

When the Bible is used to justify or to condemn certain behaviors and it can become tricky business. Jesus said that, “Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Human beings run the risk of taking God’s word and then using it in a way God never intended.

Jesus was asked many questions by the religious leaders of his day. In Matthew 22:18, he knew that the intent of those questioning him was set on evil. He called them hypocrites. They were not really interested in assessing God’s word with honesty. They didn’t really want an answer from Jesus and didn’t really care about God’s word. Instead, they had ulterior motives and were trying to trap Jesus in his words.

Jesus knew the hearts of the people. Jesus also knew God’s word. No one is exempt from a heart exam from the Lord of our hearts. And no one is exempt from being called to account for taking God’s word into error. Jesus told his detractors:

**“You are in error because to do not know the Scriptures or the power of God” (Matthew 22:29).**

Attitude – something we all have – must be considered. If our attitude is hostile and intractable, then the homosexual issue, or any issue, becomes secondary to the attitude which resides in our hearts. Perhaps we should all ask ourselves if we are open to an honest and fair appraisal of Scripture. Or it could be that we are not interested in the biblical point of view at all.

The best attitude is to be teachable and humble:

**“This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word. (Isaiah 66:2).**

God is not opposed to people asking hard questions. Jesus was asked about many things and gladly answered many people. What made the difference was attitude. Jesus was gentle with the humble. He was very firm with the critical. He didn’t answer Herod at all. However, everyone is invited to inquire of the Lord, but we must be reasonable, teachable and honest with the Lord of the Universe.

**“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD” (Isaiah 1:18).**