

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Statements About

HOLY SCRIPTURE

And Commentary From The

LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLE

Social Statement on Human Sexuality of the ELCA (Page 15, lines 417-418):

“Scripture cannot be used in isolation as the norm for Christian life and the source of knowledge for the exercise of moral judgment.”

ELCA Website; “What We Believe - The Bible”:

“Because Biblical writers, editors and compilers were limited by their times and world views, even as we are, the Bible contains material wedded to those times and places. It also means that writers sometimes provide differing and even contradictory views of God’s word, ways and will.....”

“.....Listening to the living Jesus in the context of the church, we therefore have the task of deciding among these. Having done this listening, we sometimes conclude either that the writer’s culture or personal experience (e.g., subordination of women or keeping of slaves) seems to have prompted his missing what God was saying or doing, or that God now is saying or doing something new.”

Lutheran Study Bible:

Matthew 28:16-20

Lutheran Study Bible Comments: “.....Jesus now sends the disciples to make disciples of all nations. That does not mean make everyone disciples. Most people who are helped by Jesus and believe in him never become disciples. Jesus includes in salvation people who do not believe in him or even know about him.....”

Matthew 25

Lutheran Study Bible Comments: “.....Jesus makes these little ones, who suffer and are broken, the place of his presence in our world, even for those who do not believe in him or know about it. This is one way Jesus creates salvation for those who do not even know him.”

Romans 1:27

Scripture Passage: This passage refers to the sin of men turning from natural sex with women and burning in lust for other men. “....and in the same way also the men, giving up natural intercourse with women, were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed shameful acts with men and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error.”

Lutheran Study Bible Comments: (Interesting. The *Lutheran Study Bible* provides no comment regarding this verse and is conveniently silent on this passage.)

1 Corinthians 5:1, 9-10

Lutheran Study Bible Comments: “The phrase “sexually immoral persons” are misleading translations, because they are too general and do not help us understand what Paul finds objectionable.....”