

Human Sexuality, Gender, and the Gospel

Forestgate Presbyterian Church

Lesson 10: TQIA – Transgender and the Bible

Goal for this class: *To know with confidence from God’s revelation that transgenderism falls short of the glory of God and is not the way to walk in obedience to Christ.*

1. Resources:

- Trueman, Carl R. *Strange New World: How Thinkers and Activists Redefined Identity and Sparked the Sexual Revolution*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2022.
- Kevin Deyoung. “What Does the Bible Say About Transgenderism?” from TGC Website, September 8, 2016.
- Gerhardus Vos. “Heavenly-Mindedness” from *Grace and Glory*.

2. Recent News:

- a. Oregon passed legislation to include feminine products in the boy restrooms at schools.
 - i. A deliberate effort to mainstream transgenderism among youth.
- b. S. Carolina passed the Save Woman’s Sports Act to protect woman’s sports from men competing as women.

3. Recap: Social Imaginary

- a. Modern philosopher Charles Taylor uses the concept of the social imaginary to analyze how societies think. And it helps to explain how theories of the social elites might be related to the way ordinary people think and act.
 - How ordinary people imagine their surroundings as carried through images, stories, legends, and today’s social media.
 - It’s a common understanding which makes possible common practices and a common sense of what is legitimate in society (normative expectations, implicit assumptions).
 - Such that...the way we think about many things is not grounded in self-conscious belief or commitment, but rather we generally operate on the basis of intuitions that we have often unconsciously absorbed from the culture around us—intuitive social taste.
 - Given that our Western society has drifted so far from its basic Christian assumptions, how do we remain true to our Christian convictions while making note of the intuitions of society at large?
- b. Example: How do you answer the question, “Do you as a Christian attend a same-sex wedding ceremony?”
- c. Example: Comedian clip on Instagram, “I just do me!”

4. Recap: Sign of the *eschaton*?

- a. The sexual immorality washing over our society is not new, but the transgender craze is new.
- b. The rise of the debased mind, the scoffer, and consolidated earthly power.
- c. Signs of hope
- d. Heavenly-mindedness

5. Transgender and the Bible

Scripture speaks to all issues in some way, though not always in technical detail.

Gender Binary

- The Bible knows no other gender categories besides male and female.
- God's good design from creation; not a cultural construct! (Gen 1:27, Gen 2:18-22)
- There are no sexless persons
 - o Eunuchs are still men and not sexless persons. (Matt. 19:10-12)
- Intersex – part of the creational “groaning”, a reality of a broken world.

Gender Identity

- The transgender claim: When one's true-self gender does not correspond with one's sex assigned at birth.
- Rather, the Bible upholds unity between biological sex and gender identity, which is assumed in the following arguments:
 - o Only the pair of a man and a woman can reproduce (Gen 1:28; 2:20)
 - o Homosexuality is wrong (Lev 18:22)
 - o Homosexuality deviates from natural relations (Rom 1:26-27)

Gender Confusion

- Stands to reason that confusion on gender would be displeasing to God.
 - o Men should not act sexually as woman (Lev. 18:22, Rom 1:18-32, 1 Cor 6:9-10)
 - o Men should not dress like woman
 - *A woman shall not wear a man's garment, nor shall a man put on a woman's cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God. - Deut. 22:5*
 - o Other-gendered expressions is a disgrace
 - *Does not nature itself teach you that if a man wears long hair it is a disgrace for him, but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering. - 1 Cor. 11:14-15*

Final Note:

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. - 1 Cor. 6:19-20