

**Biblical Sexuality**  
**Volume Four**

*The Sexual  
Revolution*

***PHASE III***

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# Chapter 7

## Sexual

### Orientation, Preferences and Choices

Key words defined:

**Asexual**; one lacking any sexual desire or romantic inclinations.

**Heterosexual**; a person who has a sexual attraction or romantic desire for individuals of the opposite gender.

**Heterosexuality**; (when used as a verb) describes the sexual behavior or activity with a member of the opposite gender. **Heterosexual** identifies the individual, **heterosexuality** identifies the behavior. The key point is that one may have **heterosexual** inclinations and not engage in **heterosexuality**.

**Homosexual**; a person who has a sexual attraction or romantic inclinations for individuals of the same gender.

**Homosexuality**; (when used as a verb) describes the sexual activity with a member of the same sex. The key point is that one may have **homosexual** attractions or inclinations and not engage in **homosexuality**.

**Bisexual**; a person who has a sexual attraction or romantic desire for individuals of either gender.

**Bisexuality** (when used as a verb) describes the sexual activity with members of either gender, male or female. The key point is that one may have **bisexual** inclinations and not engage in **bisexuality**.

## Sexual Orientation (“I Like”)

Orientation is a word of French derivation and may be defined as the **direction** that one faces, the **position** in which one has been set. It is the setting of something or someone in any determinate, fixed position. Orientation is important because one’s orientation will affect one’s view of life. The way one views the basics of right and wrong, good and evil or what is moral and immoral are all rooted in one’s **orientation**. One’s **orientation** will ultimately affect one’s thoughts, interests and feelings.

How is one’s sexual orientation established? Many factors are involved. However, a key factor relates to the influence that parents exert early in a child’s life.

**Ps 127:4**

*As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man;  
so are children of the youth.*

The Bible depicts young children as “arrows” that are to be directed and set on a particular course in life by their parents. Before the “arrow” can be properly launched, it must be aimed (oriented) in the proper direction. It is the responsibility of the parent to “aim” (orient) or give direction to a child’s life.

How we are raised by our parents will dramatically affect our orientation. The course that a parent sets a child on will greatly influence that child’s orientation, sexual or otherwise. Research shows that sexual orientation is solidified at an early age and paternal (father) interaction is often a key factor in establishing

the sexual orientation of young children both male and female.

Sexual orientation is the direction and subsequent focus of a person's sexual or amorous desires. It is the direction in which someone's sexual thoughts and inclinations are focused. It makes the ego declaration of "I Like." What we "like" or do "not like" has much to do with one's orientation established early in life.

Sexual orientation seems to be the product of complex interactions between innate predispositions and environmental factors during childhood and adolescence. Some psychologist believe gender defined self identity is established before age three and results from early family relationships.

(Socarides; *Homosexuality: A Freedom Too Far*)

Human sexuality has many different facets, and the development of sexual orientation is not always a simple matter. Having said that, I do believe that the Bible offers some basic guidelines that are helpful.

**Prov. 22:6**

*Train up a child in the way he should go:  
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*

Proverbs 22:6 speaks of placing children on a particular path, orienting them in a certain direction, early in life. This pattern is established in Gen.2:22 where Adam is set on a clear course of **heterosexual orientation** by his Creator. Note, that after being taken out of man, woman is brought to the man. Both were naked and unashamed (Gen.2:25).

Geographically speaking, there are four universal directions or **orientations**; **North, South, East** and **West**. Sexually speaking, there are four general **orientations** under consideration here; **heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual** and **asexual**.

The fact that we are facing a particular direction does not mean that we are **forced** to travel in that direction. I may face a northward direction and, for whatever reason, choose **not** to travel north. By the same analogy, I may have a heterosexual orientation, and choose **not** to engage in heterosexual activity. I may have a homosexual orientation and choose **not** to engage in homosexual activity. *One's sexual orientation does not necessarily dictate one's sexual behavior.*

### **Sexual Preference** (“I Want”)

Preference is the object of one's desires. It basically makes the ego statement “**I want.**” The term **sexual preference** includes heterosexual, bisexual and homosexual desire. The term was used in the late 20th Century by [gay rights](#) advocates who sought to promote the view that each person should have the right to seek out the partner they prefer, whether of the opposite sex or the same sex. After using the term for a short period of time, gay rights advocates generally began using the term **sexual orientation** instead, as it helped to promote the view that sexual desire was not a matter of “**preference**” but inherent and unchangeable.

What are some of the factors that influence sexual preferences? Many factors are involved, but in simplistic terms, sexual preference (“I want”) is directly influenced by sexual orientation (“I like”).

We generally “prefer” what we “like” (orientation).

Sexual preferences are subject to change if one’s sexual orientation changes.

### **Sexual Choices (“I Choose”)**

Sexual choice makes the ego statement “**I choose.**”

As freewill beings, we have the ability to **choose** between a number of sexual options (hetero, homo, bi and asexual). Sexual choices are rooted in our God given ability to decide a course of action and execute that action. In the past, fraudulent research has been set forth in an attempt to prove that homosexual behavior is not a matter of choice, but a matter of genetics. For decades, gay activists have been saying that genes make them engage in homosexual behavior.

Genes are biological entities that parents pass on to offspring during reproduction. Let’s examine what genes do. Genes have a function. They function to instruct special mechanisms within the cell to produce specific proteins. Some proteins help determine what activities will take place within the body. Sex hormones are proteins. The basic concept is this:

A specific testosterone **gene** will orchestrate the production of a specific **testosterone** protein. Testosterone is involved in creating the desire or urge to engage in sexual intimacy (libido). In this case, a specific gene led to the formation of a specific protein (hormone), which is designed to affect the way we feel.

That’s essentially **all** the gene does. It provides the.....