

Biblical Worldview: Transgenderism

In 1976 Bruce Jenner won the gold medal at the Montreal Olympics in the decathlon. He underwent an identity change (Caitlyn Jenner) and was named 2015 Woman of the Year by Glamour Magazine.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=211M4RJ6d4> Dove Soap Commercial

The embracing of the LGBTQ (acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning) culture as the new societal norm is a radical shift from what had been the recognized Christian ethic since our founding as a nation.

- Marriage is only between a man and a woman
- Sexual activity is restricted to marriage
- Children brought up by their own parents
- Human beings are either male or female at birth

Those who hold these convictions are considered out dated; they are a form of discrimination; labeled as bigots, homophobic, transphobic, hate speech.

Love is redefined as uncritical affirmation; hate is defined as any other opinion

How did we move so rapidly from a biblical to a secular worldview on these issues?

Following a timeline of events helps us get a historical perspective of the cultural shift.

1960 The birth control pill was introduced as a form of contraceptive. The sacredness of sex was removed and the possibility of pregnancy radically reduced.

1969 Ronald Reagan (as Governor of California) signed the first state law enacting “no fault” divorce. Previously a spouse had to prove cruelty, abandonment, or adultery. Divorce was celebrated as liberation rather than a biblical violation.

By 1980 divorce rates doubled. Currently rates are down but cohabitation is up. Less and less people are getting married.

1973 The Supreme Court endorses abortion (Roe VS Wade decision) – The pill separated sex and procreation; abortion separated pregnancy from responsibility. We could now simply disregard unwanted children.

“The sexual revolution sacrificed the sanctity of human life on the altar of sexual progression and liberation.” -Al Mohler

2015 The Supreme Court (5-4 decision) recognized same-sex marriage in all 50 states.

2017 Facebook provided 71 different gender options on individual profiles.

The line of biblical truth about identity, marriage, and family were not merely blurred but completely erased.

*In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes. **Judges 21:25** (NLT)*

What are some key terms in helping us understand the gender debate?

1. Gender Theory – We have a basic “gender identity” which is independent from our biological sex. Our chromosomes determine our sex (xx, xy) but our feeling determine our gender.
2. Gender dysphoria – A condition where a person senses that their gender identity may not align with their biological sex. This is an issue where people genuinely struggle.

How you explain the struggle determines how you deal with the issue.

- The struggle is the result of the Fall of Man (sin nature) – The gospel
 - The struggle is the result of society perceptions – Change society
3. Transgenderism – Active attempt to align gender identity with the preferred biological sex (hormone injections, sexual reassignment surgery, preferred pronouns).

*You can change your appearance but not your sex. Every cell in your body contains the DNA of xx or xy.

What is the spiritual under current driving the disintegration of family and society?

We need to recognize that there are spiritual forces at work (Eph 6:12) as well as fallen nature of every human being (Rom 5:12).

1. Human beings are created in God's image

*Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. **Gen 1:26-28** (NIV)*

God created a binary gender for the purpose of procreation, complementation, and a covenant relationship picturing Christ and His Church (Eph 5:22-33).

2. Human beings sought independence from God

*"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." **Gen 3:4-5** (NIV)*

The image of the Creator in human beings became distorted as sin infected and affected every aspect of man from his body, thoughts, and emotions.

3. Human beings worship the creature instead of the Creator

*They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. **Romans 1:25** (NLT)*

The autonomy of the individual took precedence over the authority of Scripture.

- In the 19th and 20th centuries it was human reason over divine revelation.
- In the 21st century it is human feelings over faith in the Word of God.

Liberal theology has been a willing accomplice to the erosion of biblical authority with a greater commitment to social justice than to doctrinal truth. In an effort to become culturally relevant instead of faithful to the Word.

"Churches will continue to hemorrhaging members until we face the truth; being a faithful Christian does not mean accepting everything the Bible teaches." -Oliver Thomas (Baptist Minister: USA Today, 2018)

Does it really matter? Can't we just let people be who they want to be?

If we lived in isolation, then we could co-exist, but we live in community where ideas are implemented. A Biblical worldview and a Secular worldview are not compatible.

If the transgender view becomes the predominant secular worldview:

- Shared locker rooms, bathrooms, and prison facilities
- No distinction in athletic contests – Ill. Martina Navratilova
- Revamping of the dictionary and the usage of gender pronouns
- Elimination of freedom of religion (hate speech)
- Education of children without parental control

The Gender Fairy by Jo Hirst is a simple story about two children...who are taking their first joyful steps toward living as their true selves.

“Only you know whether you are a boy or a girl. No one can tell you.”

What is the biblical response in the age of cultural chaos?

1. Live by biblical convictions

*Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. **2 Cor 6:17** (NLT)*

2. Be ready to share the hope of the gospel

*Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. **1 Pet 3:15** (NLT)*

3. Create a church culture of hope and healing – We need to be ready to receive the refugees of the sexual revolution.

Every person who lives outside God's design is headed for destruction and despair.

“We are doomed if we believe that our identity can be recovered by surgery or therapy. In the end, only the God who made us in the beginning, can give us authentic identity.” -Al Mohler