

Biblical Pleas Against The Discrimination Of Homosexual People

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1 Timothy 1,10***Another 'Catalogue of Vices'***

Timothy as well lists examples of various sins within an overall theological argumentation context. It names, one after the other: 'lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; [...] those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers – and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine [...]' (1Tim 1,f).

Here, the term *arsenokoitai* [the 'perverts' in the New International Version] is also mentioned in immediate connection with another group of people, who are best classified as belonging to the world of sex for sale. For it were 'slave traders' who resold stolen or purchased children as slaves – often with a sexual purpose.

As has been mentioned already, the noun 'homosexuality' as well as the adjective 'homosexual' are modern notions that are psychologically oriented and have a different meaning from the biblical words, which finally merely paraphrase particular patterns of behaviour. To read today's concept of homosexual personalities into the word *arsenokoitai*, for instance, most likely misinterprets whatever the authors of the New and the Old Testament intended to say at a large scale.