

March 11, 2022

## Human Sexuality, Gender, and the Gospel – Resources

Forestgate Presbyterian Church

### Books:

- Gary Yagel – *Anchoring Your Child to God’s Truth in a Gender-Confused Culture*
  - o “Dr. Yagel is a PCA minister and a men’s ministry advisor to our denomination’s Committee on Discipleship Ministries. I shared this book with one of our elders a few years ago, and he said, ‘It is well balanced, biblical, easy to read, logical in a manner consistent with our Reformed faith regarding complementarianism, and I think something every parent could greatly benefit from given the reality of our gender confused society.’” – Pastor Matt
- Trueman, Carl R. *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road to Sexual Revolution*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020.
  - o “Not an easy read, though [the follow-up below](#) might be easier, and an extremely profitable read. This is not a lament, though Trueman, an OPC pastor, does find some of the cultural status quo lamentable. This is an attempt to answer why our world is the way it is now, why ‘I am a woman trapped in man’s body,’ is now assumed to be true instead of ‘incoherent gibberish’ as might have been widely assumed as recently as 30 years ago.” -Pastor Matt
- Coming in late March: Trueman, Carl R. *Strange New World: How Thinkers and Activists Redefined Identity and Sparked the Sexual Revolution*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2022.
  - o A more concise and accessible version of *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*.
- DeYoung, Kevin. *What Does the Bible Really Teach about Homosexuality?* Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015.
  - o “Clear, concise, Biblical, as it typical of DeYoung’s writing. In his introduction, he gives a word to the multiple audiences that might be interested in his book, while also stating ‘what kind of book this is: *this is a Christian book, with a narrow focus, defending a traditional view of marriage.*” - Pastor Matt
- Percy, Nancy. *Love Thy Body: Answering Hard Questions about Life and Sexuality*. Grand Rapids, MI: BakerBooks, 2019.
  - o Nancy Percy writes in the tradition of Francis Shaffer, bringing a thoughtful and biblical apologetic to today’s struggles. She traces the inherent dualism (mind/body, ) in our western history and consciousness, and she demonstrates how only the revelation of God provides a satisfying explanation and solution. In particular she contrasts the world’s view of the human body with the far more compelling Christian view of the body. This book is easier to read than *The Rise and Triumph* (above) yet a more sophisticated apologetic than the Yuan’s book (below). – Stephen

- Yuan, Christopher. *Holy Sexuality and the Gospel: Sex, Desire, and Relationships Shaped by God's Grand Story*. New York, Multnomah, 2018.
  - o This is a very straightforward and faithful expression of biblical sexuality, and from one who came out of a gay lifestyle. He mixes biblical truth with his personal story for a very engaging and compelling argument. Particularly helpful is how he refashions the conversation on “holy sexuality” rather talking in terms of heterosexuality versus homosexuality—the fundamental issue is not so-called orientation but faithfulness to God and his design/revelation. This is the most accessible and compelling book that I have found on this matter. It’s an excellent book to give to high schoolers; indeed, I think every covenant child should read it before going off to college. - Stephen

#### Articles:

- Truman, Carl R. “The Dogmas Must Be Questioned.” <https://wng.org/opinions/the-dogmas-that-must-be-questioned-1645014641>
  - o “There are so many good and relevant articles out there. This is a good one representative of both Carl Trueman (and excellent voice on these matters) and World Opinions (a new a very helpful source from World Magazine). It illustrates how even the slightest efforts at reasonable restraint in the public sector will get one canceled by the sexual revolutionaries.” - Stephen
- Butterfield, Rosaria. “My Train Wreck Conversion.” <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2013/january-february/my-train-wreck-conversion.html>
  - o “A powerful, beautiful story of how she was surprised by Joy, as C.S. Lewis might say. ‘But the Bible got to be bigger inside me than I. It overflowed into my world. I fought against it with all my might.’” – Pastor Matt
- Dreher, Rod. “Sex After Christianity.” *American Conservative*. April 11, 2013. <https://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/sex-after-christianity/>
  - o “Here Rod Dreher makes a simple point in this article: the crucial loss of traditional marriage (to same-sex marriage) is a result of the preceding and ongoing decline of Christianity, or the Christian ‘cosmology’ (think ‘worldview’) in the West. He thus makes the point that we need to fight back not just morally, but cosmologically. Apart from a Christian cosmology, or a memory of it in our culture, we will lose the foundational institutions of society, as we have with the same-sex marriage ruling. Our culture increasingly has no moral compass and no worldview compass. It cannot continue in this trajectory, not intact.” - Stephen

#### Reports:

- PCA Ad Interim Committee Report on Human Sexuality, May 2020
  - o “Pious advice from a seven-member committee that Kevin DeYoung and Tim Keller. The 60-page report has its own annotated bibliography, but the two most helpful sections are the opening Twelve Statements (in the form of affirmations and denials) and the Apologetic Approaches for Speaking to the World. An excerpt from that final section: ‘Christians cannot speak to the world about sex

in a compelling way if we merely answer the story with a list of moral imperatives, however Biblical. We must put the Christian sex ethic into a counter-narrative, one based on the Bible's great story of redemption.” – Pastor Matt

#### News Sources:

- World Magazine. <https://wng.org>
  - o Excellent news source from a Christian worldview (web, print magazine, daily podcast). It will report factual news and developments in the arena of sexuality and gender from a Christian/biblical point of view. It is one of the very few news sources not buying into the sexual revolution. - Stephen
- First Things. <https://www.firstthings.com>
  - o This is a very thoughtful journal from the Institute of Religion and Public Life. There many excellent authors and articles will challenge today's secularism that is trying to expunge religious conversation from the public square. Authors include a mix of prominent Protestant and Catholic voices, who find strong agreement on matters related to human sexuality, marriage, and the cultural battle for truth and ideas. - Stephen
- Public Discourse. <https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com>
  - o Another excellent journal, this one from the The Witherspoon Institute, that provides editorial news and commentary—a much better alternative to the editorializing that happens in today's major news sources. The Founding Editor is Ryan T. Anderson who is President of the Ethics and Public Policy Center and author of *When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Movement* (another good resource). The site is helpfully broken down into categories that include “The Human Person” and “Sexuality & Family.” - Stephen

#### Podcasts:

- Breakpoint (Colson Center for Christian Worldview). <https://www.breakpoint.org>
  - o Daily, short-format Christian worldview commentary on current news and issues. Hosted by John Stonestreet, President of the Colson Center for Christian Worldview. He will speak boldly and biblically on these issues, and at the same time he carefully and caringly addresses the very real struggles and difficulty questions we are facing in this cultural moment. - Stephen
- The Briefing. <https://albertmohler.com/the-briefing>
  - o Daily news and event from a Christian worldview by Albert Mohler, President of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Excellent commentary, often addressing the sexual revolution and its many effects. - Stephen