

Masquerade: Unmasking the Lies We Believe – Gender Identity

- Just because our culture deems it necessary to change definitions doesn't mean Christians must embrace the cultural narrative.
- Our society has created a dual track society: either we endorse and condone someone's behavior or we hate them. Is there a third possibility? It's possible to love someone and not agree with them

1. What does the Bible say about our _____?

- For starters, our true identity has nothing to do with our chromosomes.
- 1 Peter 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
- Galatians 3:27-28 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

• God created us in _____.

Genesis 1:26-27 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." God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

- Genesis 1:27 says three critical things:
 - o God created human beings.
 - o God created human beings in His image.
 - o God created human beings as male and female.
- Colossians 3:10 [We] have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.

• God created _____ human beings.

Genesis 1:27 "...male and female He created them."

• Marriage is between a biological _____ and a biological _____.

Matthew 19:4-6 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, 5 and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'? 6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

- Romans 1:18-32

- **The issue isn't really about gender identity but _____ identity.**
 - Gender identity centers upon self. Spiritual Identity centers upon God.
 - Gender identity is a focus on feelings. Spiritual Identity is a focus on faith.
 - Gender identity is impacted by external circumstances. Spiritual Identity is impacted by biblical truth.
 - Gender identity is a changing variable determined by the trends and what society says about us. Spiritual Identity is an unchanging fact determined by our new birth and what God says about us.

2. How do _____ to the reality of today's gender confusion?

- **Our first response should be _____ and not revulsion.**
 - How does God feel about what's going on in this struggle for identity?
 - Romans 1:18 says "The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness..."
 - John 3:16 "For God so loved the world..."
 - Matthew 23:37 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.
- _____ **for those struggling with this issue.**

1 Timothy 2:1 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone.

Colossians 1:9-10 For this reason also, since the day we heard *of it*, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please *Him* in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- **People dealing with gender identity, homosexuality, etc. are people for whom _____.**

Romans 5:6-8 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- **We are all born with a nature to live _____ to God's will.**

Romans 5:6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Notice the word "helpless."

 - Here's a fact: we're all born with a _____.

- We don't ever condone sin, but we always promote grace and salvation through Jesus Christ.

Further Thought:

1. Do you embrace what God says about gender and human sexuality?
2. How do you draw a distinction between gender identity and spiritual identity? Do you find your identity in Jesus?
3. If you made a list of how to respond to someone struggling with gender identity, what would be the first four items on your list?
4. In helping someone deal with this challenge, it involves grace and truth, compassion and the Gospel. How could you communicate both to someone?

Videos:

Sexual Identity and Loving Our Neighbor:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&feature=shared&v=WPJDfcuY0bo>

The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITdvJNS16AI>

Books:

Rosaria Butterfield, *Five Lies of our Anti-Christian Age*

Joe Dallas, *Speaking of Homosexuality: Discussing the Issues with Kindness & Clarity*

PDF Articles – Free Download:

Parent's Guide to talk about Gender Identity: <https://childdiscipleship.com/resource/gender-identity-parent-guide/>