

# A PROFOUND MYSTERY: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SEXUALITY - Part 3

## Same Sex Attraction

Randy Hageman

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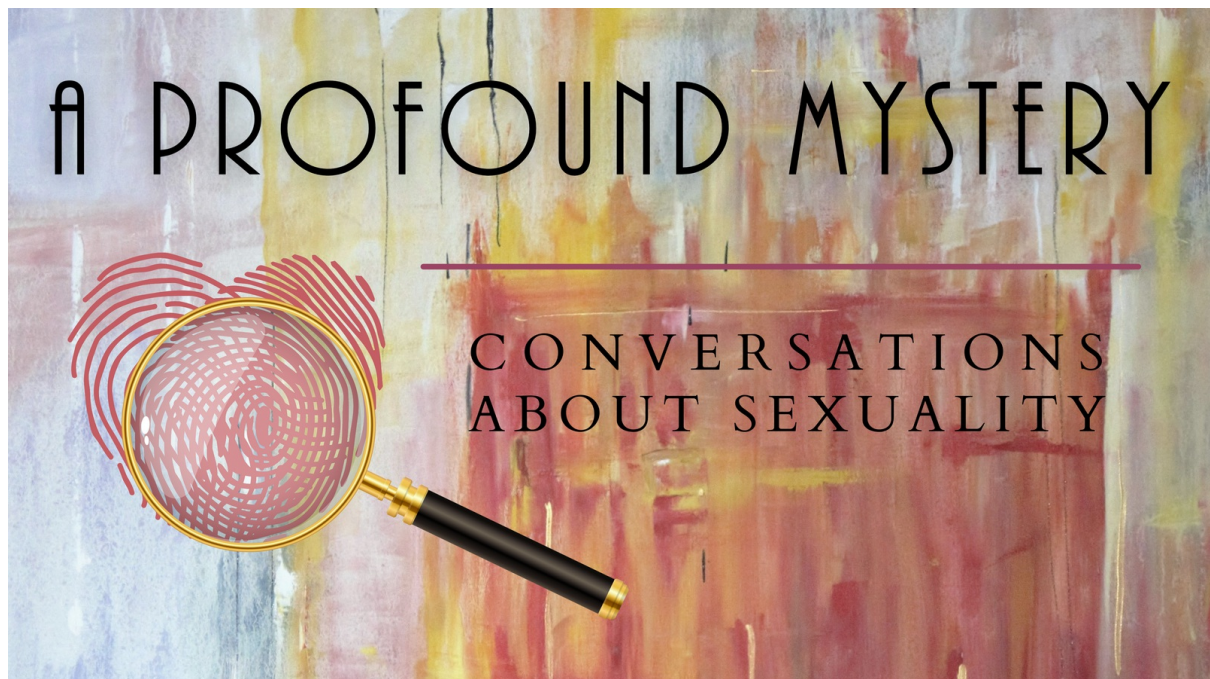
Part of A Profound Mystery Conversations about Sexuality

November 6, 2021

## Same Sex Attraction

November 7, 2021

Randy Hageman



[A Profound Mystery: God's Design \(Part 1\)](#)  
[A Profound Mystery: Sin's Damage \(Part 2\)](#)

**The term “homosexuality” is actually a very broad and even \_\_\_ term, “that includes identity, orientation, lust, sexual intercourse, romantic desire, same-sex attraction, same-sex marriage, and so many more.” (Dr. Preston Sprinkle)**

**The Bible says a \_\_\_ about sexual immorality as it relates to heterosexuals.**

**Passages that Speak About Homosexuality:  
*Genesis 19:1-9***

*You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.*

—Leviticus 18:22 (ESV)

*If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.*

—Leviticus 20:13 (ESV)

*For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.*

—Romans 1:26-27 (ESV)

*Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality*

—1 Corinthians 6:9 (ESV)

*the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine*

—1 Timothy 1:10 (ESV)

**When we look closer at Genesis 19, no other passage in the Bible that looks back on this incident calls this an actual \_\_\_ of homosexual sex. (*Isaiah 1:10-17, Jeremiah 23:14, Ezekiel 16:49-50, Matthew 11:23-24, and Jude 6-7*)**

[\*Was Homosexuality the Sin of Sodom?\*](#)

—Dr. Preston Sprinkle

**The other five passages are much more clear in speaking \_\_\_\_\_ the practice of same sex activity.**

*Gender Matters: Human Sexuality and the Bible Yet Again*

—Dr. Ben Witherington, III

*15 Reasons for Affirming Same-Sex Relations - and 15 Responses*

—Dr. Preston Sprinkle

*Did Adult Consensual Same-Sex Relationships Exist in Bible Times*

—Dr. Preston Sprinkle

*At the Intersection of Religious and Sexual Identities: A Christian Perspective on Homosexuality*

—Dr. Mark A. Yarhouse

*Research Paper - What the Bible Says About Homosexuality*

—Kenneth Spiller

**A common concern often raised by Christians defending homosexual practices, including gays and lesbians, is the belief and feeling that God \_\_\_\_\_ them that way.**

**Many in the Christian community accept that homosexuality for most is not a \_\_\_\_\_ but some combination of nature and nurture, of genetics and environment, and the degree of each varies from person to person.**

**A Spectrum Across Homosexuality (Dr. Mark Yarhouse):**

- **Same Sex \_\_\_\_\_ or Desire** - an innate sexual attraction to or desire for members of one's same sex
- **Same Sex \_\_\_\_\_** - same sex attraction or desire that is strong enough, durable enough and persistent enough for a person to feel they are oriented toward the same sex
- **Same Sex \_\_\_\_\_** - the way individuals with same sex orientation refer to themselves when this attraction becomes the primary reality of their identity
- **Same Sex \_\_\_\_\_** - acting out on one's attraction and identity

**through lust or sex**

**All the passages in the Bible speaking about same sex issues point to \_\_\_ as being the sin.**

**To the degree that same sex attraction is the result of our fallen nature, of our DNA, the person experiencing that attraction has done nothing \_\_\_ feeling that way.**

**Since same sex attraction is the result of the Fall, of sin, it's also not how God originally intended to \_\_\_ that person.**

*Does the fact that such attractions occur in nature mean that they are from God? Has God made them this way? Again, that is certainly a conclusion that some people say that they have come to, but other sexual minorities reject this reasoning. Instead, they argue that their attractions are the result of the fall, that they would not have had attractions to the same sex apart from a fallen world—much like the person suffering from depression would not contend with lower levels of the neurotransmitters serotonin or dopamine that would contribute to bouts of depression. These low levels are not due to the personal sin of the individual who deals with depression. However, they exist and would not have existed apart from a world in which the fall affects every aspect of creation, including neurotransmitters. People who suffer from depression have choices to make about how they cope with and deal with their tendency toward depression, and the church can become a community that aids them in their struggle in this area.*

*—Dr. Mark Yarhouse*

**God helps us to see in the Apostle Paul's life that sometimes we will \_\_\_ because of things beyond our control.**

*Apostle Paul: So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three*

*times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'*

*Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

—2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (ESV)

**Every person needs to reevaluate the true basis of their identity: sexuality, physical abilities, talent, family, etc., or**

**\_\_\_\_\_.**

*I think many men and women who struggle with same-sex attraction conclude that because the struggle is so hard, God must not want them to continue resisting. Such a conclusion is about as far from historical Christianity as one can get.*

—Pastor Ron Citlau

*The Christian way is different: harder, and easier. Christ says, 'Give me All. I don't want so much of your time and so much of your money and so much of your work: I want You. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half-measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here and a branch there, I want to have the whole tree down. I don't want to drill the tooth, or crown it, or stop it, but to have it out. Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think innocent as well as the ones you think wicked—the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you Myself: my own will shall become yours.'*

—C.S. Lewis

*Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.'*

—Matthew 16:24 (ESV)

**Jesus was flesh and blood like us, and he calls us to follow**

him and \_\_\_\_ whatever we have to deny in order to be his disciples.

Just as God didn't remove whatever Paul's "thorn... in the flesh" was, He clearly \_\_\_\_ changed every individual who seeks to instead find themselves attracted to the opposite sex.

Many gays and lesbians who follow Jesus have chosen a life of \_\_\_\_ if they continue to find themselves attracted to members of the same sex.

*But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another.*

—1 Corinthians 7:7 (NLT)

Paul indicates that celibacy is "a special gift from God," and so it shouldn't be dismissed but seen as a way of putting God \_\_\_\_, even over our sexuality.

Choose to \_\_\_\_ those in your family who discover they are experiencing same sex attraction.

In some of the Scriptures we've looked at, homosexual practices are just part of a much \_\_\_\_ list of sins, with some of the other sins being much more common issues in the lives of Christians - we're \_\_\_\_ sinners and need God's help!

*And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

—1 Corinthians 6:11 (ESV)

Paul is telling us that by the power of God, some of the Corinthians \_\_\_\_ these sins.

*The gospel message is not 'let the gay become straight' but 'let the dead become alive.'*

—J.D. Greear

*'God isn't calling gay people to be straight.' God is*

*calling all people to be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:20).*

*—Jackie Hill Perry*

*Homosexuality is not an issue to be solved; it's about people who need to love and be loved.*

*—Dr. Preston Sprinkle*

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**Next Week - Gender Confusion**