

# Examples of harmful content on the websites of Christadelphian charities registered in England & Wales

## Introduction

It has come to the attention of the National Secular Society that a number of Christadelphian charities registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales have websites that feature content that may be in violation of the Charity Commission’s guidance.

We believe the content highlighted in this may not be compatible with Charity Commission’s guidance on [Protecting charities from abuse for extremist purposes](#):

*“Your legal duty:  
...Carry out your charity’s purposes for the public benefit. Views or activities that incite hatred on the grounds of race, religion or sexual orientation cannot be for the public benefit because they are illegal.”*

We believe this content does not meet the charity’s purpose for the public benefit, and may additionally have the potential to incite hatred of the grounds of religion or sexual orientation.

In some cases the content seems to condone violence towards LGBT people, and physical punishment of children.

We also found content promoting sexist and misogynistic views of women, and intolerant views of people with Asperger’s Syndrome.

This report collates examples of the content from the websites in question. In every case, the website is that listed as the official website in each charity’s registration page at the Charity Commission.

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## 1. ThisIsYourBible.com

A number of different Christadelphian charities list ThisIsYourBible.com as their official website on the Charity Commission's register. The charities that NSS identified listing this website are:

- 1167789 Amersham Christadelphian Ecclesia
- 1176497 Bradford Christadelphians
- 1170080 Erith Christadelphian Ecclesia Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- 1075016 Morpeth Christadelphian Ecclesia
- 1169123 Teignmouth Christadelphian Ecclesia
- 1185342 York Christadelphian Ecclesia (YCE) – *This charity was registered very recently, on September 2019*

### a) Intolerance of LGBT people, condoning violence towards LGBT people

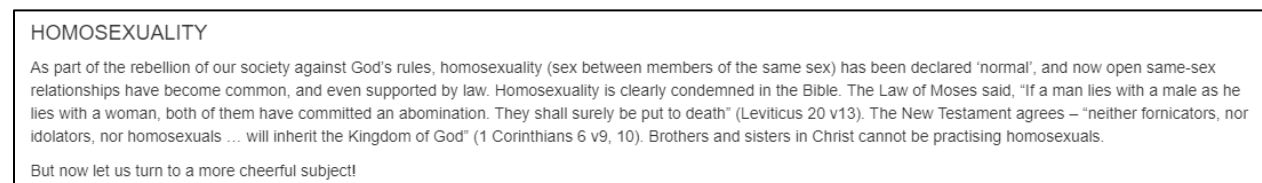
Example 1 URL:

<https://www.thisisyourbible.com/library/show/735>

Text:

“As part of the rebellion of our society against God’s rules, homosexuality (sex between members of the same sex) has been declared ‘normal’, and now open same-sex relationships have become common, and even supported by law. Homosexuality is clearly condemned in the Bible. **The Law of Moses said, “If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death”** (Leviticus 20 v13).”<sup>1</sup>

Screenshot:



### b) Advocating physical punishment of children

Example 1 URL:

<https://www.thisisyourbible.com/library/show/735>

Text:

“So, from the start, the little child must be taught that some things are right, and others wrong. For example, it is dangerous to interfere with electric plugs. As soon as it starts to poke things into the wall socket, our little one should be rebuked sharply with the key word “No!” **and if it persists, given a gentle slap.** The tears will flow, but it has learned that “No!” means “I must not do this”. We must not be put off disciplining our children because they start to cry. Solomon is definite about this – “Chasten

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<sup>1</sup> Emphasis and underlines added in all examples.

your son while there is hope, and do not set your heart on his crying” (Proverbs 19 v18, margin). The tears will not flow for long. Very quickly your son or daughter will learn you mean what you say, and the reaction to “No!” will be immediate. Later, for example when they start to cross the road in front of an approaching car, their automatic reaction to “No!” may save their life.

As they become toddlers, it will become more efficient to encourage good behaviour by little rewards and generous praise, and to punish disobedience by sanctions such as withdrawal of treats. **Physical punishment will rarely be necessary.”**

Screenshot:

So, from the start, the little child must be taught that some things are right, and others wrong. For example, it is dangerous to interfere with electric plugs. As soon as it starts to poke things into the wall socket, our little one should be rebuked sharply with the key word “No!” and if it persists, given a gentle slap. The tears will flow, but it has learned that “No!” means “I must not do this”. We must not be put off disciplining our children because they start to cry. Solomon is definite about this – “Chasten your son while there is hope, and do not set your heart on his crying” (Proverbs 19 v18, margin). The tears will not flow for long. Very quickly your son or daughter will learn you mean what you say, and the reaction to “No!” will be immediate. Later, for example when they start to cross the road in front of an approaching car, their automatic reaction to “No!” may save their life.

As they become toddlers, it will become more efficient to encourage good behaviour by little rewards and generous praise, and to punish disobedience by sanctions such as withdrawal of treats. Physical punishment will rarely be necessary. But there are some important points here. Firstly, every child needs to know clearly what the rules are – for

Example 2 URL:

<https://www.thisisyourbible.com/questions/show/840>

Text:

“How we should teach our children.

Proverbs 13:24 **He who spares his rod hates his son,** But he who loves him disciplines him promptly.

Proverbs 19:18 Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction.

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, And (if he takes it to heart) when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:15 Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; **The rod of correction will drive it far from him.**

Proverbs 23:13 **Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. 14 You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell (the grave). 15 The rod and rebuke give wisdom,** But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother... 17 Correct your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul.

Screenshot:

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### c). Intolerance of Wiccans, condoning violence towards Wiccans

#### Example 1 URL:

<https://www.thisisyourbible.com/questions/show/1470>

#### Text:

“Witchcraft is a delusion and has no genuine supernatural powers. God is quite specific in his condemnation of those who profess such. **Under the Law given through Moses the penalty was death.**”

#### Screenshot:

What does the Bible say about pagan religions such as Wicca? Is it sinful to engage in such practices?

Thank you for asking a question on [thisisyourbible.com](https://www.thisisyourbible.com)

From Wikipedia [no, the irony is not lost! :o ]

Wicca... is a Neopagan religion and a form of modern witchcraft. Often referred to as Witchcraft or the Craft, its adherents are commonly referred to as Wiccans, or as Witches or Crafters. Developing in England in the first half of the twentieth century, Wicca was popularised in the 1950s and early 1960s by a Wiccan High Priest named Gerald Gardner, who at the time called it the "witch cult" and "witchcraft", and its adherents "the Wica". From the 1960s onward the name of the religion was normalised to "Wicca".

Wicca is typically a duotheistic religion, worshipping a Goddess and a God, who are traditionally viewed as the Triple Goddess and Horned God. These two deities are often viewed as being facets of a greater pantheistic Godhead, and as manifesting themselves as various polytheistic deities. Nonetheless, there are also other theological positions within the Craft, ranging from monotheism to atheism. Wicca also involves the ritual practice of magic, largely influenced by the ceremonial magic of previous centuries, often in conjunction with a liberal code of morality known as the Wiccan Rede, although this is not adhered to by all Witches. Another characteristic of the Craft is the celebration of seasonally based festivals known as Sabbats, of which there are usually eight in number annually.

There are various different denominations within Witchcraft, which are referred to as traditions. Some, such as Gardnerian and Alexandrian Wicca, follow in the initiatory lineage of Gardner; these are often collectively termed British Traditional Wicca, and many of their practitioners consider the term "Wicca" to apply only to these lineaged traditions. Others, such as Cochrane's Craft, Feri and the Dianic tradition, take primary influence from other figures and may not insist on any initiatory lineage. Some of these do not use the term "Wicca" at all, instead preferring to be referred to only as "Witchcraft", while others believe that all traditions can be considered "Wiccan".

Witchcraft is a delusion and has no genuine supernatural powers.

God is quite specific in his condemnation of those who profess such.

Under the Law given through Moses the penalty was death.

**Exodus 22:18** Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

Israel was not to countenance such people.

**Deuteronomy 18:10** There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,

Example 2 URL:

<https://www.thisisyoubible.com/questions/show/1470>

Text:

“Those who continue in Wicca will die in their sins.”

Screenshot:

[Psalms 146:4](#) His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

Wicca cannot give remission of sin or save from eternal death; only belief of and obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ can give eternal life.

[Romans 6:23](#) For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[John 8:24](#) I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.

Those who continue in Wicca will die in their sins.

I hope you have found this helpful.

May God bless you,  
Glenn,  
[thisisyoubible.com](http://thisisyoubible.com)

#### d) Sexism, female subjugation

Example 1 URL:

<https://www.thisisyoubible.com/library/show/735>

Text:

“The most glorious description of Jesus as bridegroom comes in Ephesians chapter 5 – compulsory reading for every husband. Jesus, says the apostle, is head of the church, and the church is subject to him (v23, 24). In our culture wives reject the idea that their husband is their head. But the Bible teaches differently. Husband and wife are complementary to each other. They make the perfect team. **But when the discussion is over and it comes to the final say as to what is best for the family, the husband has the responsibility of leading the way. Paul says we should take as our example the relationship between Christ and the church. As the bride of Christ we would not dream of criticising him or undermining what he asks us to do. We accept his authority. So it is in Christian marriage.**”

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Example 2 URL:

<https://www.thisisyoubible.com/library/show/180>

Text:

“Here the word “men” means just what it says; the males are to lead the prayers. It is worth noting that

no further special qualifications are indicated. Not "some men" attempting to distinguish them from others who cannot do this work, but "men" in general are to fulfil this function.

The woman's position is different. **Her role in communal worship is more submissive:**

"Women should adorn themselves modestly and sensibly in seemly apparel, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly attire but by good deeds, as befits women who profess religion. Let a woman learn in silence with all submissiveness. **I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over men; she is to keep silent**" (verses 9-12).

Screenshot:

**Different Roles**

It is the job of men, Paul wrote to Timothy, to lead congregational worship:

"I desire then that in every place (i.e. wherever there is a group of believers) the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarrelling" (1 Timothy 2:8).

Here the word "men" means just what it says; the males are to lead the prayers. It is worth noting that no further special qualifications are indicated. Not "some men" attempting to distinguish them from others who cannot do this work, but "men" in general are to fulfil this function.

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Example 2 URL:

<https://www.thisisyourbible.com/library/show/180>

Text:

"In communal worship, therefore, the lessons of Eden have to be carefully observed. In Eden the woman usurped God's authority which had been transmitted by the man. Thereafter, and to remind men and women of what had happened, men were to take the lead in their joint approach before God. It does not matter whether men wish to or not, or whether some women are more capable than some men; these are not the considerations that should apply. **Women are to do now what it would have been better if Eve had done then -- to listen quietly, honoring the God who is able to give life to those who approach Him in humility and in the way He has decreed.**"

Screenshot:

**Eden Remembered**

In communal worship, therefore, the lessons of Eden have to be carefully observed. In Eden the woman usurped God's authority which had been transmitted by the man. Thereafter, and to remind men and women of what had happened, men were to take the lead in their joint approach before God. It does not matter whether men wish to or not, or whether some women are more capable than some men; these are not the considerations that should apply. Women are to do now what it would have been better if Eve had done then -- to listen quietly, honoring the God who is able to give life to those who approach Him in humility and in the way He has decreed. Men today have to take the leading role in communal worship because of Adam's failure to do so in Eden. Adam "listened to the voice" of his wife instead of the voice of God, and so he and all his male descendants suffer the consequence. In Christ both women and men have to act in ways that clearly acknowledge the folly of their first parents.

Example 3 URL:

<https://www.thisisyourbible.com/library/show/241>

Text:

"When God made the living creatures, they were all in pairs, male and female, except for Adam, who was created alone. In Genesis 2 v18 God observed 'it is not good that man should be alone', and he

provided Adam with a companion. Here we have the key to the primary purpose of marriage. It is to provide companionship. Eve was not just another man, a duplicate of Adam. She was specially designed as 'a helper suitable for him'. She was to provide qualities which would complement the man's, so that together they would make a strong and practical partnership. Straight away, we see how the spirit of our age has spoiled this relationship. **It tries to make women and men interchangeable, with the same opportunities. There must, it decrees, be no discrimination. Yet God's arrangement was balanced. The softer qualities of the woman – her maternal instincts, geared to caring for children, her dexterity in spinning, sewing, and weaving, her patience, sympathy and affection, all match the virile characteristics of the man – physically stronger, organising, planning ahead, hunting and cultivating the soil, solving problems, protecting and defending his family."**

Screenshot:

<p>WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE?</p> <p>When God made the living creatures, they were all in pairs, male and female, except for Adam, who was created alone. In Genesis 2 v18 God observed 'it is not good that man should be alone', and he provided Adam with a companion. Here we have the key to the primary purpose of marriage. <i>It is to provide companionship.</i> Eve was not just another man, a duplicate of Adam. She was specially designed as 'a helper suitable for him'. She was to provide qualities which would complement the man's, so that together they would make a strong and practical partnership. Straight away, we see how the spirit of our age has spoiled this relationship. It tries to make women and men interchangeable, with the same opportunities. There must, it decrees, be no discrimination. Yet God's arrangement was balanced. The softer qualities of the woman – her maternal instincts, geared to caring for children, her dexterity in spinning, sewing, and weaving, her patience, sympathy and affection, all match the virile characteristics of the man – physically stronger, organising, planning ahead, hunting and cultivating the soil, solving problems, protecting and defending his family.</p> <p>The second purpose of marriage is stated in ch 1, where God says to the human pair in v28 that they should 'be fruitful and multiply'. Marriage provides a <i>stable and secure background for the rearing and training of children.</i> We shall need to return to this topic later.</p>
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Example 4 URL:

<https://www.thisisyourbible.com/questions/show/265>

Text:

"A woman's role according to the Bible is the same as that of a man's role in all of the fundamental aspects of life in Christ. We are to serve one another in love. **Although a woman's focus is on the nurture and development of the family the man is to take on the role of headship or leadership.** This is not domination. Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her. This leadership model is one of service and sacrifice based on love and not on self-serving authoritarianism. **Until the Lord returns to establish his father's kingdom, women who are followers of Christ must acknowledge the leadership of their husbands and of their brethren within the public functions of the church."**

Screenshot:

## What is a woman's role according to the Bible?

How do the roles of men and women differ?

Thanks very much for your question.

A woman's role according to the Bible is the same as that of a man's role in all of the fundamental aspects of life in Christ. We are to serve one another in love. Although a woman's focus is on the nurture and development of the family the man is to take on the role of headship or leadership. This is not domination. Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her. This leadership model is one of service and sacrifice based on love and not on self-serving authoritarianism. Until the Lord returns to establish his father's kingdom, women who are followers of Christ must acknowledge the leadership of their husbands and of their brethren within the public functions of the church.



## 2. CBM.org.uk: Christadelphian Bible Mission

Charity: 1020558 Christadelphian Bible Mission

a) Intolerance of LGBT+ people, equating homosexuality with child abuse and rape

Example 1 URL:

[http://www.cbm.org.uk/lft\\_plan.htm](http://www.cbm.org.uk/lft_plan.htm)

Text:

“From lack of discipline has come corruption, immorality, violence, drug and alcohol abuse, hijacking, kidnapping, theft, child abuse, **homosexuality**, rape and murder.”

Screenshot:

**What is wrong with our world?**

If you don't agree that we have problems, you have been living on another planet! A police chief in the USA said: "There Is no self-discipline. It's total indulgence. There is lack of respect for law and values."

That's a fair summary.

- From lack of discipline has come corruption, immorality, violence, drug and alcohol abuse, hijacking, kidnapping, theft, child abuse, homosexuality, rape and murder.
- Moral decline has also led to discontent, escapism, selfishness and an increase in suicides.

b) Sexism, female subjugation

Example 1 URL:

<http://www.cbm.org.uk/cbm40lesson32.pdf>

Text:

“The apostle Paul shows that because the husband represents Christ, and his wife represents Christ’s true church, **she should not take the leading role in marriage: “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord”** (Ephesians 5:22). Titus 2:4,5 contains Paul’s instructions concerning young wives: **“train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive (obedient) to their own husbands,** that the word of God may not be reviled.”

Screenshot:

## **A Christian wife**

We have looked at the duties and responsibilities of the Christian husband, but the wife must also play her proper part. She should love and respect her husband in the same way as the church should love and respect the Lord Jesus. There is a delightful word picture of an *“excellent wife”* in Proverbs 31:10-31. She is someone her husband can trust absolutely, who *“does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life”* (verse 12). She works hard for herself and her family; she is kind and understanding, and *“fears the LORD”* (verse 30). The Bible has a number of examples of faithful wives who helped and supported their husbands, whilst letting them take the lead. Sarah respected Abraham and thought of him as her lord (1 Peter 3:1-6) and obeyed him.

The apostle Paul shows that because the husband represents Christ, and his wife represents Christ’s true church, she should not take the leading role in marriage:

*“Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord”* (Ephesians 5:22).

Titus 2:4,5 contains Paul’s instructions concerning young wives:



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*“train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive (obedient) to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.”*

### 3. CSSU.org.uk: Christadelphian Sunday School Union

Charity: 1097921 The Christadelphian Sunday School Union

**Note:**

This charity is a Sunday school for children. The contents of this website reflect what they teach children.

The charity lists “EDUCATION / TRAINING” as one of its objects. The Charity Commission [guidance for charities for the advancement of education](#) says:

*“Education does not have to be value free and completely neutral. Education can be based on broad values that are uncontroversial which would be generally supported by objective and informed people.”*

The NSS thinks the values taught by the Christadelphian Sunday School Union, as evidenced on their website, are not uncontroversial and would not be generally supported by objective and informed people in 21<sup>st</sup> century UK.

#### a) Intolerance of LGBT people

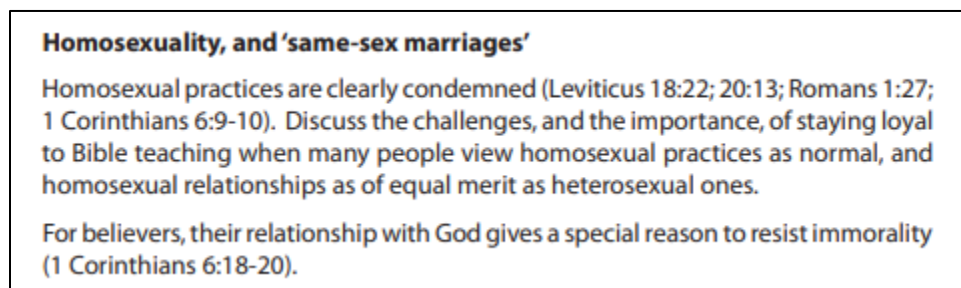
Example 1 URL:

[https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T\\_16.pdf](https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T_16.pdf)

Text:

**“Homosexual practices are clearly condemned** (Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; Romans 1:27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10). **Discuss the challenges, and the importance, of staying loyal to Bible teaching when many people view homosexual practices as normal, and homosexual relationships as of equal merit as heterosexual ones.**”

Screenshot:



#### b) Sexism/female subjugation

Example 1 URL:

[https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T\\_27.pdf](https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T_27.pdf)

Text: “Numbers 30:2-15 describes an area of male authority. Men and women were equally at liberty to take a vow, but a woman’s father or husband was allowed to overrule her. This would seem to show

that a man was to take overall responsibility for what went on in his house. Note that a widow took responsibility for her own actions and was, in this respect, in the same position as a man. **A woman is subject to her father, and then to her husband**, but she is not inferior.”

Screenshot:

Numbers 30:2-15 describes an area of male authority. Men and women were equally at liberty to take a vow, but a woman's father or husband was allowed to overrule her. This would seem to show that a man was to take overall responsibility for what went on in his house. Note that a widow took responsibility for her own actions and was, in this respect, in the same position as a man. A woman is subject to her father, and then to her husband, but she is not inferior.

Example 2 URL:

[https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T\\_16.pdf](https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T_16.pdf)

Text:

“**We see that wives should submit to their husbands**, in the same way as we should all submit to Christ. This is not because men are superior but as a mark of love and respect, and out of a desire to serve Christ. Ephesians 5:21 is included because it shows all should submit to each other. In summary, therefore, the teaching of scripture is not that women are subordinate to men, while men are free to take all the decisions and expect their wives to obey them. **While a wife is to be subject to her husband**, both are subordinate to Christ, and should obey, serve, and try to emulate him”

Screenshot:

Ephesians 5:21-33 and 1 Peter 3:1,7 are principally talking about married couples but we are told that the family unit in a Christian household should mirror the relationship of the church to Christ so they are relevant. We see that wives should submit to their husbands, in the same way as we should all submit to Christ. This is not because men are superior but as a mark of love and respect, and out of a desire to serve Christ. Ephesians 5:21 is included because it shows all should submit to each other.

In summary, therefore, the teaching of scripture is not that women are subordinate to men, while men are free to take all the decisions and expect their wives to obey them. While a wife is to be subject to her husband, both are subordinate to Christ, and should obey, serve, and try to emulate him.

Example 3 URL:

[https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T\\_27.pdf](https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T_27.pdf)

Text:

“The teaching about modest apparel, which we have already considered in 1 Peter 3, and the wearing of

hats which is mentioned here, also reflects the attitude of a sister to her understanding of these principles. **If a woman wears flamboyant or sexy clothing it shows she has other things on her mind than the service of her Lord.** It is also important for sisters to realise why they are covering their heads”

Screenshot:

Now turn to 1 Corinthians 11:1-5. The teaching about modest apparel, which we have already considered in 1 Peter 3, and the wearing of hats which is mentioned here, also reflects the attitude of a sister to her understanding of these principles. If a woman wears flamboyant or sexy clothing it shows she has other things on her mind than the service of her Lord. It is also important for sisters to realise why they are covering their heads. It is to show that they understand the hierarchy described in 1 Corinthians 11:3, and recognise the principles of authority intended from the beginning. In this context it is instructive to consider the example of Rebekah in Genesis 24:63-65. Rebekah covered her head when she met Isaac; clearly she had not previously felt the need to do so in the company of Abraham’s servant.

Example 4 URL:

[https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T\\_27.pdf](https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T_27.pdf)

Text:

“The most important underlying point is that this is not a matter of drawing up lists of things sisters may or may not do. The fundamental lesson of scripture relates to a sister’s attitude, **which should not be domineering or aggressive, and to her role, which should be one of helpful service.**”

Screenshot:

The most important underlying point is that this is not a matter of drawing up lists of things sisters may or may not do. The fundamental lesson of scripture relates to a sister’s attitude, which should not be domineering or aggressive, and to her role, which should be one of helpful service. Bearing in mind that brethren are equally called to the same values in their service of their Lord, the difference is not that great.

Example 5 URL:

[https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T\\_27.pdf](https://cssu.org.uk/t/pdf/study/TW3T_27.pdf)

Text:

“We do have to recognise though that God has made men and women differently and for a purpose. **If we are honest, most women are better than men at preparing an ecclesial supper, talking to children and old people etc. and men are, in general, better at most of the more leading roles.** We should all delight in what we can do and get on with it.”

Screenshot:

We do have to recognise though that God has made men and women differently and for a purpose. If we are honest, most women are better than men at preparing an ecclesial supper, talking to children and old people etc. and men are, in general, better at most of the more leading roles. We should all delight in what we can do and get on with it.

## 4. Christadelphian Advancement Trust: Christadelphia.net

Charity: 1080393 Christadelphian Advancement Trust

### a) Intolerance of people with Asperger's Syndrome

Example 1 URL:

<http://christadelphia.net/wwa8-5.html>

Text:

**“Our concern from a pastoral perspective is whether “Aspergers” can be used as an acceptable excuse for behaviour which the Bible condemns.** It’s worth noting that medical and psychiatric diagnosis over the last 150 years has moved away from daring to define anything as “sin”; instead, much behaviour categorized as “sinful” by the Bible has become redefined as an intrinsic condition or disorder over which the sufferer has no power or ability to change. It must also be noted that because a “professional” has stamped a paper diagnosing someone with “Aspergers”, this doesn’t mean that the diagnosis is correct.”

Screenshot:

### Aspergers

There has been a huge growth in the number of people either diagnosed as “Aspergers” or claiming to have self-diagnosed themselves as such. It’s noteworthy that the percentage of the population claiming “Aspergers” or being within the wider spectrum of autism is far higher in more wealthy societies [1% of the population in the USA are supposedly autistic, compared to 0.1% worldwide- a ten-fold difference] (1) . In 2006, it was reported to be the fastest-growing psychiatric diagnosis in Silicon Valley children- one of the world’s wealthiest areas. There also appears to be a predilection for adults to self-diagnose it, despite not having suffered from it in childhood (2). Our concern from a pastoral perspective is whether “Aspergers” can be used as an acceptable excuse for behaviour which the Bible condemns. It’s worth noting that medical and psychiatric diagnosis over the last 150 years has moved away from daring to define anything as “sin”; instead, much behaviour categorized as “sinful” by the Bible has become redefined as an intrinsic condition or disorder over which the sufferer has no power or ability to change. It must also be noted that because a “professional” has stamped a paper diagnosing someone with “Aspergers”, this doesn’t mean that the diagnosis is correct. And because someone declares themselves “Aspergers”

Example 2 URL:

<http://christadelphia.net/wwa8-5.html>

Text:

“Aspergers- real Aspergers- is genetic. **However, genes don’t define behaviour, nor do they force us to be sinful.** There is a school of psychology which claims that human beings are basically machines, responding in predictable and almost inevitable ways to stimuli. The Bible, however, speaks of sin as being a real avoidable offence against God, and the requirement for repentance involves a recognition that our sin was really our sin- whatever the reason for it, it was our fault and we must repent. **It’s no good blaming human nature, an external “satan” or Aspergers or any mental condition. These may or may not be explanatory background factors, but they don’t take away from the real guilt of committed sin, and our need to repent and find cleansing in Christ.”**

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b) Intolerance of LGBT people; association of LGBT with bestiality, disease, masochism, Nazis

Example 1 URL:

<http://www.christadelphia.net/mm7-11.html>

Text:

“The life of sexual impurity is an "ever increasing" downwards path; the endless quest for new relationships and sexual novelty doesn't need to be described. It is significant that having "left the natural use of the woman"(Rom. 1:27), **male homosexuals descend on an "ever increasing" path of perversion; they rarely remain where they are, in moral terms. At least two independent surveys of gay men found that around 20% admitted having sex with animals, compared to 3% of heterosexual man (2). The majority of homosexuals have literally thousands of encounters over a lifetime (hence**

**the rapid spread of disease between them), with very few developing stable relationships (3). There is also well documented connection between homosexuality and masochism. The top six male serial killers in the US were all gay; as were many Nazi concentration camp operators. The same connection is also witnessed Biblically (Gen. 19:6-8; Jud. 19:16)."**

Screenshot:

The changeover from the downward spiral to the upward spiral ought to have begun at baptism; but as with some of the Roman believers in the first century, a believer can slip back into the downward spiral: "Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness" (Rom. 6:19 NIV). The life of sexual impurity is an "ever increasing" downwards path; the endless quest for new relationships and sexual novelty doesn't need to be described. It is significant that having "left the natural use of the woman"(Rom. 1:27), male homosexuals descend on an "ever increasing" path of perversion; they rarely remain where they are, in moral terms. At least two independent surveys of gay men found that around 20% admitted having sex with animals, compared to 3% of heterosexual man <sup>(2)</sup>. The majority of homosexuals have literally thousands of encounters over a lifetime (hence the rapid spread of disease between them), with very few developing stable relationships <sup>(3)</sup>. There is also well documented connection between homosexuality and masochism. The top six male serial killers in the US were all gay; as were many Nazi concentration camp operators. The same connection is also witnessed Biblically (Gen. 19:6-8; Jud. 19:16).



## 5. Testimony Magazine: TestimonyMagazine.com

Charity: 225908 The Testimony (Christadelphian)

### 1. Intolerance of LGBT people

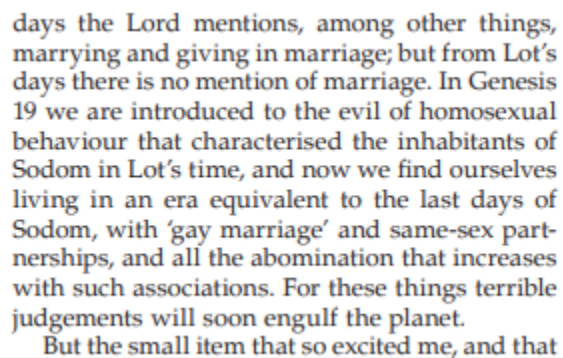
Example 1 URL:

<http://testimonymagazine.com/issues/2013/09/view>

Text:

“In Genesis 19 we are introduced to **the evil of homosexual behaviour** that characterised the inhabitants of Sodom in Lot’s time, and **now we find ourselves living in an era equivalent to the last days of Sodom, with ‘gay marriage’ and same-sex partnerships, and all the abomination that increases with such associations.** For these things terrible judgements will soon engulf the planet.”

Screenshot:

A screenshot of text from a website, enclosed in a black rectangular border. The text reads: "days the Lord mentions, among other things, marrying and giving in marriage; but from Lot's days there is no mention of marriage. In Genesis 19 we are introduced to the evil of homosexual behaviour that characterised the inhabitants of Sodom in Lot's time, and now we find ourselves living in an era equivalent to the last days of Sodom, with 'gay marriage' and same-sex partnerships, and all the abomination that increases with such associations. For these things terrible judgements will soon engulf the planet. But the small item that so excited me, and that".

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### 2. Sexism/female subordination

Example 1 URL:

<http://testimonymagazine.com/back/sisters.pdf>

Text:

“Both [men and women] are to ensure that such influence as they can bring to bear on their surroundings is a Divine influence and, in the spirit of Christ, seek to make the Lord’s will paramount. The woman, however, though encouraged by Scripture to use initiative, **is to work out her dominion within the overall framework of male leadership. It is the man who has the ultimate responsibility for controlling the direction of events which are to be,** to the best of his understanding, in accordance with God’s ways.”

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Michael Lewis, *Man and Woman*, The Testimony, 1992, p. 54.

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