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**2011–present****Scriptural Interpretation****Compiled by Don Bell, Mike McCabe, and Carlos R. Fernandez****Annotated by Carlos R. Fernandez, annotations adopted from Amazon.com**Hood, Rev Jeff. *Queer: An Interaction with the Gospel of John*. S.l.: Dog Ear, 2013.

This book is a colloquial interpretation of the Gospel of John. When God embodies those who are marginalized, strange things happen. Peace, hope, and love are manifested in unimaginable ways. This is the tale of the Queer.

Bellis, Alice Ogden, and Terry L. Hufford. *Science, Scripture, and Homosexuality*. Cleveland, Ohio: Pilgrim, 2011.

This book is a collaborative project between a biblical scholar and a biology professor. *Science, Scripture, and Homosexuality* addresses those scriptural passages that relate to homosexuality and explains the growing evidence of the biological basis for sexual orientation. The authors argue the roles of the homosexual and the heterosexual within the Church. This title is written in a highly accessible manner and it is an ideal book for congregational discussion.

Cadwallder, Alan H., ed. *Pieces of Ease and Grace: Biblical Essays on Sexuality and Welcome*. ATF, 2013.

People of faith are looking for a liberating understanding of the Bible while engaging sexualities and those of friends, family and beyond. The book demonstrated clearly that oppressive uses of selected texts from the Bible were invalid. But more is needed. The obligation upon scriptural scholars is to establish scripture's hospitable inclusion of those whose sexual identities have been subjected to such oppression. *Pieces of Ease and Grace* retrieves biblical texts as actively embracing gays and lesbians within the community of faith. Their stories profoundly intersect with those of scripture. Here is a collection of biblical essays on sexuality and welcome that restores the Bible as a book of grace to those whose sexual identities had previously been lost, or condemned, in interpretation.

Torre, Miguel A. *Lily among the Thorns: Imagining a New Christian Sexuality*. Jossey-Bass, 2012.

Author Miguel De La Torre, a well-respected ethicist and professor known for his innovative readings of Christian doctrine, rejects both the liberal and conservative prejudices about sex. He instead develops an ethic that is liberative yet grounded soundly in the Bible; a sexuality that celebrates God's gift of great sex by fostering intimacy, vulnerability, and openness between loving partners. In *A Lily Among the Thorns*, De La Torre examines the Bible, current events, history and our culture-at-large to show how and why racism, sexism, and classism have distorted Christianity's central teachings

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the full scope of what the Bible really has to say about sin. This essay demonstrates why that study is necessary, and shows that the Bible's definition of sin cannot require a blanket rejection of homosexual life. The church needs to change its mind.

Achtemeier, Mark. *The Bible's Yes to Same-sex Marriage: An Evangelical's Change of Heart*. Westminster John Knox, 2014.

In the early 2000's, Mark Achtemeier embarked on a personal journey with the Bible that led him from being a conservative, evangelical opponent of gay rights to an outspoken activist for gay marriage and a fully inclusive church. In *The Bible's Yes to Same-Sex Marriage*, Achtemeier shares what led to his change of heart: the problems with excluding gr

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nothing about love and enduring relationships between people of same sex—on the contrary, these texts condemn harshly the activities they describe, such as attempted rape, debauchery, or depriving a person of his male honor. This has led theologically conservative Christians to condemn what is called ‘homosexuality.’ As the consequence of such an interpretation of the authoritative Scripture, hundreds of thousands of members of Christian communities have faced the difficulty, if not impossibility, to live out their non-heterosexual orientation while maintaining their Christian identity. Matthew Vines dedicates his book to ‘all those who have suffered in silence for so long.’ He reads the Bible and biblical scholarship as an evangelical gay Christian, giving a voice both to the biblical texts and its readers. He takes seriously the biblical text which for him represents the authoritative word of God; historical scholarship that reads the biblical text against what can be known of its historical context; and the experiences of Christians who read the Bible today. Importantly, his own personal voice is to be heard throughout the book, which only adds to its credibility. A careful scrutiny of the six biblical passages that somehow address same-sex behavior leads Vines to make a compelling argument against mandatory celibacy for gay Christians. More than that, he argues that Christians who affirm the full authority of Scripture can also affirm committed, monogamous same-sex relationships. Matthew Vines’s well-read and well-argued book deserves to be read by all those who have suffered in silence, but also by members and ministers of Christian communities struggling with the recognition and appreciation of their gay members.

Himbaza, Innocent, Adrian Schenker, and Jean Baptiste Edart. *The Bible on the Question of Homosexuality*. Washington, D.C.: Catholic U of America, 2012.

*The Bible on the Question of Homosexuality* addresses the hotly debated topic of whether the Bible condemns homosexuality by a close reading of the biblical texts without taboo or prejudice, without personal or church interpretation. The authors are interested in discovering what the Bible says about homosexuality. They take seriously the world from which the biblical text emerges, and discuss the hermeneutical challenges raised by scripture. They deal with the full range of issues raised by homosexuality in the Bible including Jesus' own sexual orientation and his relationship with the Beloved Disciple. Their conclusions are modest though their comprehensive overview is significant. Though many books are available on the topic of homosexuality and the Bible, most advance a particular ideology. This book, while not a moral treatise on homosexuality, intends only to clarify, without a predetermined interpretation, what the Bible actually says on the subject.

Hornsby, Teresa J., and Ken Stone. *Bible Trouble: Queer Reading at the Boundaries of Biblical Scholarship*. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2011.

The essays in *Bible Trouble* all engage queer theories for purposes of biblical interpretation, a rare effort to date within biblical scholarship. The title phrase *Bible*

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relationship. The book, as a whole, makes it crystal clear that both sides of the debate take seriously the Bible as the inspired word of God, and both are seeking to discern the Scriptures in order to hear Gods voice speaking to us today.

Cunningham, James D. *Gay Christian Survivors: Refuting Anti-Gay Views With The Word Of God*. CreateSpace, 2012.

Have you been left out in the cold by the church's unbiblical antigay teachings? Do you know someone who has been hurt? Are you a person who teaches anti-gay doctrines? Are you just curious about what God's Word says about homosexual identity? If you can answer YES to any of these questions, this book is just for you! There is no word play here, no attempt at looking for loopholes in God's Word, no long-winded historical analysis and flowery liberal rhetoric on the subject. *Gay Christian Survivors* is the book edition of the popular online outreach of the same name by King James Bible Ministry and Under the Son Ministries. This is a Conservative Evangelical Christian minister's intensive and prayerful study on the issue of homosexuality as the Bible tells it. It also serves as a theological safe haven for gay and lesbian believers in Jesus Christ and the Holy Scriptures, who seek shelter from the torments of the church's anti-

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testaments forcefully champion the equality of LGBT people in the Kingdom of God and represent a formidable challenge to ecclesiastical homophobia.

Vines, Matthew. *God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-sex Relationships*. Convergent, 2014.

"*God and the Gay Christian* is a game changer. Winsome, accessible, and carefully researched, every page is brought to life by the author's clear love for Scripture and deep, persistent faith. With this book, Matthew Vines emerges as one of my generation's most important Christian leaders, not only on matters of sexuality but also on what it means to follow Jesus with wisdom, humility, and grace. Prepare to be challenged and enlightened, provoked and inspired. Read with an open heart and mind, and you are bound to be changed."-- Rache0 0.24 16.2 ( m)T(re) 0.2(0 0.24 16.2 ( md Ee) 0.(v(c) 0.2 2 (i) 0.2 0.2(0 0.24 16.2 (





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of whether 1 and 2 Samuel offer a positive portrayal of a homosexual relationship. Beneath the conflict of interpretations lies an ambiguous biblical text which has drawn generations of readers - from the redactors of the Hebrew text and the early translators to modern biblical scholars - to the task of resolving its possible meanings. What has not yet been fully explored is the place of David and Jonathan in the evolution of modern, Western understandings of same-sex relationships, in particular how the story of their relationship was read alongside classical narratives, such as those of Achilles and Patroclus, or Orestes and Pylades. *The Love of David and Jonathan* explores this context in detail to argue that the story of David and Jonathan was part of the process by which the modern idea of homosexuality itself emerged.

*A Name in Heaven Bible Revised* by Rickie Bartlett. Rickie L. Bartlett, 2011.

*A Name In Heaven Bible Revised* is derived from the original King James translation. It has been left in it's original pure text form with the revision of some old English and the revision of one hundred and thirty two scriptures. This pure translation is not cluttered with man made opinions or additives to promote various religions or religious views as are many Bibles available today. This revised edition brings Bible characters and Bible understanding to living color, identifying which Bible characters were gay. These revised scriptures have been translated into the most modern terms available for the twenty first century. Preserving and clarifying Bible understanding that has been lost for many generations. *A Name In Heaven Bible Revised* is the first of it's kind released to the public since 460 B.C. over 2470 years ago. *A Name In Heaven Bible Revised* is beautifully formatted on firm high quality paper. The pages are presented in two columns with book titles boldly displayed at top of pages. The chapters and verses are displayed in bold print to make finding scripture very easy for readers. *A Name In Heaven Bible Revised* is a beautiful and elegant Bible.

*No Condemnation!: The Bible and Homosexuality: A Study Manual* by Gary E. Gilthvedt. Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2013.

This book is a study of eight biblical texts to which many of us refer when conversing about homosexuality. They are the only texts in the Bible generally thought to speak in an explicit way to this subject. And yet, the texts are frequently relied on for support of ideas and opinions that do not occur in the texts themselves. Popular discussions easily overlay these texts with the current understanding and opinions to which we hold, perhaps by which we are enthralled, in our own time and place. The lives, questions, convictions, and experiences of the ancient peoples represented by the texts do not always get a fair hearing. This book seeks to join the conversation about the Bible and homosexuality, and serve as a resource for partners in that conversation.

*Outing the Bible: Queer Folks, God, Jesus, and the Christian Scriptures* by Nancy Wilson. LifeJourney Press, 2013.

Rev. Dr. Nancy Wilson, Moderator of the Metropolitan Community Churches, explores the Bible's complex and often-misunderstood messages on homosexuality and diversity. Wilson explores eunuchs, same-sex relationships, sodomy, sexuality and healing, and other queer issues in scripture. She takes on the infamous "clobber texts" and places them in correct contexts.

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Paul on Homosexuality by Michael Wood. Tubi Publishing, 2011.

Paul on Homosexuality reveals little known facts regarding the first century environment in which the New Testament was written. It shows that the ancient Jewish nation separated the commandments of their law into two groups: Justices and Jobs. The Justices were all the commandments based on the precept, "Love your neighbor as yourself." The Jobs were all the rest. Author Michael Wood shows that the Apostle Paul solely considered the Justices to be the Law. Paul considered Jesus' sacrifice on the cross to be the death of the Jobs. Paul strongly believed that those who felt they must keep the Jobs were rejecting Jesus' favor. The Old Testament prohibition on homosexuality was a Job of the Torah. Wood warns that those who say that others must keep this Job are violating the heart and soul of Paul's teaching. Wood further shows that 1 Corinthians and 1 Timothy do not repudiate Paul's most central teaching, as conventional Bibles cause many to believe. Wood shows that, in the original Greek, these books uphold his teaching rather than destroy it. Wood also provides a most remarkable analysis of Romans chapter one, the only unequivocal reference to homosexuality in the New Testament.

The Queen James Bible. Queen James, 2012.

The Queen James Bible is based on The King James Bible, edited to prevent homophobic misinterpretation. Homosexuality was first mentioned in the Bible in 1946, in the Revised Standard Version. There is no mention of or reference to homosexuality in any Bible prior to this - only interpretations have been made. Anti-LGBT Bible interpretations commonly cite only eight verses in the Bible that they interpret to mean homosexuality is a sin; Eight verses in a book of thousands! The Queen James Bible seeks to resolve interpretive ambiguity in the Bible as it pertains to homosexuality: We edited those eight verses in a way that makes homophobic interpretations impossible. The King James Bible is the most popular Bible of all time, and arguably the most important English language document of all time. It is the brainchild and namesake of King James I, who wanted an English language Bible that alta. Qy (3.0 1 Tf [(e) 0.2 (i)0.2 (ght) (

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performativity is examined in relation to the books of Jeremiah, Hosea and Ezekiel. The book offers a radical reassessment of the relationship between biblical language and gender identity.

Queering the Ethiopian Eunuch: Strategies of Ambiguity in Acts by Sean D. Burke. Augsburg Fortress, 2013.

Were eunuchs more usually castrated guardians of the harem, as florid Orientalist portraits imagine them, or were they trusted court officials who may never have been castrated? Was the Ethiopian eunuch a Jew or a Gentile, a slave or a free man? Why does Luke call him a “man” while contemporaries referred to eunuchs as “unmanned” beings? As Sean D. Burke treats questions that have received dramatically different answers over the centuries of Christian interpretation, he shows that eunuchs bore particular stereotyped associations regarding gender and sexual status as well as of race, ethnicity, and class. Not only has Luke failed to resolve these ambiguities; he has positioned this destabilized figure at a key place in the narrative—as the gospel has expanded beyond Judea, but before Gentiles are explici.2 (a) 0.2 (bi)1 0.2 (hs) -0.2 ( a) 0.2 (s) -0.2

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condemn homosexuality, as well as the liberal interpretations that claim that the Bible approves of homosexuality. Topics include: The explicit verses, Gay Bible stories, Possibly gay Bible stories, Lesbians, Eunuchs, Paul's thorn, Was Jesus gay?, What about Yahweh?, Between the lines, Biblical marriage, and Because the bible tells me so. With an afterword by Dave Muscato.

“Steve Wells provides yet another indispensable tool for the secular debater. With an engaging wit and refreshing irreverence, *Strange Flesh* disarms the most ubiquitous weapon in the arsenal against LGBT rights.” -Noah Lugeons, host of the *Scathing Atheist* podcast

*Torah Queeries: Weekly Commentaries on the Hebrew Bible*. Ed. by David Shneer, Gregg Drinkwater, Joshua Lesser and Judith Plaskow. NYU Press, 2012.

In the Jewish tradition, reading of the Torah follows a calendar cycle, with a specific portion assigned each week. Following on this ancient tradition, *Torah Queeries* brings together some of the world's leading rabbis, scholars, and writers to interpret the Torah through a “bent lens.” This incredibly rich collection unites the voices of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight-allied writers, including some of the most central figures in contemporary American Judaism. All bring to the table unique methods of reading and interpreting that allow the Torah to speak to modern concerns of sexuality, identity, gender, and LGBT life. *Torah Queeries* offers cultural critique, social commentary, and a vision of community transformation, all done through biblical interpretation. Written to engage readers, draw them in, and at times provoke them, *Torah Queeries* charts a future of inclusion and social justice deeply rooted in the Jewish textual tradition. A labor of intellectual rigor, social justice, and personal passions, *Torah Queeries* is an exciting and important contribution to the project of democratizing Jewish communities, and an essential guide to understanding the intersection of queerness and Jewishness.

*Unprotected Texts: The Bible's Surprising Contradictions About Sex and Desire* by Jennifer Wright Knust. HarperOne, 2011.