

An Unnatural Desire

Introduction. For the last three years, the dominating cultural issue in America has been transgender bathrooms. You will probably remember that last November Houston repealed their so-called “bathroom bill” extending civil rights protection to public facilities (including restrooms) on the basis of gender identity. Last week, the Obama administration issued the recommendation to all public schools that transgender students must be allowed to use the bathroom of their choosing. The directive has caused fury among lawmakers across the nation. A group of Republican Oklahoma lawmakers introduced a resolution this past Thursday urging the state’s congressional delegation to start an effort to impeach President Obama over the White House’s directive. Do you ever ask yourself why in the world and who in the world decided to pick up an issue that affects one-tenth of 1% of the population and make it an issue that illustrates how, in their minds, America discriminates and is unfair? This feels like government pushing the envelope to see how much it can fundamentally transform America against the people’s will and against the protections guaranteed by the federal and state constitutions.

Regardless of the political overtones, with transgenderism we are being told that people can choose their gender and the rest of the world must celebrate them for their heroism. Transgenderism has a scientific sounding name: “Gender Identity Disorder” or Gender dysphoria. An official label makes people feel better about promoting it. Those who oppose transgenderism are called bigots, ignorant, narrow-minded, hateful, evil, and homophobes. But what does the Bible say?

I. Arguments In Defense Of Transgenderism

- A. A transgender person will say, “God made me this way.”
 1. Those who make this claim accept no responsibility for their actions and choices.
 - a) To suggest that they were not “made this way” would make it a choice.
 - b) It is much easier to say that their biology and nature is haywire.
 2. This is an attempt to garner as much sympathy as possible.
 - a) They cannot “help” being what they are. Their bodies are born one gender while in their mind they are the opposite gender.
 - b) They are forced to go against their own personal “natures” and conform to society’s expectations, or they must be “true to themselves” and live the gender they believe they really were meant to be.
 - c) What they are really saying is that God made a mistake with some people.
 3. Not everything people want to be and do is “natural.” Some actions are “against nature” and are evil (Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9; 11:14-15).
 - a) Two words are important in 1 Corinthians 6:9: “effeminate” and “abusers of themselves with mankind.”
 - b) An “effeminate” man is the submissive homosexual partner and an “abuser” is the aggressive homosexual partner.
 - c) Both are unnatural, no matter how socially acceptable they become or how much sinful men like to engage in them.

4. God's design for nature includes the genders of males and females, and that design is often repeated in the Bible (Genesis 1:27; 5:2; Matthew 19:4; 1 Corinthians 11:7-10).
- B. A transgender person will say, "I am a man in a woman's body (or woman in a man's body)."
1. People who defend transgenderism do not believe our physical bodies and chromosomes make us male and female.
 - a) They argue that gender is based on one's own feelings (which they call gender identity) and their own desires and choices.
 - b) When a boy dresses like a girl and takes hormones to suppress his masculine features, he is simply expressing his "real self."
 - c) When that boy becomes a man and has surgery to take off his male physical characteristics, he is simply correcting what nature got wrong.
 2. The Bible says that males and females are biologically different from one another. The differences were not based on feelings or desires.
 - a) God made a female companion for Adam (Genesis 2:22-23). Eve was taken from his body, she was physically and emotionally different than Adam, and she was comparable to him.
 - (1) This establishes the principle of gender. God brought "her" to the "man" and Adam said, "She shall be called woman because she was taken out of man."
 - (2) It is significant that God made a mate who was opposite gender to Adam. Why did not God make Adam another male? Because Adam did not need a buddy, he needed a mate, someone with whom he could procreate.
 - b) Women have a womb in which children develop and grow (Genesis 25:23). Men do not have this physical characteristic.
 - c) Women have an issue of blood which lasts roughly a week as part of the reproductive cycle (Leviticus 15:19). Men do not and cannot have a menstrual flow.
 - d) Men produce the necessary catalyst for reproduction (Leviticus 15:16). Women cannot inseminate themselves.
 - e) Sarah nursed her child Isaac (Genesis 21:7). Only women can produce milk for the nourishment of their babies. Men cannot.
 - f) Women have breasts which not only nourish children, but which are sexual in nature (Proverbs 5:19). Men do not have this ability.
 3. God genetically created all of these differences in males and females. These differences are physical, obvious, and cannot be denied.
 - a) In humans, each cell in the body has 23 pairs of chromosomes for a total of 46 chromosomes.
 - b) Twenty-two of the chromosomes are called "autosomes" and are the same in males and females.
 - c) But the 23rd pair are the sex chromosomes and these are different and determine gender.
 - (1) Women have two pairs of X chromosomes or XX.
 - (2) Men have one X and one Y chromosome or XY

4. Surgeons can change the human anatomy, but they cannot change gender.
 - a) Doctors can take breasts off of women and remove their wombs, but they are still women; they are just cut up women.
 - b) Doctors can put saline pouches into men's chests to give the appearance of breasts, and they can remove sex organs, but they cannot make a male a female. Men who undergo this surgery are cut up men.
5. Famous cases from today like Bruce (Caitlyn) Jenner or Jared (Jazzy) Jennings do not disprove God's design for gender:
 - a) These cases get lots of air time and much media sympathy, but are not "success stories" of people who are brave enough to be themselves.
 - b) They are living in open rebellion against God and His laws with the aid of their families, the media, and Hollywood.
- C. A transgender person will say, "I am what I think I am."
 1. We live in a time when the only true evil is to proclaim a single standard of authority and to say that those who do not follow those standards are wrong (Matthew 7:21-23; John 12:48).
 2. How far are we going to take this philosophy?
 - a) What if a man says, "I am a 16-year-old boy in an old man's body, and I am attracted to 16-year-old girls"? Will society defend his right to dress like a 16-year-old and date 16-year-old girls?
 - b) What if a woman says, "My true self is a baby" and she wears diapers, eats baby food, talks like a baby, and wants people to change her diaper? Will society defend her right to behave in his manner, or will she be told she needs to grow up or get mental help?
- D. A transgender person will say, "I knew from my earliest childhood that I was the opposite gender."
 1. To many people today, this settles the whole issue. Whenever a person says with supreme confidence that they just "knew" something from their first moments of consciousness, the debate is over; it must be so, and you do not have any right to argue it with them.
 - a) A man might say, "I remember when I was three years old I just felt like a girl."
 - b) A woman might say, "When I was five, I just felt like a boy, and hated wearing dresses."
 - c) But how many of us just knew what we were from our earliest days, only to face reality later on?
 2. Transgender advocates will scold us for daring to equate their "profound sexual identity issues" in the same realm as childhood imagination and fantasy.
 - a) But, the truth is, they made this an issue of childhood imaginings.
 - b) A boy who really wants to wear dresses is to be respected and taken shopping in the girls' department, but a boy who believes he can fly is to be scolded.
 - c) How do any of us really know what part of a child's mind is anything more than imagination and fantasy (Proverbs 22:15; 29:17)?

II. Peripheral Questions

- A. Should not everyone be free to be happy?
 - 1. We are told that heterosexuals get to be happy. Why should not transgender people also be allowed to be happy?
 - 2. Men who are happy being men and women who are happy being women is fine, but society says that males who believe they are females should not be locked into fulfilling societies arbitrary rules and religion's dogmas.
 - 3. Where does true joy come from? The Bible says it comes from the Lord (Philippians 3:1; 4:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:16).
- B. Why should transgender people have to suffer such misery?
 - 1. We are told that transgender people suffer terrible emotional harm from being forced to live a gender they do not want to live.
 - 2. Sin is what causes the suffering in life, not God's righteous laws (Psalm 51:8; 1 Timothy 4:2).
- C. Should not parents nurture their children's personal development by supporting their choices?
 - 1. This is a testament to the corrupt view of the world about the home. Parents are not teachers and trainers of their children anymore; society wants parents to be cheerleaders and indulgers of every whim their children have.
 - 2. The role of parents is to train their children (Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4).
 - a) The attitude which says, "Let your child discover his own path" is alien to the Scriptures.
 - b) God's Word teaches that parents are tasked with teaching, leading, and pointing the way to God.
 - c) Our duty is not to walk admiringly behind our kids as they plunge headlong into Hell.
- D. Does not everyone deserve to love someone and marry?
 - 1. In short, no. Where in the Scriptures is it ever taught that everyone has the right to marry, or that God cares about human happiness so much that He wants everyone to love someone and get married?
 - 2. The law of God teaches that some people cannot marry. Their personal happiness is beside the point (Matthew 5:31-32; 19:9; Romans 7:1-2; 1 Corinthians 7:10).
 - 3. Likewise, a male cannot declare himself a female and chase after another male for marriage purposes. Some people must simply content themselves living a single life.

Conclusion. I cannot conclude this study without a reference to the fundamental truth that the Bible says that none of us are held captive to a sinful nature to which we must simply accept and adapt (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). We are taught to flee immorality, and everyone can — even homosexuals, sodomites, and transgender people.

I am deeply indebted to David Weak's for the use of his material