

What Does Transgender Mean?

Oxford online dictionary definition presents transgender as "denoting or relating to a person whose sense of personal identity and gender does not correspond with their birth sex."ⁱ Transgenderism is manifested in several ways ranging from sex reassignment surgeries, chosen pronouns (he or she), desire or request to use items of supposed rather given sexuality. Transgenders believe that there chosen (other than those at birth) sexuality is OK based on their feelings and that no one should speak otherwise.

Elementary genetics reveals that there is clear distinction between the male and female chromosomes (a DNA and protein structure that is present in cells and that organizes the DNA into separate group that controls its genes and expressions) and that these chromosomes cannot be changed. A question then that lingers with the practice of transgenderism is: to what extent is the chromosome of a transgendered person changed into the preferred sex by the process of sex reassignment surgery?

Biblical Response to Transgenderism

Fortunately, human sexuality is not fluidic, to allow for a transfer from male to female and vice versa. Humans are created or born with definite sexuality (male of female) from the inception of life (Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7, 18-23). We do not determine our sexuality; it is a divine prerogative (Genesis 1:27) interwoven in nature. The present day understanding and practice of transgenderism on the contrary

presupposes that gender is fluidic and can be transferred at any point in life from male to female or female to male. This behavior is contrary to nature and certainly carries some adverse consequences

The Bible is clearly against transgender behaviors in all of it forms. In the days of prophet Isaiah, the LORD declared: "Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?p" Isaiah 45:9. Here, God does not only condemn the behavior but pronounce woe on anyone who engages in this immoral practice.

Transgenderism is human assertion of wisdom above the wisdom of God.

Transgenderism in effect says that God has made a mistake with human sexuality and therefore a person is "trapped" in the wrong sex or body and hence the justification to transgender into the opposite sex. But here comes a probing question, "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" 1 Cor 2:16. Moreover the Scriptures declares that even the "foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men" 1 Corinthians 1:25.

God desire a distinction between male and female sex when He, "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." Deut 22:5. This is in keep with His blueprint for human sexuality from the beginning.

The intrusion of sin (Genesis 3) has almost completely mere and altered God's blueprint for human life. Sin, working in and through the human flesh has immensely tainted God's plan. In fact, all creation is involved and longing for redemption: "For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.²³Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. Romans 8:22-23.

In Galatians 5:19-21, the Bible postulates, Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: ^[d]adultery, ^[e]fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

envy, ^[f]murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like...."

It is no surprise that innumerable sexual dysfunction, including gender dysphoria now exist in human society. Transgenderism is one of the many sexual vices now common in human relationships. "An enemy" has certainly done this as Christ remarked in His parable of the weeds among the wheat (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43).

Human sexuality is a physiological design, not psychological. It is not determined by feelings, rather is biological process. Therefore, what and how I feel cannot transform my sexuality. Our sexuality is predetermined from birth and cannot be altered. "So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He

created them" Genesis 1:27.

God Loves for the Transgender

God loves transgenders. Transgender lifestyle is part of the sin for which Jesus Christ was crucified. As with any other sinner, God hates the sin (whether idolatry, killing, adultery, sorcery, stealing, bearing false witness and so on) we commit, but loves us. God loves transgenders as much as He does love sinners of other sorts. All the biblical texts that express God's love and the plan of redemption indicate that God is able and has indeed forgiven humans of all manner of sins throughout human history including homosexuality. God loves homosexuals even though He hates the sin of homosexuality and so must we.

How Should We Deal With Transgenders

To this point, it may seem that transgenders should be treated as outcasts. On the contrary I say NO. Transgenders deserve love. They are equally humans, created in the "image" and "likeness" of God as heterosexuals (Gen 1:26-27). Here are some ways in which heterosexuals and especially believers in Christ should deal with homosexuals:

- Love them. Love was Jesus' strategy for winning sinners and its efficacy remains. Jesus did not isolate sinners; instead He mingled with them and loved them (John 1:14; 3:16-17).
- Pray for them. Prayer changes things and God is eager to answer the sincere intercessory prayers of His children in behalf of the sinners (James 5:16-18).

- Point out their error in love. When people know that they are loved, even the fiercest criticisms are easily absorbed (Matt 16:23; 2 Sam 12:7-15).
- Do not judge them. Judgment is exclusively a divine prerogative (Matt 7:1-2).
- Encourage them that they can overcome their homosexual behaviors through the power of Jesus Christ (Phil 4:13; 2 Cor 5:17).

Finally

Transgenderism is not a natural sexual orientation as some people claim; rather, it is sin-made, a departure from the natural order-a rebellion against God. When God created the first humans (Adam and Eve) as recorded in Genesis 1:26-28, their sexes were definite and fixed.

The destiny of many (including sincere people who have been misled) is at stake. This is a mater in which none should seek to be politically correct. It is required of every believer in Christ to be biblically faithful. Sin must be called by its right name irrespective of who is involved. Homosexuality is a SIN, an abominable sin (Lev 20:13). But, THERE IS NO SIN THAT GOD IS NOT WILLING TO FORGIVE. The Scriptures declares: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" 1 John 1:9.

God expects His children to be like Him in dealing with transgendersloving and redemptive. God's children must be careful not to hate transgenders (the people), but to hate transgenderism practices (the act).

Transgenders are legitimate component of God's plan of redemption and ought to be given opportunities to experience the grace and goodness of God.

ⁱOxford Dictionary, Accessed on December 6, 2018 at: https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/transgender