Barr, Distinguished Professor of Hebrew Bible, Emeritus, Vanderbilt University (From the Back Cover) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Gagnon offers the most thorough analysis to date of the biblical texts relating to homosexuality. His strong and clearly articulated argument establishes that the Bible contains a unanimous witness defining same-sex intercourse as sin. He does so while rigorously engaging biblical scholars and historians who have written both for and against this understanding of same-sex intercourse. In addition, he demonstrates systematically why attempts to classify as irrelevant for our contemporary context the Bible's rejection of same-sex intercourse fail to do justice to the biblical texts. His conclusions are clear and compassionate, as he cautions readers on all sides of the debate against a truncated gospel, and challenges all to strive for a holistic view of the command to love God and neighbor." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a very thorough, scholarly review of the Biblical texts relating to non-heterosexuality. It provides a large sampling of ancient, contemporary (to the Bible), and current understandings and practices and puts them in the context of the current discussion. If you want to understand what the Bible says on this subject, this book is definitely one you should read. That said, it is written at the seminary level. If a layman's level interrogation of the subject is what you are looking for, this is not the book for you. But if you CAN follow discussions on Greek, Hebrew, Latin, Sumerian and Akkadian word usage, the relevance of Q, classical Greek philosophy, and the like, you'll be hard

pressed to find a better resource than Gagnon's book.

Gagnon, of course, is the "gold standard" of experts on the subject of homosexuality and the Bible. I had seen so many references to this work in other sources on the topic of same-sex marriage that I decided to order it. I was afraid it might be heavy going, with a dense academic style. Thankfully, Gagnon writes clearly and fluidly, and with insights that are critical to understanding this topic from a biblical worldview. He's a scholar's scholar in the best sense of that phrase.

This is the preeminent scholarly book that addresses the question of homosexuality from a conservative evangelical viewpoint. Because I live fairly close to Pittsburgh where Dr. Gagnon teaches, I recently had a lunch meeting with him to explore the possibility of his speaking at my church. Our lunch lasted three hours and my brain was exhausted at the end. He is a brilliant man with the heart of Christ who loves all people and has a conservative evangelical view of life.

As other reviewers have said, this is an extremely thorough treatment of the subject from a conservative viewpoint. The author fully examines all of the scripture on the topic, provides extensive, clear definitions of disputed words, and thoroughly refutes contemporary pro-homosexual intercourse biblical interpretations. People will believe whatever they want to, but if you read this book you will not with intellectual honesty be able to maintain that the Bible affirms homosexual intercourse.

Well researched with cogent arguments. My only complaint is the influence of "higher" criticism - i.e. - the acceptance of the JDP Old Testament hypothesis, and a seemingly similar view on some of the New Testament canon.

A very scholarly and convincing study of the topic. I applaud and pray for the courageous ministry of Dr. Gagnon. I would have given five stars except I am not in agreement with the Documentary Hypothesis/Higher Critical assumptions expressed in the text, even though I understand that his theological community expects such assumptions.

This is a very intense, scholarly look at this topic. As someone with a PhD, this was a refreshing approach to the topic given that there is so much emotion typically tied to it. If you are looking for someone who REALLY digs into the manuscripts, then this book is for you.

This is an excellent in-depth book dealing with the Bible and same sex sexual relationships. It's greatest strength is probably its greatest weakness. Gagnon digs into each relevant question in so much depth and supports each discussion with so much technical data that he will probably lose many readers. This is not a quick and easy book to read. But it is filled with the information one needs to make a fully informed decision on this topic.

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