WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY?

AGENDA



- SOME FOUNDATIONAL BIBLE VERSES
- Definition of Terms
- What other religious leaders saying?
- WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

NOTE: Key assumption for this material is that the Bible is God's Word and He is the authority

SOME FOUNDATIONAL VERSES

CREATION

- Gen 1:26-28 NASB Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the Earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the Earth." (27) God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (28) God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the Earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the Earth."
- GEN 2:21-24 NASB SO THE LORD GOD CAUSED A DEEP SLEEP TO FALL UPON THE MAN, AND HE SLEPT; THEN HE TOOK ONE OF HIS RIBS AND CLOSED UP THE FLESH AT THAT PLACE. (22) THE LORD GOD FASHIONED INTO A WOMAN THE RIB WHICH HE HAD TAKEN FROM THE MAN, AND BROUGHT HER TO THE MAN. (23) THE MAN SAID, "THIS IS NOW BONE OF MY BONES, AND FLESH OF MY FLESH; SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN, BECAUSE SHE WAS TAKEN OUT OF MAN." (24) FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND HIS MOTHER, AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE; AND THEY SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.

SEXUALITY

- Romans 1:18–32; 1 Corinthians 6:9–10 homosexuals nor adulterers nor fornicators will enter Heaven
- 1Ti 1:9-10 NASB realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers (10) and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,
- 1Ki 15:11-12 NASB As a did what was right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father. (12) He also put away the male cult prostitutes from the land and removed all the idols which his fathers had made.
- 2KI 23:7 NASB HE ALSO BROKE DOWN THE HOUSES OF THE MALE CULT PROSTITUTES WHICH WERE IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD, WHERE THE WOMEN WERE WEAVING HANGINGS FOR THE ASHERAH.
- HEB 13:4 NASB MARRIAGE IS TO BE HELD IN HONOR AMONG ALL, AND THE MARRIAGE BED IS TO BE UNDEFILED; FOR FORNICATORS AND ADULTERERS GOD WILL JUDGE.

TRANSGENDERISM

- THIS TERM IS NOT MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE
- We have seen some verses on sexuality and what is and is not allowed.
- DEU 22:5 NASB "A WOMAN SHALL NOT WEAR MAN'S CLOTHING, NOR SHALL A MAN PUT
 ON A WOMAN'S CLOTHING; FOR WHOEVER DOES THESE THINGS IS AN ABOMINATION TO THE
 LORD YOUR GOD.
- 1CO 6:9 NASB 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, NOR HOMOSEXUALS,
- MAT 19:12 NASB "FOR THERE ARE EUNUCHS WHO WERE BORN THAT WAY FROM THEIR MOTHER'S WOMB; AND THERE ARE EUNUCHS WHO WERE MADE EUNUCHS BY MEN; AND THERE ARE ALSO EUNUCHS WHO MADE THEMSELVES EUNUCHS FOR THE SAKE OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. HE WHO IS ABLE TO ACCEPT THIS, LET HIM ACCEPT IT."

QUESTIONS

- DOES THE BIBLE SEPARATE SEX FROM GENDER?
- HOW MANY SEXES DOES THE BIBLE DEFINE?
- REGARDLESS OF YOU PHYSICAL, MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL CONDITION WHAT DOES THE BIBLE ASK YOU TO LIVE?
- How does the bible expect us to treat others?
- IS IT BIBLICAL FOR OUR TREATMENT TO VARY BASED ON A PERSON'S SIN, PHYSICAL, MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL CONDITION?

CONCLUSION FROM SCRIPTURE

- GOD CREATED TWO SEXES MALE AND FEMALE
- Men and women each have a distinct role
- Men are not to live like or dress like women and vice versa. To do so is sinful
- A SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A MAN AND WOMAN WHO ARE MARRIED TO EACH OTHER IS HONORABLE. ANY OTHER SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP IS SINFUL.

DEFINITIONS

NOTE: SOME DEFINITIONS SHOW UP TWICE SINCE IT IS FROM DIFFERENCE SOURCES

- LINK: GENDER IDENTITY AND THE BIBLE | MANY VOICES
- Gender Identity is our personal sense of what our own gender is. For many of us, that will mean that we internally experience ourselves to be male or we internally experience ourselves to be female. Increasingly, those who identify internally as neither female nor male are using the term non-binary to describe themselves.
- GENDER EXPRESSION HAS TO DO WITH THE WAY WE MAKE OUR INTERNAL SENSE OF GENDER VISIBLE TO OTHER PEOPLE. WE EXPRESS OUR GENDER THROUGH THE WAY WE DRESS AND STYLE OUR HAIR, AS WELL AS OUR SPEECH AND GESTURES.

- Link: Gender Identity and the Bible | Many Voices
- A TRANSGENDER PERSON IS SOMEONE WHOSE SENSE OF PERSONAL IDENTITY AND GENDER DOES NOT CORRESPOND WITH THE SEX THEY WERE ASSIGNED AT BIRTH. TRANSGENDER IS AN ADJECTIVE AND THEREFORE DOES NOT STAND ALONE. IT MUST BE ATTACHED TO A NOUN. A COMMON GOOGLE SEARCH PHRASE IS "WHAT IS A TRANSGENDER?" REVEALING A MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE NATURE OF THE WORD AS AN ADJECTIVE. "WHAT DOES TRANSGENDER MEAN?" IS A GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT QUESTION. THE WORD TRANSEXUAL IS LARGELY CONSIDERED TO BE OUTDATED BY THE MAJORITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY. THE TERM HAS BEEN USED TO REFER TO THOSE WHO HAVE MEDICALLY TRANSITIONED IN SOME WAY AWAY FROM THE GENDER ASSIGNED TO THEM AT BIRTH AND TO THE GENDER WHICH THEY EXPERIENCE THEMSELVES TO BE.

- LINK: WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS THINK ABOUT GENDER [DENTITY ISSUES? | UNITED CHURCH OF GOD (UCG.ORG)
- TRANSGENDER" IS AN UMBRELLA TERM FOR THE MANY WAYS PEOPLE EXPERIENCE A MISMATCH BETWEEN THEIR BIOLOGICAL SEX AND THEIR FEELINGS OF SEXUAL IDENTITY. THIS IS A COMPLEX AND WIDE-RANGING SUBJECT—PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY AND SPIRITUALLY

- LINK: 7 FACTS ABOUT CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRANSGENDER DEBATE LIFEWAY VOICES
- GENDER DYSPHORIA IS THE PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS THAT OCCURS WHEN INDIVIDUALS
 EXPERIENCE A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE GENDER THEY WERE ASSIGNED AT BIRTH AND THE GENDER
 WITH WHICH THEY NOW IDENTIFY. A GENDER DYSPHORIC PERSON WAS BORN A MAN BUT DOESN'T
 FEEL LIKE A MAN. OR, SIMILARLY, SHE WAS BORN A FEMALE BUT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A WOMAN.
- TRANSGENDERISM AS AN IDEOLOGY AND A POLITICAL MOVEMENT, TRANSGENDERISM HAS THREE MAIN TENETS. THE FIRST IS THAT GENDER IS MALLEABLE; A "TRANS GIRL" IS A GIRL AND NOT JUST A BOY WHO IDENTIFIES AS A GIRL. THE SECOND IS THAT MODERN MEDICINE—PUBERTY BLOCKERS, HORMONE THERAPY, AND GENDER REASSIGNMENT SURGERIES—SHOULD BE UTILIZED TO HELP GENDER DYSPHORIC INDIVIDUALS CHANGE THEIR GENDER IDENTITIES. THE THIRD IS THAT PUBLIC POLICY SHOULD BE REFORMED TO REFLECT TRANSGENDER PREFERENCES, INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN SEX-SPECIFIC SPORTS PROGRAMS, ACCESS TO PUBLIC BATHROOMS OF PREFERENCE, AND THE CRIMINALIZATION OF "MISGENDERING" INDIVIDUALS.

- LINK: GENDER IDENTITY AND THE BIBLE | MANY VOICES
- GENDER DYSPHORIA IS THE DISTRESS CAUSED BY THE CONFLICT BETWEEN ONE'S EMOTIONAL
 AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPERIENCE AS MALE OR FEMALE AND ONE'S ASSIGNED SEX AT BIRTH.
 THIS DISCONNECT CAN BE QUITE DEBILITATING.
- A CISGENDER PERSON IS SOMEONE WHOSE SENSE OF PERSONAL IDENTITY AND GENDER CORRESPONDS WITH THEIR SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH. CISGENDER, LIKE TRANSGENDER, IS AN ADJECTIVE AND IS TO BE PAIRED WITH A NOUN.
- THE GENDER BINARY IS THE DESCRIPTION OF A SOCIAL SYSTEM OR CULTURAL BELIEF IN WHICH GENDER IS CLASSIFIED INTO TWO DISTINCT, OPPOSING FORMS OF MASCULINE AND FEMININE. THE GENDER BINARY IS WELL ESTABLISHED WITHIN WESTERN SOCIETY. HOWEVER, MANY INDIGENOUS CULTURES AROUND THE GLOBE HAVE HELD MORE FLUID AND DYNAMIC UNDERSTANDINGS OF GENDER.

QUESTIONS

- ARE THESE TERMS OR CONCEPTS FOUND IN THE BIBLE? IF
 SO, WHICH ONES?
- IF THE TERM TRANSGENDER DOES NOT EXIST IN THE BIBLE CAN A PERSON STILL FEEL A MISMATCH BETWEEN THEIR BIOLOGY SEX AND THEIR GENDER?
- WHAT DOES THE BIBLE ASK THIS PERSON TO DO?

WHAT OTHER RELIGIOUS LEADERS ARE SAYING ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY

GENDER IDENTITY AND THE BIBLE | MANY VOICES

- LINK: GENDER IDENTITY AND THE BIBLE | MANY VOICES
- Consider when God charged the prophet Samuel to find a new king. All the sons of Jesse were brought forward, and all appeared to Samuel more like a king than the small, ruddy youngster named David. But God declares to Samuel, "The Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1Samuel 16:7). The sex of a person may be culturally determined by externals, but Gender is a matter of the heart."
- THE WRITER OF THE GALATIAN PASSAGE, THE APOSTLE PAUL HIMSELF A JEWISH CHRISTIAN FREE MALE NEITHER DENIES NOR DIMINISHES VARIOUS IDENTITIES, BUT AFFIRMS HERE THAT UNITY IN SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY TRUMPS CULTURAL, ETHNIC, ECONOMIC, AND GENDER DIVISIONS FOR ALL ARE ONE.
 - "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:27-28)

GENDER IDENTITY AND THE BIBLE (PAGE 2)

- LINK: GENDER IDENTITY AND THE BIBLE | MANY VOICES
- IN ACTS 10 AND 11, PETER, "THE ROCK ON WHICH [CHRIST] WOULD BUILD [HIS] CHURCH," EXPLAINS TO THE FIRST CHURCH COUNCIL THAT HE COULD NOT REFUSE THE WELCOME OF BAPTISM TO THOSE THAT GOD HAD GIVEN "THE SAME GIFT THAT GOD GAVE US WHEN WE BELIEVED" (ACTS 11:14). FOR CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS, THIS MAY SERVE AS A MODEL FOR THE INCLUSION OF TRANSGENDER PEOPLE.
- Is this accurate or inaccurate reasoning? Why?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY? — PASTOR BRENDA WALKER

- Link: What does the Bible say about gender identity? Pastor Brenda Walker
- "IN GENESIS 1:27, "GOD CREATED MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE, IN THE IMAGE OF GOD HE CREATED HIM; MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM."
 - DOES THIS MEAN THAT GOD CREATED ONLY MALE AND FEMALE?
 - WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS
 - IN THE CREATION STORY, GOD CALLS THE LIGHT "DAY," AND THE DARKNESS "NIGHT." THERE IS EVENING, AND THERE IS MORNING THE FIRST DAY.
 - DOES THIS MEAN THAT THERE IS NOTHING OTHER THAN NIGHT AND DAY? NO. WE KNOW THERE IS ALSO TWILIGHT AND DAWN.
 - GOD CALLS THE DRY GROUND "LAND," AND THE GATHERED WATERS "SEAS."
 - DOES THIS MEAN THERE IS NOTHING BUT LAND AND SEA? NO. WE KNOW THERE ARE TIDE POOLS AND ICEBERGS AND MARSHES AND TUNDRA.
 - GOD CREATES PLANTS ON THE THIRD DAY AND ANIMALS ON THE FIFTH AND SIXTH DAYS.
 - DOES THIS MEAN THAT ALL CREATURES ARE EITHER PLANTS OR ANIMALS? NO. WE KNOW THAT THERE ARE MICROSCOPIC ORGANISMS WHICH DO NOT FIT NEATLY INTO THESE TWO CATEGORIES.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY? — PASTOR BRENDA WALKER

- Link: What does the Bible say about gender identity? Pastor Brenda Walker
- CONCLUDING QUESTION FROM THE AUTHOR: WHAT IF WE INFORMED OURSELVES WITH REGARD TO CONTEMPORARY DISCUSSIONS OF GENDER IDENTITY AND WELCOMED THOSE WHO WOULD TEACH US ABOUT THEIR PARTICULAR EXPERIENCE IN THE WORLD? WHAT IF WE CELEBRATED EACH PERSON'S UNIQUENESS WITH REGARD TO GENDER EXPRESSION AND IDENTITY?

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IS THIS ACCURATE OR INACCURATE REASONING? WHY?

SOME OTHER LINKS

- LINK: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY? (OPENBIBLE, INFO) THIS IS JUST A LIST OF PASSAGES. THERE IS NO COMMENTARY
- WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS THINK ABOUT GENDER | DENTITY | SSUES? | UNITED CHURCH OF GOD (UCG.ORG) THE OVERALL POINT IS THIS: GOD WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO DO THEIR BEST TO AVOID ANY CONFUSION OVER GENDER IDENTITY.
- WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT TRANSSEXUALISM / TRANSGENDERISM? IS GENDER IDENTITY DISORDER / GENDER DYSPHORIA THE RESULT OF SIN? | GOTQUESTIONS.ORG HOWEVER, JUST BECAUSE SOMETHING MIGHT HAVE A BIOLOGICAL CAUSE DOES NOT MEAN EMBRACING THE EFFECTS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO. SOME PEOPLE ARE WIRED WITH A SEXUALITY ON HYPER-DRIVE. THAT DOES NOT MAKE IT RIGHT FOR THEM TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL IMMORALITY. IT IS SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN THAT SOME PSYCHOPATHS/SOCIOPATHS HAVE BRAINS WITH SEVERELY WEAKENED IMPULSE-CONTROL MECHANISMS. THAT DOES NOT MAKE IT RIGHT FOR THEM TO ENGAGE IN EVERY DEVIANT BEHAVIOR THAT CROSSES THEIR MINDS.
- 7 FACTS ABOUT CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRANSGENDER DEBATE LIFEWAY VOICES WE SHOULD HATE THE SIN AND LOVE THE SINNER

QUESTIONS

- IS IT SINFUL TO CHANGE YOUR SEX VIA SURGERY OR ASSERT YOU ARE A DIFFERENT SEX?
- SHOULD YOU USE SOMEONE'S PREFERRED PRONOUNS?
- How should you treat a transgender person or a person with gender Dysphoria?
- HOW DOES MEDICAL RESEARCH/SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES CHANGE OR IMPACT YOUR ANSWERS ABOVE?

CONCLUSION

- A TRANSGENDER PERSON IS SINNING
- A PERSON WITH GENDER DYSPHORIA IS BEING TEMPTED TO SIN
- BOTH SHOULD BE LOVED, RESPECTED AS ONE WOULD WITH ANYONE ELSE WHO IS SINNING OR BEING TEMPTED TO SIN.
- USING THEIR PREFERRED PRONOUNS IS PARTICIPATING IN THEIR SIN. CALL THEM BY THEIR NAME INSTEAD.