
Subject: Ray Boltz Coming Out

Posted by [Michael The Disciple](#) on Sun, 14 Sep 2008 05:08:10 GMT

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I dont know if this has been mentioned yet but just found it on a Forum I post on.

Yes it is true....This is so sad....From the Christianity Today blog:

http://blog.christianitytoday.com/ctliveblog/archives/2008/09/ray_boltz_comes.html

September 12, 2008 4:24PM

Ray Boltz Comes Out

Mark Moring

Ray Boltz, who sold about 4.5 million records before retiring from Christian music a few years ago, came out of the closet Friday to announce that he's gay.

In an interview with the gay magazine The Washington Blade, Boltz said he came out to his family and some close friends in December 2004, but only now decided to go public with the news.

"I've denied it ever since I was a kid," Boltz, 55, told the magazine. "I became a Christian, I thought that was the way to deal with this and I prayed hard and tried for 30-some years and then at the end, I was just going, 'I'm still gay. I know I am.' And I just got to the place where I couldn't take it anymore. When I was going through all this darkness, I thought, 'Just end this.'"

One reason Boltz decided to come out now might be because he's performing Sunday at Jesus Metropolitan Community Church in Indianapolis, and then next Sunday, Sept. 21, at the Metropolitan Community Church of Washington, D.C. Both congregations are a part of a denomination that embraces the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community. Boltz is perhaps best known for his song "Thank You," about a dream in which a Christian thanks the Sunday school teacher who led him to Jesus. It was the GMA song of the year in 1990. Other Boltz hits include "Watch the Lamb," "The Anchor Holds," and "I Pledge Allegiance to the Lamb."

Boltz also told The Blade that he doesn't want to get into debates about Scripture and has no plans to "go into First Baptist or an Assembly of God church and run in there and say, 'I'm gay and you need to love me anyway.'"

For him, the decision to come out is much more personal.

“This is what it really comes down to,” he says. “If this is the way God made me, then this is the way I’m going to live. It’s not like God made me this way and he’ll send me to hell if I am who he created me to be. I really feel closer to God because I no longer hate myself.”

Earlier, Boltz had alluded to the issue on his official website, saying that if people “knew who I really was, I would never be accepted.”

Posted by Mark Moring on September 12, 2008 4:24PM
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Really, the issue isn't whether he's attracted to men, but what he's doing about it.

The Blade article addresses this:

He and Carol Boltz remain close (their divorce was finalized early this year). ... Boltz declines to go into specifics about the first time he was with a man, but says he has been dating and lives “a normal gay life” now.

“If you were to hold up the rule book and go, ‘Here are all the rules Christians must live by,’ did I follow every one of those rules all that time? Not at all, you know, because I kind of rejected a lot of things, but I’ve grown some even since then. I guess I felt that the church, that they had it wrong about how I felt with being gay all these years, so maybe they had it wrong about a lot of other things.”

As he sorted out his faith, Boltz began building a new life for himself. He took some graphic design courses. He found he could be almost completely anonymous in Ft. Lauderdale. The mullet he’d sported in the ‘80s was long gone and CCM had always been a somewhat insular community.

Subject: Re: Ray Boltz Coming Out
Posted by [loonhaunt](#) on Mon, 15 Sep 2008 17:56:42 GMT
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It's sad to fight till you're about 50 and then give up. When you give up, you don't win. You have to be willing to fight to the death. When Ray talks about Christian rules however, it doesn't even sound like he knows the Christian message of the cross.

The only rule is the cross and grace.

He who endures to the end shall be saved.
