

GOD and GENDER

Matthew 19:1-9

Introduction:

- The topic of divorce and remarriage
 1. We have dealt with in our study of Matt 5:31,32
 2. A two-part sermon about this subject can be viewed on our website under sermons 2018, May 20,27.
- Jesus made some statements that can help us deal with the issue of gender with which our society is wrestling. This message will be divided into three aspects:
 1. B___logical
 2. P_____logical
 3. S_____logical

Biological – every human has a God-given s_____ (4-6)

- Jesus quotes Gen 1:27 to state a biological fact that every human is either m_____ or f_____.
 1. G_____ mutations DO NOT challenge this truth (e.g. a person born with both male and female genitalia).
 2. We must a_____ the sex which God has assigned us
 - a. To deny your God-given sex is to deny the Creator's d_____
 - b. Denying your God-given sex does not c_____ the truth of your sex.
- Denying one's God-given sex is not a biological issue but a psychological one.

Psychological – the truth is in the God-given w_____ (7,8)

- Many psychologists make a distinction between sex and gender.
 1. They say that one's sex is objective - what you are b_____ with
 2. They say that gender is subjective – what you i_____ as (e.g. transgender). They have come up with _____ genders!
- Jesus made a statement to the Pharisees about divorce (v. 8)
 1. Moses never commanded divorce but p_____ a man to give a bill of divorce because of hardened hearts.
 2. The current practice of divorce was as d_____ from the Creator's original design – *from the beginning it has not been this way.*

- From the beginning, God has established how we are to v_____ others and ourselves. It is found in His word.
 1. When people make God's word secondary to psychology, culture, etc, they depart from His way.
 - a. Same-sex marriage – *from the beginning it has not been this way.*
 - b. Ordaining homosexual pastors – *from the beginning it has not been this way.*
 2. God's word must be the f_____ authority. God is the best psychologist, the best counselor.
- How does God view us?
 1. Every person born into this world is born under God's w_____ (Eph 2:3)
 2. All have s_____ by not glorifying God (Rom 3:23)
 3. We have a d_____ of sin that deserves the death penalty (Rom 6:23a)
 - a. Spiritual death – separation of the human spirit from G_____ Spirit (1 Cor 6:17)
 - b. Physical death – separation of the human spirit from the human b_____
 4. God loves people so much that He became man in the person of Jesus to p_____ for sin (Jn 1:1,14; Matt 20:28)
 5. All one needs to do is t_____ Jesus to be their God and Savior and eternal life is gained, which is a personal relationship with God through Jesus that lasts forever (Jn 3:16; 17:3).
 6. Those who trust in Jesus become a c_____ of God (Jn 1:12)
 7. He calls each believer a saint, a servant, a member of Christ's body and calls each one to r_____ their mind (Eph 4:17-24)
 - a. Why? – it has been c_____ by this world
 - b. How? – by putting on the new mind God has created and filling it with the truth of His word
- What must we do in light of how God views us?
 1. T_____ in the Creator who has fully revealed Himself in Jesus Christ (Jn 1:1-3,14)
 2. A_____ that what Jesus says is truth (Jn 14:6)
 3. A_____ on the truth, which is the Bible, allowing it to free you from confusion, lies, etc (Jn 8:31,32)

Sociological – every believer has a God-given r_____

- Our responsibility is not to c_____ to those with gender identity issues. This action has proven to be foolish.
 1. Target’s restroom policy
 2. Awarding scholarships to transgenders that are males who compete in girls’ high school sports.
- Our responsibility
 1. Parents must r_____ their children according to their God-given sex, not how they feel about themselves.
 - a. Don’t confuse gender identity with kids preferring an activity that is typically of the opposite sex.
 - 1) T_____ do not have a gender identity issue.
 - 2) Boys that prefer to sew and cook rather than help dad fix the car, do not have a gender identity issue.
 - b. This step would have prevented the problem of the parents who went to court over differences in treating their 7 year old (the mom wanted to treat him as a girl, the dad as a boy).
 2. Believers must be ready to minister to those with gender identity issues. What if one attends our church?
 - a. G_____ them just like you would anyone else.
 - b. T_____ them with love and respect.
 - c. P_____ for them as they are attending because they must be seeking spiritually.
 - d. Leadership should discuss with them any practices that might put them or others in the church in a “dicey” situation (e.g. use of the restroom).
 - e. Take opportunities to e_____ the person to accept Christ.
 - f. The above actions will help them realize how God views them and accept that view.

Conclusion:

This is a difficult subject to deal with, but it will be much more difficult to deal with those with gender identity issues. Are you ready? View them as God does and treat them like Jesus would.