

Midtown Messenger

Volume 1

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Issue 33

The Transgender Question (part 3)

Ronnie Scherffius

Transgenderism is sinful wickedness! God created man (*humanity*) in His own image; He created them male and female; He looked upon His creation and saw that “it was very good” (Gen. 1:31); He forms man in the womb (Isa. 44:24); He fashions us in the womb (Job 31:13-15); God is the potter man is the clay and we are the work of His hands (Isa. 64:8). From the beginning God created and in the beginning God set forth His order of things. Man has no right to change God’s natural order including the gender which he was born! Such an act puts one under condemnation for it constitutes one acting as god over his own body!

To further demonstrate the sinfulness and the sheer folly of the Transgender Question consider the fact that it is a biological impossibility for a person to change their gender! What makes a male a male and what makes a female a female? Yes, there are physical differences but there are also emotional, hormonal, and biological differences. Just considering the physical differences, common sense demands that “transgendering” is ridiculous on its face. Contrary to one popular idiom it is not “the clothes that make the man!” A man adorned in woman’s clothing is still a man. A woman adorned in men’s clothing is still a woman. Neither does surgery nor hormone injections, though they may impact the physical appearance of a person, alter one’s true gender. If a hunter kills a doe during a buck only hunt, duct-tapes antlers on its head and tries to pass it off as a “male deer” - how will the state respond?

Just adding or removing body parts does not change a person’s gender. To demonstrate

this fact, consider eunuchs of ancient times. A eunuch was a man who was castrated, typically early enough in his life for this change to have major hormonal consequences. The roll of a eunuch was either to guard the bed of the king’s wife or to oversee the king’s treasures. Did such an *operation* change the man from a male to a female? Inspiration answers this question with a resounding NO! Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, children of Judah carried away into Babylonian captivity were made eunuchs and were continually thereafter referred to in the male gender! (Dan. 1:8; 10:10-11; et al). Additionally, we read in the New Testament of Phillip preaching Christ to a eunuch. This eunuch is introduced as “a man of Ethiopia” (Acts 8:27) and is continually referred to in the male gender throughout the text (cf. Acts 8:27-32, 36-39). The Bible clearly teaches that a male deprived of “male body-parts” remains a male.

It is also worthy to note that the Bible addresses the practice of one gender wearing the clothing of the opposite gender: “The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman’s garment: for ***all that do so are abomination*** unto the Lord thy God” (Deut. 22:5). One commentary remarks on this verse, “The adoption of the apparel of the one sex by the other is an outrage on decency, obliterates the distinctions of nature by fostering softness and effeminacy in the man, impudence and boldness in the woman as well as levity and hypocrisy in both; and, in short, it opens the door to an influx of so many evils that all who wear the dress of another sex are pronounced ‘an abomination unto the Lord’” (*Jameison, Fausset, Brown*

Commentary, Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible).

Paul McHugh, who served 40 years as University Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Medical School has studied people who claim to be transgender. In an article titled *Transgenderism: A Pathogenic Meme* (thepublicdiscourse.com/2015/06/15145/) the eminent professor wrote: "The basic assumption of the contemporary idea that the exchange of one's sex is possible is **false**... Transgendered men **do not** become women, **nor** do transgendered women become men. All become feminized men or masculinized women, **counterfeits or impersonators of the sex with which they 'identify'**." Dr. McHugh is harshly critical of those who recommend surgery or hormones for "gender dysphoria" (the official psychiatric term for transgenderism) stating, "it belongs in the family of similarly disordered assumptions about the body, such as anorexia nervosa and body dysmorphic disorder (imaginary defects in one's appearance). Its treatment (of gender dysphoria) **should not** be directed at the body as with surgery and hormones any more than one treats obesity-fearing anorexic patients with liposuction. The treatment should strive to correct the false, problematic nature of the assumption and to resolve the psychosocial conflicts provoking it. With youngsters, this is best done in family therapy." Dr. McHugh further affirms that transgenderism should be "**confronted as an opinion without biological foundation** wherever it emerges."

What makes a male a male are the YX chromosomes in his body and what makes a female a female are the XX chromosomes in her body. No amount of surgery or hormones can change chromosomes! If a transgender woman dies in a fiery car crash and an autopsy is performed - it will be revealed that a man **not** a woman died in the crash. We will die the gender we are born. Since no man can change his gender, any man who identifies with the female gender and portrays himself as a woman is lying and seeking to deceive. Since no man can change his gender, any transgender woman who has sexual relationship with a man is committing the

abomination of homosexuality. Since no man or woman can change their gender, all transgender peoples openly seek to pervert nature over which God alone has authority and over which He rules - thus making themselves a god of their own bodies. Transgenderism is a perversion of God's created nature. It is a violation of the natural order of which God is the Sovereign. An intentional defilement of God's creation.

Getting Serious

Accomplished gymnast Mary Lou Retton once explained, "Here's what it takes to be a complete gymnast. Someone should be able to sneak up and drag you out at midnight, push you out on some strange floor, and you should be able to do your entire routine sound asleep in your pajamas. Without one mistake. That's the secret. It's got to be a natural reaction."

True success only comes through effort. Yet most people aren't willing to put in the work. Sadly, this is often most true with Christianity. For many, being a Christian isn't really who they are, it's just something they like to be. Somehow we are just hoping we will magically become spiritually successful. The effort we're putting in often comes nowhere near to the goal we're aiming for. Similar to Mary Lou Retton, the effort we put into being a "complete Christian" should be enormous. We should be able to quote Scripture in our sleep. We should have well throughout out, practiced defenses against sin. Being a Christian should be an intimate, innate, natural reaction throughout the day.

Christianity shouldn't be a half-hearted add-on. Spiritual commitment shouldn't be an afterthought. Loyalty to God shouldn't be a side-note. We should hold ourselves to the highest standards for His name (Philippians 3:7-8). Our devotion should be constant (Luke 9:23). Our commitment should be unwavering (Psalm 51:10). Our loyalty should be solid and immovable (Psalm 1:1-3). Our honor, praise, and respect for the Lord should be sincere and heartfelt (Romans 12:1-2). And the time and effort we put forth towards these goals should be enormous (1 Corinthians 15:58).

It's worthwhile to take a hard look at ourselves. Are we the Christians we want to be? Are we the followers we should be? Is following Christ a natural reaction?

If not, then it's time to change. It's time to get serious.

- Selected-

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

Week of October 28, 2018

Sunday Morning:

Announcements: Bryant Siegel
Scripture Reading: Isaac Jobs

Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread: Mark FitzSimmons
Fruit of the Vine: Clifton Rutherford
Offering: Dennis Bryson
Assist: Kirk FitzSimmons, Sammy Scherffius, BJ Davis

Sunday Evening: Mark FitzSimmons, Clifton Rutherford

Prayer

A.M. Opening: Bryant Siegel
A.M. Closing: Mike Atkinson
P.M. Opening: Bryant Siegel
P.M. Closing: Don Lynn

Ushers: Don Lynn
Allen Clifton

Wednesday Devotional: Kevin Sheeran

Open/Close Building: Willie & Hellen Cannady

Sound System: Curtis Scherffius

Greeters:

Allen Clifton
Don Lynn

Prepare Communion: Millie Jamison

We are planning ahead for our Southwest Lectureship that the MidTown congregation will be hosting in February 2019. If you would like to host a student, please see Ronnie Scherffius.

Everyone is welcomed to participate in our Trunk or Treat this evening after worship. There will be a devotional and pizza for the children while adults decorate and setup their vehicles.



IN NEED OF PRAYERS:

LES DALTRY, who is at DeTar Hospital Navarro, Rm. 327 with back pain.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 28: Trunk or Treat
Oct. 30: Ladies/Men's Bible Classes
Nov. 4: Combined Jr/Sr and Forever Young group devotional at the building

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Happy Birthday: Holden Jacobs (30)

Happy Anniversary: Phillip & Nicolette Garcia (29)

To Our Visitors: We welcome you to our service. Perhaps this is the first time you have visited us. It is our desire to have you return often and give us a chance to become better acquainted with you. You will find visitor cards on the back of the pew in front of you. Please fill one out.

KEEP IN PRAYER

MIDTOWN MEMBERS

Jeff Cannady	Della Rampley
Dee Gilpatrick	Clark Withers
Ann Pantel	

SHUT-INS

Faye Henderson	Sandy Malone
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FRIENDS & FAMILY

Victor Benitez (brother of Virginia Escojido)	Vikram Gottam (brother-in-law of Archana Verma)
Kim Neel-Farthing (daughter of Joyce)	Antonio Benitez (brother of Virginia Escojido)

If you would like to add or remove a name on the "Keep in Prayer" List, please see Nina Siegel.

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

Minister: Ronnie Scherffius
Secretary: Nina Siegel

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00AM
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00AM
Sunday Evening Worship: 5:00PM
Wednesday Bible Class: 7:00PM

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Week of October 21, 2018

Bible Class.....120
A.M. Worship.....153
P.M. Worship.....95
Wednesday Bible Study.....84

Offering \$4,749

QUICK REFERENCE

Use this quick reference to help you grow in knowledge:

Husbands

Man created first.....Gen. 2:7
Gen. 2:24; Mat. 19:6, Eph. 5:25-29



SUPPORTED WORKS

India - Mani Pagidipalli
New Zealand - James & Emily Cammock
Bible Land Passages - John & Carla Moore
Southwest School of Bible Studies - Cody Kilgore

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