

CHRISTIAN ETHICS



What does the bible say in relation to marriage and how should we as Christians address the issue of people who are advocating the idea of altering the definition of marriage

- **I will begin by looking at how Jesus said that we should live as Christians in our world**

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavour, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.” (Matthew 5:13)



- **As Christians we are meant to live in a way that reflects the values outlined in the bible**

Jesus also said, “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” **(Matthew 5:14-16)**



- **I will now look at what the bible says about marriage. The bible makes it clear that a marriage is to be between a man and woman**



In the book of Genesis we read,

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24)

- **Before the Fall everything was good. However when Adam and Eve disobeyed God sin entered the world and man’s rule on earth was forfeited to the serpent.**

- The dominion that was originally delegated to man now falls to Satan, who becomes administrator of this now cursed realm (earth)
- The devil is also known as the father of lies and now distorts the thinking of many people who are still under the sway of the evil one
- Given that we live in a fallen world, it is crucial as Christians that we do not allow the pattern of this world to influence our mindsets



- God has chosen His church, His body of believers, to bring transformation to our world as we as Christians help to see His Kingdom being established here on earth. So God has put the church in the world



- However the Devil will continually try and bring the spirit of the world into the church by getting Christians to compromise in their walk with the Lord and in their Christian values

- There is an ongoing spiritual battle in the heavenly realms in which the kingdom of darkness, which is controlled by Satan (the god of this world) and his fallen angels, will continually try and oppose and prevent God's Kingdom from being established and expanded here on earth



- The Apostle Paul made it clear that our battle is not against flesh and blood but with the principalities and powers of darkness that negatively influence the lives of people



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” **(Ephesians 6:10-13)**

- Anyone wanting to live a Godly and righteous life will experience opposition as the enemy uses people and temptations to try and prevent and discourage Christians from living a godly life style and from openly making a stand for biblical values



- In particular the jezebel spirit will try and stop the prophetic voice from being heard by silencing Christians from expressing their Christian values. In Australia the enemy has tried to stop Christian values from being expressed in many of the learning institutions through political correctness

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.” (2 Timothy 3:12)

- Just as Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego refused to bow down to the image of gold made by King Nebuchadnezzar, we must not bow down to the spirit of this world and be conformed to this world by also embracing the unbiblical values of the world
- **We must simply choose to lovingly stand up for our Christian values, even if it means being rejected by others at times**



This is why the Apostle Paul wrote,

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

(Romans 12:2)



The Apostle Paul also wrote,



“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

“Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.”

“For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all the principality and power:” **(Colossians 2:4-10)**

- It is so important that we adhere as Christians to what the bible says about how we should live our lives
- The bible makes it clear that it is our sin that separates us from God
- The bible makes it clear that we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God
- Every person needs to make a personal response to Jesus Christ to receive the gift of eternal life



- The Apostle Paul listed some of the many sins that separate people from God before they are saved in the book of 1 Corinthians

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, not idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.” **(1 Corinthians 6:9-10)**





In the book of Revelation we read,

“He who overcomes shall inherit all things,
and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

But the **cowardly, unbelieving**, abominable,
murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters,
and all liars shall have their part in the lake which
burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second
death.” **(Revelation 21:7-8)**

- **Given the ultimate outcome for all unbelievers we would not be loving people if we were to encourage them to live a lifestyle that would lead them away from Christ and send them to hell**

- The moment a person is born there is a spiritual contest on for their soul



- The Devil's aim is to minimize the number of people who will live with Jesus forever and prevent people from hearing and responding to the gospel message
- The Devil will also try and cause people to rebel against God's ways of living through drawing people away from the true and living God through temptations and wrong influences

- Especially in the first five years of a child's development the way that they end up living their life will be greatly shaped in those early years
- For those who have been raised up in non Christian homes, or in homes where there has been domestic violence, or for those who have experienced sexual or physical or emotional abuse, it will greatly shape the way that they live their life and what mindsets that they have
- With this in mind we need to see people the way Jesus did. He came to seek and to save the lost. He had great compassion for the lost



The Apostle Peter wrote, “Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

(1 Peter 1:18-19)



The Apostle John wrote, “He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.” (1 John 3:8)

In the gospel of Luke we read the words of Jesus, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me. Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord” (Luke 4:18-19)

- So as Christians we need to adhere to God’s way of living and help others to come to Christ so that they too can live in a way that is best for them in the long run



- It is only in building our lives on the word of God that we will experience true freedom and stability in our lives. It is so important that we are always both hearers and doers of God's word
- It is so important also that we always look for opportunities to help others to come to Christ so that they will know the truth so that the truth will set them free



Jesus Himself said,

“Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the **rock**; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.”

(Matthew 7:24-25)



“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” **(Matthew 7:26-27)**

- **As Christians we can best love people by helping them to come to Christ and by encouraging them to build their lives on the word of God**



- Demonic spirits can also greatly influence the way that people live their lives. Lying and deceiving spirits and spirits of lust and perversion will cause people to live in wrong and ungodly ways



- As believers we can help to see people delivered of those spirits that would cause them to live ungodly or addictive lifestyles, so that they can be free to become all that God has planned for their life

Jesus Himself said,

“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My Name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” **(Mark 16:17-18)**



- **The simple fact is that we live in a fallen world which is still very much under the sway of the evil one (The Devil)**

- As Christians we are to love all people, but we are not to endorse and agree with lifestyles that are contrary to what the bible says about how we are to live our lives



Jesus Himself said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”
(John 3:16-17)

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die, yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.” **(Romans 5:6-9)**



- God's desire is that none would perish but that all would repent of their sins (that is to turn away from those lifestyles and things that are contrary to God's way of living) and believe on the Name of the Lord Jesus



The Apostle Peter made this clear when he wrote, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)

- **But God has given every person a free will to either live their way or to repent of their sins and to live in a way that God would want then to live their life**



Jesus made this clear when He said,

“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

(John 3:18)

“And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.” (John 3:19-21)



- **If a person is willing to truly repent of their wrong lifestyles and open up their heart to Jesus, He will give them the power to change**

Jesus Himself made this clear when He said,
“If you abide in My word you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” **(John 8:31-32)**

“Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.” **(John 8:36)**



- **Only Jesus Christ can set us free and give us the power through the Holy Spirit to overcome the sin and temptations that we all endure in life in the perilous times that we are now living in**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”

(2 Timothy 3:1-5)



- The simple fact is that before we came to Christ we were all blinded to the truth and powerless to change our lives



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.” **(2 Corinthians 4:3-4)**

The Apostle Paul also wrote, “And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,” (Ephesians 2:1-4)



“even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”
(Ephesians 2:5-9)



- In the book of Acts we read about the Apostle Paul recounting the words of Jesus to him at his conversion experience;



“I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God,..” **(Acts 26:15-18)**

- It is in the preaching and sharing of the gospel to unbelievers that we can help them to be saved and set free from the power of Satan who has blinded their minds

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”
(Romans 1:16-17)



- **When a person is born again he becomes a new creation in Christ**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

**“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
(2 Corinthians 5:17)**



- **Upon receiving Jesus Christ into our heart to be our Lord and Saviour our spirit is born again from above and the Holy Spirit comes to live and dwell in our life**

- **God Himself, through the Holy Spirit, takes up residence inside of us**



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

- **When the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in the heart of a person they now have;**
 - i) A new nature where it is now no longer comfortable to live in sin any more
 - ii) A power within to change and to overcome life's temptations as they learn to walk in the Spirit, and
 - iii) The ability to know what is right and what is wrong as the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth (John 15:26) helps to guide them into all truth



Jesus Himself said,

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” **(John 16:13)**



- The Apostle John wrote about our new nature as a Christian in the epistle of 1 John
- The Apostle John wrote that one indication of whether or not a person is truly born again is that it should no longer be natural for them to sin as a believer



The Apostle John wrote, “Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.” (1 John 3:9)

- The Apostle John also wrote that one of the three tests that prove the genuineness of our Christianity is the test of obedience



The Apostle John wrote,

“Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him, He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.” **(1 John 2:3-6)**

- So when a person has truly repented of their sins and surrendered their life to Jesus Christ, it should no longer be comfortable for them to persist in their past sinful lifestyle, as they are a new creation in Christ with the Holy Spirit now dwelling in their lives



- But if we sin, as we all will do from time to time, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins

The Apostle John wrote,

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”
(1 John 1:8)



“My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.” **(1 John 2:1-2)**

- So the bible makes it clear that when we come to Christ we have the ability to live an overcoming life and to live in a way that reflects Christian values



- It does not matter what addictions or wrong lifestyles a person may have come out of, if they truly repent of their sins and purpose in their heart to live God's way, they will now have the power to do so
- However without true repentance there is no genuine faith and no power to change. Jesus Himself made this very clear

In the gospel of Luke we read,

“There were present at that season some who told Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices, And Jesus answered and said to them, “Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will likewise perish.””

(Luke 13:1-3)



In the book of Acts we read the words of the Apostle Peter when he was preaching in Solomon's Portico (porch),

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” (Acts 3:19)



- So our focus as Christians should always be on helping people to enter the narrow gate that leads to life by sharing the gospel with them
- The preacher Jentzen Franklin put it well when he said in an altar call “you do not get good to get God, but you get God to get good.”
- When a person comes to Christ, God loves them too much to leave them the same. He will begin to do the work of change in their lives



- God has given us the ministry of reconciliation as believers
- Our role is to help ALL people to be reconciled to God, irrespective of their lifestyles
- The bible makes it clear that we all have sinned in our lives and fall short of the glory of God and that we all need Jesus Christ to save us from our sins



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“As it is written, “There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.” **(Romans 3:10a-12)**



“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” **(Romans 3:23)**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.” **(2 Corinthians 5:18-20)**



- **Now that we have been saved as believers we are now meant to help others to come to Christ**

- Once a person is born again they have the power within to change and to become who God created them to be



- When we have been born again our spirit is right with God and wants to do right. But we still have our fleshly nature which wants to do its own thing to contend with, which we need to continually put to death as we learn to walk in the Spirit

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.” **(Galatians 5:16-18)**



“Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God.” **(Galatians 5:19-21)**



- People without Christ will invariably practice the above things in the way that they live their lives

The Apostle Paul then went on to write,

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.” **(Galatians 5:22-23)**

“And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.” **(Galatians 5:24-26)**



- It is so important that every person who comes to Christ grows in their faith and becomes a mature disciple
- It is in pressing in to God that Christ is more and more formed in the life of believers and their true identity in Christ is established



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“My little children, for whom I labour in birth again until Christ is formed in you,” **(Galatians 4:19)**

- In the book of James we see a great key to people being delivered from their past wrong lifestyles and addictions



James in his epistle wrote,

“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” **(James 4:7)**

- ALL of us in the lawless times that we are now living in need to continually press in to God

- Being continually filled with all the fullness of God helps people to grow into who God called them to be in life and to be set free from strongholds
- A good analogy is that if you continue to fill with a hose a bucket of dirty water, it will soon become clean as you continue to fill the bucket with clean water. We need to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit
- Continually pursuing more of God's presence in our lives is a great key to growing strong in our walk with the Lord and in becoming all that God has planned for our life



- Especially when a person has come out of an addictive or immoral lifestyle they need to be encouraged to let go of any wrong friendships from the past that could cause them to stumble in their walk with the Lord and to pursue Christ likeness in their walk with the Lord



- In doing this they will begin to connect with and embrace the life and future that God had planned for their life right from the beginning of time

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.” (Colossians 3:3-7)

- **All of us have to continually crucify the flesh as we live in an increasing ungodly world**

The Apostle Paul emphasised the importance of continually putting off the old man and putting on the new man

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,” **(Colossians 3:8-10)**



“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.”
(Colossians 3:12-14)



- It is only in God's will and plan for our life that we will experience true peace and fulfilment in our lives

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

(Romans 12:2)



- **God knows what is best for us and has the best plan and future for our lives.**

Jesus Himself said,

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10)



In the book of Isaiah we read,

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8-9)



- No matter what a person’s background is, no matter how many mistakes they may have made in the past, God is always willing to bring healing and salvation to those who come to Jesus with a repentant heart. **GOD IS ABLE TO RESTORE LIVES**

**King David wrote, “Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And forget not all His benefits; Who forgives all
your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from destruction, Who
crowns you with loving kindness and tender
mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good
things, So that your youth is
renewed like the eagle’s.”**

(Psalm 103:2-5)

- God is no respecter of persons and loves all people equally and desires that all would come to repentance and faith in Jesus



So in conclusion how should we as Christians handle the issue of same sex marriages:

- i. We need to unashamedly stand up for the bible based definition of marriage. God has the best blueprint for marriage
- ii. We must not be conformed to this world and embrace any other definition of marriage. The bible makes it clear that marriage is to be between one man and one woman
- iii. As church leaders we should actively support any petitioning to keep marriage in line with the bible
- iv. We need to love the lost and encourage all people to come to Christ



- v. We must never doubt the power of the gospel to bring transformation to lives
- vi. We must never condone the wrong lifestyles of people but still love them with Christ's love
- vii. We must never classify people into different categories of sinner. The simple fact is that we are all sinners who need to be saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ
- viii. God loves all people (John 3:16) and desires that all would be saved
- ix. We need to simply encourage ALL people to come to Christ who is able to change lives



- ix. We need to help people to grow in their walk with the Lord once they come to Christ. We need to encourage new believers to keep walking in the ways of the Lord
- x. When a person has truly repented and believed in Christ they have a power within (the Holy Spirit) to live in a way that the bible would instruct them to do
- xi. In this life we will all go through an ongoing struggle between the flesh and the Spirit. It is as we learn to walk in the Spirit that we see Christ being more and more formed in our life



xii. As Christians the best way that we can encourage people to adhere to traditional marriage values is to model healthy marriage relationships ourselves, and



xiii. Finally we need to encourage all unbelievers to come to Christ so that they are saved from their sins and enter into eternal life. We need to loving encourage people to let go of wrong lifestyles (to repent) and to commit their lives wholeheartedly to Jesus Christ. As they do, He will begin the work of change in their lives

- **How like in the early church we need to see God's power moving in and through our lives and in all of our church meetings**



I will finish with one final Scripture in the book of Acts

“Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.” (Acts 8:4-5)

“And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralysed and lame were healed. AND THERE WAS GREAT JOY IN THAT CITY” **(Acts 8:6-8)**

