

LGBT AND THE CHRISTIAN

AN HONEST SCRIPTURAL DIALOGUE

THE HONEST TRUTH

- Over the past several decades, the LGBTQ+ movement has gained steam in the halls of both public opinion and political power.
- Our children are being taught by the school systems in which we live, as early as elementary school, that these ways of life are acceptable.
- The pressure of both the system and peers (encouraged by the system) is brought to bear upon any children who do not conform.

THE HONEST TRUTH

- If our children don't hear a Biblical perspective first, and earlier than we think they should, then their first impressions will be given by someone else.
- Some of our adults could also use a reminder of certain Biblical principles, as well.
- The truth is that these are actually two separate issues, although we will attempt to tackle them both today.

GOD'S DESIGN

- Leviticus 18 is the chapter in the Law of Moses regarding sexual ethics. There are many prohibitions.
- In the beginning of creation, however, what God made was “very good,” and that includes the various appetites that God created us to have.
- The appetite alone is not sinful (Song of Solomon); the sin comes with humanity’s perversions of these appetites.

GOD'S DESIGN

- 1 Corinthians 6:9 and 1 Timothy 1:10 both mention male homosexual activity, and Romans 1:26 mentions female homosexual activity.
- The only sexual activity ever approved of in Scripture is the monogamous heterosexual congress of one man and one woman united in marriage, and that is given a place of celebration and honor.

GOD'S DESIGN

- Notice what is condemned in Scripture:
 - Actions (previous references, among others).
 - Fantasies (Matthew 5:27-30).
- Suffering from temptation is never condemned in Scripture. Only succumbing to it is.

GOD'S DESIGN

- We all have weaknesses.
- Some people have a problem remaining monogamous.
- That doesn't make their adultery any less sinful than another person's.
- Sin is sin, no matter who does it, and no matter whether one person is particularly weak to that sin or not.

GOD'S DESIGN

- Matthew 19:26 - “There are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it.”
- Being tempted by sexual attraction to a person of the same sex may not be sinful. Indulging in it certainly is.

GOD'S DESIGN

- Self-control is a part of the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:23) and the Divine Nature (2 Peter 1:6).
- There is a place in God's kingdom for people who struggle with same-sex attraction. Self-control is just as important for him or her as it is for the rest of us.

“TRANS” IN THE BIBLE

- I often hear the challenge, “the Bible doesn’t say anything about transgender issues!”
- This is correct only in the sense that it never uses the words transgender or transexual.
- The Bible actually mentions this multiple times.
- The phrase “cult prostitute” is used, but the best translation would actually be transexual.

“TRANS” IN THE BIBLE

- The references are found in the following verses:
 - Deuteronomy 23:17-18.
 - 1 Kings 14:24; 15:12; 22:46
 - 2 Kings 23:7
 - Job 36:14

“TRANS” IN THE BIBLE

- The “cult prostitutes” referred to here are most likely the cult prostitutes of Ishtar/Astarte/Ashtaroth/Asherah.
- The pagan “goddess” was worshipped popularly from c. 3500 BC to some time in between the 1st and 5th centuries AD.
- She originated in Mesopotamia, but spread all over the ancient Near East.

“TRANS” IN THE BIBLE

- Ishtar was a deity that, according to followers, could shift her gender at will.
- Her male priests would dress as women, and live in society as women, and were often considered a “third gender” by dwellers in the ancient Near East.
- They bore the names “assinnu” and “kurgarru” in ancient Mesopotamia.

“TRANS” IN THE BIBLE

- The Greeks, however, gave them another name: μαλακός, or “soft man.”
- This word appears on the list of sinful activities not compatible with New Covenant lifestyles in 1 Corinthians 6:9, which the KJV translates as “effeminate.”
- Deuteronomy 22:5 states, “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.”

“TRANS” IN THE BIBLE

- This verse is about presenting yourself as something other than what you are.
- The Bible glorifies both sexes, and encourages us to learn to take pleasure (in a godly way) with what God has given us.
- Why do people seek to change their gender?
- These souls are in severe psychological and emotional trauma.

“TRANS” IN THE BIBLE

- Society (Satan, “the god of this world” cf. 2 Corinthians 4:4) has convinced them that this will help them feel better about themselves.
- Jesus came to heal, and the Gospel works to reconcile.
- A person who changes their gender disguises the problem. He or she doesn't truly solve it. The Gospel can heal the pain inside, if they let it, and if we show them.

THE BOTTOM LINE

- Lady Gaga's song, "Born This Way" has become an anthem for the LGBTQ+ movement. The chorus contains the following lines:
- I would say God does, indeed, make no mistakes.
- God, however, didn't "make you gay." Satan tempted you with same-sex attraction.
- God didn't "make you female/male inside." Satan tempted you by teaching you that pretending to be something you aren't would solve your problems.

*“I’m beautiful in my way
‘Cause God makes no mistakes
I’m on the right track, baby
I was born this way”*

-Lady Gaga, “Born This Way”

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