

Celebrating tolerance and pursuing truth are, many times, not compatible. Over the past several years a growing number of people claiming to be “*Christ followers*” have adjusted their theology to affirm same sex unions and marriages. Usually this affirmation commences because they’ve developed sympathy with friends or LGBTQ people or their converted sympathizers.

**Here are some passages specifically in question:**

Genesis 19:1-9

Leviticus 18:22 & 20:13

Romans 1:26-27

1 Corinthians 6:9

1 Timothy 1:10

Jude 1:7

Don’t get me wrong, I love people and we’re all sinners; I want all of us to be “*Christ followers*” too, saved by grace, not by works. We all can, and some who possess same sex attractions choose to resist temptations contrary to Scripture. They’ve chosen to experience living a Christ centered life, understanding 1 Corinthians 10:13 and with faith, speaking the strength to resist known sinful choices in the Name of Jesus. As stated, we’re all sinners with the option to choose to live by transforming grace. Remember, agape “LOVE” is a purpose driven verb, not an emotional feeling.

I have friends who are drawn into the temptation to pursue same sex relationships. Some claim it’s genetic; others identify with environmental causes. It’s one of many of humanity’s fear driven temptations that began after the fall described in the Genesis metaphor as partaking from Satan’s satanically directed: “*Tree of knowledge of good and evil*” rather than our Lord’s “*The tree of life*.”

Romans 14:23 reminds us: “*Whatever is not from faith is sin.*” Wouldn’t that include all of us? My conclusion is that from the time Satan introduced “fear” to replace agape type “love” as described in the first pages in Genesis, all sinful behavior is initiated by some manifestation of fear. 1<sup>st</sup> John 1:10 reminds us: “*If we say we have not sinned, we make God a liar, and His Word is not in us*” and then in 1 John 4:18 we’re reminded in part that: “*Perfect love casts out fear*” (NAS).

Societies have speculated for centuries regarding the many possible causes for this unnatural sexual attraction. Let’s begin by reviewing the basic cause of Humanity’s sinful nature. Satan, a created spiritual angel, fell away. He wanted to be like God, however spiritual beings can not become their Creator. So the only way Satan could avenge God was to destroy humanity, God’s earthly children. That’s us folks!!! Satan’s strategy was simple; he replaced agape type love with the fear that accompanied our new selfishly directed condition. My conclusion, all sin originates from selfish thinking. Where might we all be if we had never been inclined to entertain fear driven selfish thoughts? The first sin mentioned in Scripture, Adam ran and hid, FEAR!

This propensity to be driven by fear may cause us to become “graspers” of whatever offers an escape from emotional needs or suffering. We may then pursue destructive manifestations of self gratification rather than to be cognitive “receivers” of the foundational purpose ordained to lead us to experience God’s relational joy. (Read “*Joy - Our Foundational Purpose*”: [www.skipelmore.com](http://www.skipelmore.com))

Satan is after us from our time of conception, and even before from inherited generational sin. At a very early age we may begin believing the enemy’s lie that God is holding out with the ‘good’ He could be freely distributing. We observe life not being fair, so we’re more easily persuaded to believe we need an identity that allows us to know ourselves. We, subliminally, become “graspers” of whatever offers an escape from the reality of needs and suffering. As we pursue destructive manifestations of self gratification we miss the opportunity to be “receivers” of that foundational life purpose that allows experiencing a full measure of God’s wisdom and joy.

This sometimes, along with other wrong choices from our heritage, causes us to blame our sinful nature on genetic causes. It’s biblical sin, but sometimes, to understand it, we ask whose sin created a temptation that violates humanity’s natural inclinations and causes them to be unnatural?

We’re all victims of sinful choices; some our own, but many times it’s those of others. Same sex attraction is sometimes explained by observing early childhood experiences, however not always.

As stated in 1st Corinthians 10:13, faith subdues destructive choices, and may even remove desires. Letting a trusted Christ follower share the pain and join in prayers will always enhance our faith.

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