

Homosexuality Study

Revision C

by Paul Cook

Homosexuality is often promoted in pornography and is something that sex addicts frequently wrestle with. I'm writing from a Christian perspective primarily for people who love God and want to be free of homosexual desires. This information will also help people who know someone with gay tendencies or who want to understand what the Bible says about it.

Before proceeding, I want to emphasize that **God loves homosexuals** just as much as any other person. God sent Jesus Christ to die for all people and those who place their trust in him can receive forgiveness, healing and power to change.

I've organized the below pages to be read through consecutively as a study or individually for reference.

Outline:

- [Homosexual Roots](#)
- [God and Homosexuality](#)
- [The Consequences of Homosexual Behavior](#)
- [Homosexual Recovery](#)

Additional pages addressing homosexuality:

- [Truth and Lies About Homosexuality](#)
- [Examples from the Bible about homosexual activity](#)

Roots of Homosexuality

Where does homosexuality come from? Many people may feel that perhaps God made them gay, i.e. that they were born gay. They may honestly not remember any conscious decision to be gay.

Our inheritance of a sin nature is relevant to the discussion of the roots of homosexuality. We are born with a tendency to rebel against God, with hearts that are prone to lust, pride, sexual immorality, idolatry and other evils (Matthew 15:19). So, for example, it is possible to be born with a tendency toward homosexual desires, just as it is possible to be born with a tendency toward pride, or love of money or any other type of sin. Though each of us has weaknesses toward particular sins, God still expects us to resist temptations in those areas and rely on his power for strength to keep sin from ruling us (Genesis 4:7, Romans 6:11-14).

Being the opportunist that he is, Satan tempts each of us according to our particular weaknesses. He is a master at orchestrating events in our lives to tempt us into false conclusions about God and our identity.

An area that seems to be common in the development of homosexual tendencies is dysfunctional relationships. It often starts early in life with unhealthy relationships with parents, siblings and peers, which cause emotional wounds. Here are some example factors in childhood relationships that can be influential in sexual development:

- Abuse (sexual, emotional, physical, spiritual)
- Parental problems: Absent, detached, uninterested, overbearing or controlling; lack of gender affirmation
- Betrayal
- Ridicule or teasing from peers
- Sex play with same-sex peers
- Rejection
- Abandonment
- Lack of nurture
- Loneliness

Another area to consider is generational sin. The Bible mentions the concept of generational curses in several places. The idea is that the consequences of one generation's sin can be visited on future generations (usually up to the third and fourth generation). Just as we inherit a sin nature from Adam, we also may inherit sin tendencies from our more recent ancestors. It is not uncommon for

patterns of sexual dysfunction like homosexuality to run down the family tree. For more information, see our [generational sin](#) page.

Other factors that can contribute to homosexual development include societal pressures, pornography, masturbation, demonic influences and an amoral belief system (see Dr. David K. Foster's [Sexual Healing](#), chapter 6, for a detailed explanation of these factors).

Homosexual tendencies can be fed from these kinds of roots, yet it is still up to the individual to decide whether to yield to the temptations. It usually doesn't happen over night, but rather over years. As people progress through the teen years, they inevitably will be presented with the powerful feelings associated with their sexual development. This period typically offers prime opportunities for the enemy to persuade a person that he or she "is gay" and that this is a permanent condition. Again, troubles in relationships can be instrumental in a person coming to the wrong conclusions. Some examples include:

- Difficulty connecting emotionally with members of the opposite sex
- Unpleasant sexual experiences with members of the opposite sex
- Trauma connected with sexuality (rape, abortion, incest, etc.)
- Feeling sexual attraction to same-sex persons (including arousal by gay or bisexual porn)
- Feeling "different" from others
- Enjoying homosexual experiences, fantasies or dreams
- Involvement with the occult (gives way to spiritual, emotional & sexual confusion)
- Words spoken over the person by parents, peers, counselors or teachers
- Affirmation, acceptance and recruitment by other homosexuals

When a person decides to embrace the lie of a gay identity, the deception is completed. From then on, it can seem like an unbreakable stronghold, especially if it conveniently explains the pattern of experiences and feelings the person may have had in life to that point. Even so, a person making the conclusion that they are gay will discover an endless desire for peace and approval in life, but will not find it (Isaiah 48:22). They will need to surround themselves with others who continually reaffirm their homosexuality in order to numb their conscience about the lies they have embraced. They may even seek God's approval of their choices by embracing "gay theology".

God and Homosexuality

In writing this page, I realize that many people may be fully aware of what the Bible says about homosexuality. Some may be sick and tired of hearing the well-quoted verses, and perhaps even angry about God making them the way they are, yet apparently condemning their condition in the scriptures. Some may simply not care what the Bible says. If you're in one of those situations, I encourage you to bear with me and temporarily shelve any preconceptions about God and the scriptures you may have.

God created us as sexual beings, perfectly tailoring male and female for sexual and emotional union in marriage ([Genesis 2:18,21-24](#)). He designed sex to be a wonderful way for people to experience intimacy, creation of life and pleasure. Unfortunately, we live in a world that has been corrupted by sin and death. The original plan and design has been marred and twisted on account of Man's original sin.

The mechanism behind homosexual sin is this: it takes the glory of God's sexual design and perverts it into something that was never intended ([Romans 1:22-24](#)). God did not make man to be a sexual partner with another man. Woman, likewise, was not made for woman, but for man. Keep in mind that the design for sexual union is much more than just body parts matching up; it is for emotional and spiritual bonding that will last a lifetime.

Sex is a hot topic in the Bible. God talked a lot about it and gave specific guidelines for healthy sexual conduct. In general, when sex is performed outside of a heterosexual marriage it is [sin](#) (i.e. rebellion against God). Gay sex is just one of many possible [deviations](#) from God's plan.

So that there would be no confusion, God specifically addressed homosexuality in several places in the scriptures. In every case, homosexual acts are identified as sin. As we consider the below examples, please remember that the act is what is offensive to God, not the person! Consider these examples:

Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable. Leviticus 18:22 [NIV](#) (see also [Leviticus 20:13](#))

⁸We know these laws are good when they are used as God intended. ⁹But they were not made for people who do what is right. They are for people who are disobedient and rebellious, who are ungodly and sinful, who consider nothing sacred and defile what is holy, who murder their father or mother or other people. ¹⁰These laws are for people who are sexually immoral, for homosexuals

and slave traders, for liars and oath breakers, and for those who do anything else that contradicts the right teaching ¹¹that comes from the glorious Good News entrusted to me by our blessed God 1 Timothy 1:8-11 [NLT](#)

²⁴Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

²⁷Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. ²⁸And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting Romans 1:24-28 [NKJV](#)

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate (*effeminate by perversion*), nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 [NASB](#)

Other Bible references to homosexuality: [Genesis 19:4-13](#), [Leviticus 20:13](#), [Judges 19:15-25](#)

Those verses are pretty straightforward. Even so, people have attempted to discredit or twist the above verses, some even claiming that homosexuality is a blessing from God. Prominent scholars have lined up on either side of the debate, yet I think from a "common person's" reading of the scriptures, it's clear that homosexuality is not something God desires for people.

Has the Bible become outdated? Is God confused? When considering such questions, we need to remember some basic characteristics about God and his word as expressed in the Bible. First of all, God does not change ([Malachi 3:6](#), [Hebrews 13:8](#)). Secondly, God has established his word as the unchanging standard by which all mankind will be judged ([Matthew 5:18](#), [1 Peter 1:25](#), [Isaiah 40:8](#)). Finally, God hasn't changed his mind about what was written in the scriptures. Consider what Samuel wrote: "He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind" (Samuel 15:29 [NIV](#)). For all of those reasons, we can confidently know that God still considers homosexual acts to be wrong. Even so, he offers [forgiveness](#) and healing to people who will turn from *the acts* and follow him.

Why does God care so much about our sexuality? In [1 Corinthians 6:12-20](#), Paul explained that a believer's body literally becomes a "temple" for God's Holy Spirit. God's Spirit literally lives in the believer. Because sexual sin involves spiritual union, for the Christian sex sin is analogous to uniting God's Spirit with evil and desecrating His temple. Therefore, it should not surprise us that God desires his followers to keep themselves free of sexual sin and honor him with their bodies.

Homosexual Consequences

Every form of sin has consequences and homosexual acts are no exception. Just as Satan downplayed and distorted the consequences of sin with Eve (Genesis 3), so he does in tempting people with sexual sin today. Simple lies like "Go ahead, nobody will know," or "It won't harm you to experiment a little," or "This is the thrill you've been looking for," or "If it feels good, it is good." Such suggestions may be enough to push a person over the edge to act on the temptations.

Pursuing homosexual desires can lead to all sorts of troubles. At first, people may get caught up in the temporary pleasure that the sin brings, but sooner or later they will come down from their "high." Here are some example consequences that can result from homosexual behavior:

- Physical sickness: The Apostle Paul mentioned a "due penalty" that people received for practicing homosexual acts (Romans 1:27). It is possible that such a penalty could be a physical ailment such as AIDS, [Human Herpes Virus 8](#), [Kaposi's Sarcoma](#) (type of cancer) or some other sexually-related illness. Another less-publicized problem is the "Gay Bowel" Syndrome, which results from repeated anal intercourse. This is where the sphincter muscle in the anus loses its elasticity and can no longer close. See [Gay Sex Health Risks \(PDF file\)](#) for more information on such risks.
- Emotional confusion: Paul linked "futile" thinking, "darkened" hearts and "depraved" minds to homosexual activity in Romans 1:21-22,28.
- Spiritual confusion: Paul described this as exchanging the truth of God for a lie, which was evident both in the Romans' idol worship and homosexual practice. The rejection of truth opens doors to every form of evil, including greed, envy, murder, strife, malice, gossip, slander, hatred, hatred of God, insolence, arrogance and rebellion (Romans 1:25,29-31).
- Consumption by lust (Romans 1:24,26-27, Genesis 19:4-13, Judges 19:22-28): Pursuing homosexual desires provokes God to withdraw his protective hand from a person's life, so that he or she is given over to indulge in their "vile passions" and "shameful lusts" to their own peril.
- Lack of peace (Isaiah 48:22)
- See [Consequences of Sex Sin](#) for more info

With such serious consequences, it's hard to imagine how anyone might escape the downward spiral of homosexuality. Yet, the scriptures clearly give homosexuals hope for freedom and recovery through Jesus Christ. As Jesus said, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26 [NKJV](#)).

Homosexual Recovery

Recovering from homosexuality can be a challenging process. Those who seek God's help in this will have the best chances of success. If this is your desire, there are some key steps you can take to get started in the journey to freedom.

1. Forsake the sin, trust in Jesus Christ and receive God's forgiveness

God loves you, regardless of how far you may have gone astray into [sin](#). He has made you in his image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27), and has a special plan for your life. He offers forgiveness to you if you will forsake your sin, trust in Jesus Christ, and follow him. Jesus paid the penalty for your sin (death) so that you can have peace with God. When you turn away from your sin, God welcomes you back with open arms, just as the father welcomed the wayward son in [Luke 15:11-32](#). If you are interested in learning more about Jesus Christ please visit our page on [Finding Peace with God](#).

If you are ready to do this now, here is a suggested prayer to pray:

“Lord God, thank you for loving me and providing forgiveness for me through Jesus. I believe that Jesus died for me on the cross and was resurrected from the dead. I believe that Jesus is the Son of God. I specifically confess my sin related to homosexuality: _____ (ex. lust, idolatry, homosexual acts/thoughts, fornication, unforgiveness, etc.). I turn away from these sins and renounce the use of my body and mind in them. I now receive the forgiveness and cleansing that is mine through my faith in Jesus Christ. Thank you, Father God! Amen.”

2. Believe that God is healing you

God's power is **unlimited!** While it can be easy to get overwhelmed by the depth and strength of sin's grip, we can confidently trust that God's power will heal our past wounds, painful memories and sexual dysfunction. Faith was often the key ingredient in healings that Jesus performed. By believing that God is healing you, your faith releases God's unlimited power to work in you.

We know several people who have found freedom from homosexuality through faith in Jesus Christ. The scriptures also testify about people who were healed of homosexuality. The Apostle Paul wrote about them in this passage:

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor

effeminate (*effeminate by perversion*), nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. **Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.** 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 [NASB](#)

That same transforming power is available to you through faith in Jesus today:

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 2 Peter 1:3-4 [NIV](#)

You can exercise your belief in that divine power today by praying a prayer such as this one:

“Lord God in heaven, I believe in your miracle-working, transforming power. I believe that it is giving me everything I need for life and godliness. I believe that you are healing my sexuality and all the root issues that have contributed to its dysfunction over the years. Lord, you created the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched hand...nothing is too hard for you. I believe that you can change my life and teach me how to live as a new creation. Please do this in me, Father. Thank you! Amen.”

3. Work in partnership with the Holy Spirit in living a new life

In addition to forgiving us, God empowers us to live a new life through the Holy Spirit, which he sends to live in us. The Holy Spirit is our internal guide or tutor who directs us to the respective areas that need to be dealt with. He is gentle and patient, and only gives us things to work on that we are able and ready to do.

As we respond to the Holy Spirit’s convictions and guidance in our day to day decisions, God’s power will continue to heal and transform us.

Here is a sample prayer to invite the Holy Spirit to lead you in living a new life:

“Lord God, I invite you to fill me afresh with the Holy Spirit today. Please forgive me for the times when I’ve grieved the Spirit in any way. Please sharpen my convictions of sin, righteousness and judgment. I now receive your Spirit (*pause for a time of silent prayer*). I submit myself to your control and will yield my heart to the Spirit’s leadings. Thank you, Lord. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.”

4. Get connected with others who have decided to pursue freedom

The above steps are just the beginning of the road to sexual and emotional healing. It is very important for you to get connected with other people who have decided to pursue God. **YOU ARE NOT ALONE!** Please let us know if you have taken the above steps, so we may join you in faith and pray for your success ([contact us](#)).

From here, you may want to check out our [other studies on sex addiction and Christian living](#). They can help you work through the issues involved with sex addiction recovery, including generational healing, inner healing, cutting soul ties, cleaning house and training the eyes and thoughts for purity.

Links for additional help in recovery from homosexuality:

- [Articles about coming out of homosexuality by Dr. David Foster](#)
- [Books about recovering from homosexuality](#)
- [Ministries to help you get healed from homosexuality](#)
- [National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality](#)

Truth & Lies about Homosexuality

The homosexual condition is characterized by a "suppression of the truth". Paul mentions this in his letter to the Romans, where he reveals many important spiritual insights concerning homosexuality (Romans 1:18-32). In order to address truth suppression, I've collected some of the common lies that are being used to support, affirm or justify gay behavior. Using the truth from the scriptures, we'll expose and refute these lies that are keeping people in bondage to sin (John 8:31-36).

Lies addressed in this section (click on link to see answer below):

1. If you respond to homosexual stimulation, you are gay.
 2. Homosexuality is an inherited orientation / "I was born gay"
 3. God hates homosexuals
 4. Jesus didn't say anything about homosexuality, so it proves that its ok
 5. Homosexuality is ok as long as the two partners are faithful in a monogamous relationship
 6. God doesn't care what I do with my body
 7. If you're gay, there's no way to truly be changed to a heterosexual
 8. I can live out my gay fantasies on earth and God will forgive me when I get to heaven.
 9. Homosexuality was rare in Bible times and the Bible's authors didn't understand it
 10. Homosexuality is not a sin, but rather a gift and blessing from God
 11. Gay marriage will help gay couples finally gain the peace they've been searching for.
 12. Gay sexual acts are just as healthy as heterosexual acts.
 13. The Bible has no examples of people who were healed of homosexuality.
 14. Gay sex is better than heterosexual sex
 15. I can have peace with God without giving up gay sex acts.
 16. Sexuality is a curse.
 17. Gay acts are permissible when they are done within a loving relationship.
 18. Homosexuality was forbidden under Old Testament Law, just as was eating shellfish and pork. Since Jesus did away with the Law, homosexuality is now OK with God.
 19. The Ten Commandments don't address homosexuality, so this proves that it is permissible.
 20. David and Jonathan had a homosexual affair.
 21. Love did away with the laws of Moses. As long as I'm living and acting in love (i.e. gay love), I'm going to heaven
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Lie #1: If you respond to homosexual stimulation, you are gay.

Humans have a wonderful capacity for sexual pleasure. Our bodies are designed to respond to stimulation. People who have been aroused by gay encounters or gay porn may be tempted to erroneously conclude that they are gay, when in fact their bodies are simply responding as they were designed to do.

Lie #2: Homosexuality is an inherited orientation / "I was born gay"

Homosexual desires are examples of the sin nature that all people are born with (Romans 3:23). While gay temptations may be very strong, they are not exempt from God's law. God gives us the responsibility to resist our sinful desires, and not allow them to rule over us (Genesis 4:6-7, Romans 6:11-14). He gives us power and healing through the Holy Spirit so we can live as truly changed people, and not just pretend to be so (Romans 8:11-13, 2 Corinthians 5:17). Claiming people are born gay is attempting to justify sin. Using that rationale, people such as liars, hypocrites, thieves, child molesters and cannibals could also claim they "were born that way." For further information on the born gay debate, see [NARTH](#) or Dr. David Foster's [article](#).

Lie #3: God hates homosexuals

God loves every person (John 3:16). He has made them in his image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27). What God hates is the sin that corrupts people's hearts, enticing them to rebel against God. Because God loves us so much, he has placed many sobering warnings about homosexuality in the scriptures. To those who will turn away from their sin practice, God offers mercy, forgiveness and healing through Jesus Christ (2 Chronicles 7:14, 1 Peter 2:24).

Lie #4: Jesus didn't say anything about homosexuality, so it proves that its ok

Jesus upheld God's original plan for human sexuality (i.e. sex in heterosexual marriage only), as stated in Genesis 2:20-24. Jesus said, ⁶"But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' ⁷'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, ⁸and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate" (Mark 10:6-9 [NIV](#)). Common sense would suggest that had Jesus regarded homosexual activity as acceptable, he would have mentioned it at that point, since it would have been a radical departure from the traditional teaching.

From a legal perspective, Jesus addressed two important sections of God's laws from the Old Testament: the ceremonial laws and the moral laws. Jesus satisfied the requirements of the ceremonial laws (the tabernacle system) through his death (Hebrews 9:8-14). The moral laws, however, remained in effect. Examples of the moral laws include the Ten Commandments and the sexual conduct laws. In the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7),

Jesus taught extensively on our need to adhere to God's moral laws in thought, word and deed.

Jesus taught that love for God is shown by keeping his commandments (John 14:21,23). This included keeping the standards of [sexual purity](#) established in the Old Testament.

Since Jesus came to fulfill God's law and not destroy it (Matthew 5:17-18), he could not have condoned homosexual acts that were specifically prohibited in the law. The New Testament authors confirmed that homosexuality continued to be sin in several scriptures ([1 Corinthians 6:9-10](#), [Romans 1:24-28](#), [1 Timothy 1:8-11](#)).

Lie #5: Homosexuality is ok as long as the two partners are faithful in a monogamous relationship

This notion is often used to justify other forms of fornication (i.e. sex before marriage) as well. It is a perversion of heterosexual marriage, which is God's best (and only) plan for human sexual relationships. Sexual activity outside of heterosexual marriage, regardless of commitment, is always sin. (see [sex page](#) for more info)

Lie #6: God doesn't care what I do with my body

God cares very much about what we do with our bodies. Through our faith in Christ, we have transferred "ownership" of our bodies to God. Our bodies literally become temples for the Holy Spirit, and instruments for God's purposes. The Christian is called to resist sin's impulses and dedicate his or her body to righteous uses. Sexual sin is a way of desecrating the holy function of our bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:12-20).

Lie #7: If you're gay, there's no way to truly be changed to a heterosexual

God has the power to change and heal even the deepest parts of our sexuality. Total healing and recovery of healthy sexuality IS possible with God's help. Jesus said, "**What is impossible with men is possible with God.**" (Luke 18:27 NIV).

There are several scriptures confirming that God's power is able to change people into "new persons." Examples include Romans 8:11-13, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 4:22-24. Additionally, Paul mentioned people who were healed of homosexuality in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.

Lie #8: I can live out my gay fantasies on earth and God will forgive me when I get to heaven.

This lie capitalizes on the idea that a person can use the blood of Jesus as a blank check to sin. Paul wrote that we can not use God's grace to justify practicing sin (Romans 6:14-18). Hebrews 10:26-31 and Hebrews 6:4-8 warn that treating Christ's blood as a vehicle for sin can void God's forgiveness. Please note that there is an important difference

between falling in sin while honestly trying to live righteously and indulging in sin because one thinks he can get away with it.

God expects us to resist sin's temptations (Genesis 4:6) and pursue righteousness in everything we do (1 Peter 2:24). He instructs us to restrain our imaginations from entertaining or acting out sinful thoughts ([2 Corinthians 10:5](#)). Though we may not achieve perfection, our love for God will be reflected in our sincere desire and efforts to live by his commands.

The devil often uses Hebrews 10:26-31 and Hebrews 6:4-8 to heap condemnation on people who are locked in sexual addiction and are repeatedly falling. He tries to convince them that they have sinned beyond God's forgiveness. People in such situations should know that God loves them and will forgive them if they will turn from their evil ways. He also is ready to help them receive healing in the root areas behind their habitual sin.

Lie #9: Homosexuality was rare in Bible times and the Bible's authors didn't understand it

Homosexuality was practiced throughout Bible history. God clearly warned the Israelites against the homosexual activities characteristic of the people living in Canaan (Leviticus 18:3,22-30, Leviticus 20:13,23-24). Pagan religious practices often included homosexual prostitution (Deuteronomy 23:17-18, 1 Kings 14:24). Groups of homosexuals roamed the streets of cities of Sodom ([Genesis 19:4-13](#)) and Gibeah (Judges 19-20), looking for men to rape. The Apostle Paul mentioned homosexuality in his letter to the Romans, and shared tremendous insight concerning the spiritual roots involved with homosexual behavior (Romans 1:18-32). Paul also mentioned homosexuals in his letters in 1 Timothy 1:8-11 and 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.

Lie #10: Homosexuality is not a sin, but rather a gift and blessing from God

This lie is a complete reversal of what the scriptures teach about homosexuality. Bible references defining homosexual acts as sin include 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Romans 1:24-28, 1 Timothy 1:8-11, Leviticus 20:13 and Leviticus 18:22. The truth is that pursuing homosexual impulses yields consequences that resemble the effects of a curse, not a blessing (see [Romans 1:21-32](#) for examples). These curse-like effects are things that people bring on themselves by their own wrong choices, not because God is trying to punish them.

Lie #11: Gay marriage will help gay couples finally gain the peace they've been searching for.

The Bible never describes marriage as a union of same-sex partners. It consistently describes marriage as a heterosexual union and provides all marriage and divorce instructions in heterosexual context (Leviticus 21:7,14, Ephesians 5:22-33, [Proverbs](#)

[5:15-20](#), [1 Peter 3:7](#), 1 Corinthians 7:1-13, Titus 2:4-5, Matthew 5:31-32, Matthew 19:1-12, Mark 10:2-11, 1 Timothy 2:3,12). It seems reasonable to expect that if God had intended same-sex marriages to exist, he would have provided instructions concerning it.

Since we see homosexual acts consistently described as sin in the scriptures, we can be certain that pursuing gay marriage will place a person at odds against God. He or she will never find the peace that they are yearning for because they have embraced a carnal, sinful mindset (Romans 8:5-9). Instead of having peace, they will find themselves always searching for fulfillment and affirmation. The scriptures confirm this, as Isaiah wrote: **But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, whose waves cast up mire and mud. "There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."** Isaiah 57:20-21 [NIV](#). They will constantly try to convince themselves and others that their unnatural relationship (homosexual) is natural.

Lie #12: Gay sexual acts are just as healthy as heterosexual acts.

There are a number of health risks associated with gay sex acts that increase a person's risks of contracting AIDS, cancer, sexually transmitted diseases and other illnesses. (see [Gay Sex Health Risks \(PDF file\)](#)).

Additionally, studies suggest that homosexual activity decreases a person's average life expectancy, even if the person does not contract AIDS. For example, in a Canadian study published in [Oxford University's International Journal of Epidemiology](#), researchers found that, at age 20, the life expectancy of homosexual and bisexual men is 8 to 20 years less than for all men.

Lie #13: The Bible has no examples of people who were healed of homosexuality.

In 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Paul mentioned that the Corinthian church had people who were formerly homosexuals. Paul wrote that they were washed, sanctified, and justified by God.

Lie #14: Gay sex is better than heterosexual sex

This is like the lie that Satan used on Eve in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3). He basically told her that God was holding out on her and that she would become like God if she ate the forbidden fruit. Believing that the taboo would be better than the permissible, Eve sinned by eating the fruit. Likewise, Satan loves to tempt people to believe that homosexual acts are going to fulfill their desires. While they may bring temporary pleasure, they come with a high price of consequences (emotional, physical & spiritual). One that is virtually guaranteed is that the person will become enslaved to lust just like the people in Romans 1:24-32.

Heterosexual sex within a marriage relationship has the highest potential for sexual fulfillment of any sexual act. God designed our bodies to unite in this way physically,

emotionally and spiritually (Genesis 2:21-24). When we're in harmony with the Creator's design in a loving relationship with our spouse, we're aligned to experience the best sex!

Lie #15: I can have peace with God without giving up gay sex acts.

When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are forgiven of our sins. At that point, God calls us to change our lifestyles to follow Him the best we can. He doesn't leave us to do this tough task on our own, though. He gives us His Holy Spirit to empower us to make the changes ([Romans 8:11,13](#)). The Bible provides the scriptures that show us the new lifestyle we are to follow. Every lifestyle that embraces sin must be surrendered to God, and this includes homosexuality.

If we continue to live in sin and "practice" it after receiving Jesus, we are rejecting the sacrifice he made for us on the cross. When we reject Christ's sacrifice, there is no other sacrifice available to cover our sin, and we are in danger of eternal destruction ([Hebrews 10:26-29](#)). I'm sharing this not to scare or condemn, but to plead with people to abandon sin and follow God. Some people may feel that if they give up homosexuality they will die. Quite the opposite is true, because when we give something up for God, we clear the pathway for His love and life to flood our souls.

Lie #16: Sexuality is a curse.

If we've been enslaved to sexual desires that we know are wrong, it can be tempting to think of our sexuality as a curse. We must remember that the curse that is affecting us comes from the sin nature we inherited from Adam (Romans 5:12). Our hearts have all sorts of evil desires that may try to corrupt our thoughts and lead us into acting on sinful impulses. Jesus said, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.²⁰ These are the things which defile a man..." (Matthew 15:19-20 NKJV). God gave us sexuality as a blessing (Genesis 1:27-28), but sin (our own and/or that of others) has corrupted it. God offers to help us discover healthy sexuality and enjoy its blessings. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we can retrieve our God-designed sexuality and jettison the corruption of sin (Ephesians 4:22-24).

Lie #17: Gay acts are permissible when they are done within a loving relationship.

The Bible identifies what sex acts are considered sin, regardless of the type of relationship (i.e. loving, lustful, etc.). Basically, any sexual activity outside of heterosexual marriage is considered sin (see <http://www.porn-free.org/sex.htm> for refs). So that there wouldn't be any doubt, the Bible specifies homosexual acts as sin in several places (1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Romans 1:24-28, 1 Timothy 1:8-11, Leviticus 20:13, Leviticus 18:22).

The topic of love is an important one, although it does not change the laws regarding sexual activity. Sexual activity between two men (or two women) is sin regardless of whether they love each other, or just have an anonymous encounter.

Let's now consider God's design for sexual love. Adam was alone in the Garden of Eden and God saw that Adam needed a companion and helper. God hand-crafted Eve and brought her to Adam. The scripture comments that this was the model for the rest of mankind: **"For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh"** (Genesis 2:24 NASB). Notice that God did not make a man for Adam, but rather a woman. He also did not say that man was to be joined with another man to be one flesh. He blessed their heterosexual relationship and commanded them to **"be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth"** (Genesis 1:28 NASB). Had God made a man for Adam to have sexually, they would not have been able to fulfill God's instructions for taking dominion of the earth.

There is a place for same-sex relationships that are built on love, but this was not intended to be a sexual love. Rather, these were to be built on brotherly or sisterly love, which have nothing to do with sexual activity. Such relationships were modeled by David and Jonathan, Jonathan and his armorbearer, Jesus and his disciples and Paul and his co-laborers, among many others throughout the scriptures.

We can also look at gay love from the perspective of Paul's description of love in [1 Corinthians 13:4-8](#). One of the qualities that Paul mentioned about love is that it always protects. Gay love fails this test because it pursues sexual activity that is harmful to his or her partner's health (see [Gay Sex Health Risks \(PDF file\)](#)). At the very least, it increases the partner's risk of contracting a sex-related illness.

Another quality of love is that it **"does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth."** (1 Corinthians 13:6 NIV). Gay love pursues sexual acts that God has deemed sinful, and therefore delights in evil and is opposed to the truth.

A final thought on love is that since God is love (1 John 4:8), and anything that contradicts his commandments will be at best a corrupted form of love. Though a person might enjoy homosexual love, it does not change the fact that the relationship is in rebellion against God.

Lie #18: Homosexuality was forbidden under Old Testament Law, just as was eating shellfish and pork. Since Jesus did away with the Law, homosexuality is now OK with God.

There were three types of laws in the Mosaic system: ceremonial, civil and moral.

1. The ceremonial laws established procedures for the tabernacle system such as cleansing of the body from physical and spiritual impurity. The requirements of these laws were fulfilled in the completed work of Jesus

Christ, who provided the perfect sacrifice once for all time (Hebrews 9:8-14).

2. The civil laws provided the standards for justice and governmental structure for the nation of Israel. These have been adapted to various cultures over time.
3. The moral laws defined sin based on God's character and truth. These laws are timeless and do not change (Matthew 5:18, 1 Peter 1:25, Isaiah 40:8).

The laws concerning clean/unclean foods were ceremonial laws. Through his death on the cross, Jesus entered the perfect, heavenly tabernacle and satisfied the requirements of the Old Covenant's ceremonial laws (Hebrews 9:8-14, Romans 8:3-4). Paul confirmed that the ceremonial laws concerning food were no longer in effect due to Christ's finished work (Romans 14:14-17,20-21; Colossians 2:20-23; 1 Timothy 4:1-5).

The sacrifice system under the Old Covenant merely cleansed the body from sin, but not the conscience (Hebrews 9:11-14). Jesus showed the need for the conscience to be cleansed when he explained that it wasn't food that defiled a person, but rather, evil thoughts, words and actions (Matthew 15:19). These can all be linked to transgressing moral laws. Jesus gave several examples of such transgressions in his sermon on the mount in Matthew 5,6,7.

Jesus established a new covenant that provided cleansing of the body and conscience from sin (Hebrews 9:8-14, Colossians 2:13-14). This was significant in view of the moral laws that continued to be in effect. Through faith in Christ, people are forgiven of their transgressions of the moral laws (i.e. sin) and also receive power through the Holy Spirit to abide by those laws (Romans 8:9-13). Note that God's forgiveness does not remove our obligation to live by the moral laws. Jesus confirmed their continuing validity when he said:

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:17-19 NIV

Additionally he said: "Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." (John 14:21 NIV)

The laws concerning homosexual activity (Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13) are moral laws. Paul, who as a Pharisee was an expert in the law, confirmed that homosexual acts and thoughts continued to be sin under the New Covenant (1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Romans

1:24-28, 1 Timothy 1:8-11). In 1 Corinthians 6:9, Paul deliberately used the very words from Leviticus 18 (*mishkav zakur* in the Hebrew, translated as *arsenokoitai* in the Greek) when stating that those who practice homosexuality will not inherit the kingdom of God. He could not have been more clear.

Lie #19: The Ten Commandments don't address homosexuality, so this proves that it is permissible.

The Ten Commandments were intended as starting points for understanding God's righteousness and his expectations for his people. The Ten Commandments give us principles we can apply to arguably any act or thought to determine if it is sin. For example, we can make these applications to homosexuality:

- Commandments 1 & 2: "You shall have no other gods before Me" and "You shall not worship them or serve them" (Exodus 20:3, 5): Homosexual activity often includes idolatry, where a person is idolizing sexual acts, pleasure or physical characteristics of his or her partner
- Commandment 7: "You shall not commit adultery." (Exodus 20:14 NIV) Adultery is sexual activity (including gay sex) outside of heterosexual marriage by at least one of the spouses
- Commandment 10 "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant" (Exodus 20:17 NIV); homosexual relationships typically feature sexual lust, which is a form of coveting

Additionally, God provided further and specific clarification in laws concerning homosexual acts and other sexual sin in Leviticus 18 & 20.

Lie #20: David and Jonathan had a homosexual affair.

David and Jonathan had a special relationship built on brotherly love that was not sexual in any way (2 Samuel 1:26). They were the best of friends, and shared a deep, noble love that is perhaps rarely experienced. They were "one in spirit" (1 Samuel 18:1-4 NIV), and this came from military comradery, a fondness in friendship and a mutual commitment to God. Those who have served on the battlefield together in wartime can likely best identify with this kind of relationship. To suggest that David and Jonathan had sexual relations is unscriptural, and disparages the character of their friendship.

Lie #21: Love did away with the laws of Moses. As long as I'm living and acting in love (i.e. gay love), I'm going to heaven.

Here are the lies in this statement:

1. Gay love is the same love as the love God commands us to have
2. Love nullified the Law of Moses
3. I don't have to obey God's laws in order to go to heaven

First, we need to see that this question assumes that “gay love” is the same as the love that God commands us to have for each other. God created us in his likeness, having the capacity to show love. He also gave us a free will to choose between good and evil. Jesus pointed out that people may choose to love evil instead of good: “**Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil**” (John 3:18 NIV). To love evil is to love doing the things that God has defined as wrong in the scriptures (i.e. sin). Since homosexual acts are forbidden in the scripture, we can confidently conclude that “gay love” is synonymous with loving evil. As followers of Jesus, we are commanded, “**Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good**” (Romans 12:9 NKJV).

The kind of love God commands us to emulate is the love that Jesus showed by laying down his life for us. This was not sexual love, but rather it was *Agape* love (Strong’s #26), which means “brotherly love, affection, good will, love, benevolence” (*The NAS New Testament Greek Lexicon*). We show this love by obeying God’s commandments (John 14:10,23-24, 1 John 5:3), and this obedience will prove that our faith in God is genuine (James 2:14-26).

Agape love does not nullify the Law of Moses, but rather it fulfills it. Consider what Paul wrote: “⁹The commandments, “Do not commit adultery,” “Do not murder,” “Do not steal,” “Do not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law” (Romans 13:9-10 NIV). Jesus was the ultimate embodiment of perfect love. He surrendered his life in order to satisfy the righteous requirements of the Law so that those who placed faith in him could have peace with God (Romans 5:1, Hebrews 9:11-28). Our faith does not give us a blank check to sin, but rather it obligates us through love for God to keep his commands (Romans 6:1-2). ([more about gay love](#))

Bible Examples of Gay Behavior

1) Pathway to destruction ([Romans 1:26-32](#)): The people in Romans 1 started on the pathway to destruction by failing to thank and glorify God. From there they fell into idolatry and then into homosexual behavior. From that point, they:

- Received "due penalty" for their perversion (possibly physical illness?)
- They abandoned knowledge of God
- God gave them to depraved mind
- They did what ought not to be done
- They were filled with every kind of wickedness
- They gave hearty approval of those who practiced evil

2) Sodom & Gomorrah ([Genesis 19:4-13](#)): This story illustrates the potentially violent side of homosexuality.

3) Male Prostitution ([Deuteronomy 23:17-18](#), [1 Kings 14:24](#)): Shrine prostitution was a common practice in the land of Canaan. Male prostitutes engaged in sexual activities with the men (and women, if allowed) who came to worship in the shrines. God abhorred the homosexual activity and prostitution, and warned the Israelites to have nothing to do with them.

4) Mob in Gibeah ([Judges 19-20](#))

This story is similar to the Genesis 19 story of the homosexual mob. It again shows the violent potential of homosexuality.