



## Questions:

1. What stood out for you from Isaiah 1:10-20?
2. What situations arise where someone might have reservations about expressing or even revealing their own sexual orientation or supporting someone else in theirs?
3. How do our modern sensibilities affect our interpretation of this story from Genesis?
4. What do you think were the motives of the characters in this story? Is sexual orientation at the core, or is there some other dynamic at work?
5. What do you think Dr. Forbes means when he suggests that we check our own list of rules against God's list? What might that mean relative to our ideas about a Biblical position on homosexuality?

## EPISODE TITLE: "Sodom and Gomorrah"

For the Love of God, Episode 3

### Featured Guest: James Alexander Forbes, Jr.

The Rev. Dr. James Alexander Forbes, Jr., Harry Emerson Fosdick Distinguished Professor, is founder and president of the Healing of the Nations Foundation. In 2007 he was the host of "The Time is Now" on Air America Radio. In national and international religious circles, Dr. Forbes is known as the preacher's preacher because of his extensive preaching career and his charismatic style. In its March 4, 1996 issue Newsweek Magazine recognized Forbes as one of the 12 "most effective preachers" in the English-speaking world.

### Pneuma Divina Scripture: Isaiah 1: 10-20

<sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! <sup>11</sup> What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. <sup>12</sup> When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more; <sup>13</sup> bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation—I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. <sup>14</sup> Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them. <sup>15</sup> When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. <sup>16</sup> Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, <sup>17</sup> learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow. <sup>18</sup> Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. <sup>19</sup> If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; <sup>20</sup> but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

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