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## Male And Female Created He Them

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them” (Gen 1:27). On the sixth day of creation, the Bible says God created a man. He made him male. God brought before man the animals, each of its kind, both male and female. Man recognized there was no one like him among the animals and so God took the man and from his rib made woman (Gen. 2:20-22). He made her female. Thus we see according to God’s pattern in creation there is, in respect to gender among mankind, male and female.

This concept is so simple even a child could understand it. Yet today it seems everywhere one turns in our country there are those who are intent on destroying not only the roles God has established for each gender, but the very concept of gender itself. Anyone who peruses the news will find many stories that demonstrate this problem. Some celebrated Chastity Bono’s decision to become “Chaz” and were lauding her appearance on “Dancing With The Stars.” A story earlier this year reported a lesbian couple in California giving

their eleven year old son hormone blockers to delay puberty because they say he wants to become a girl (Chiaramonte, Park). This is one of many articles one could find where parents in this country and others are engaged in what could only be called a “social” experiment with their children in regard to their gender.

There is no place for such according to the scriptures. One is born into this world either male or female. It is not a choice one gets to make. For a male to decide to become or to behave as female or vice versa is wrong. God has always distinguished between the sexes (Deu. 22:5; 1 Cor. 11:3-5; Eph. 5:22-23). Those who are male and would become female or vice-versa not only in their attire and manner but especially in their sexuality are practicing homosexuality which is condemned (Gen. 19; Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 6:9). Those who have fallen prey to these desires are precious souls who are being deceived by the world and its lusts (1 Cor. 4:4)! The gospel cries out for them to wake up, listen, and turn back before it is too late.

Recently a report on NPR cited a new

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study published in the American Sociological Review that found that “working mothers spend significantly more time multitasking at home than working dads. And those mothers aren't happy about it“(Neighmond). In fact the study found that “mothers spend 10 more hours a week multitasking compared to fathers and that these additional hours are mainly related to time spent on housework and child-care” (Offer, Schneider). Some of the working mothers in the study were so overwhelmed they described the hours when they arrived home from work, between 5 and 8 P.M. as the “arsenic hours” (Neighmond). Who among us is not touched by the plight of these working mothers and their families as more and more Americans have decided to have both mother and father working outside the home? What is the solution to this? According to the one of the researchers, Barabara Sneider, “employers could be more creative in scheduling, giving men more flexible hours and more time at home so that child care and household chores can be more equitably divided” (Neighmond).

This is just one of many examples where our culture seems to be blurring the distinction in gender; in effect, feminizing the male and masculinizing the female. How should we handle the stresses of our modern lives with its daily pressures? Don't misunderstand, there is certainly nothing wrong with a man helping out around the house but is that what we are seeing? Is that what the world is suggesting? No, the world says that now we should have the males to “guide the house” and be “keepers at home.” What does God say about this? We can easily open the Bible and see it doesn't explicitly forbid a women to work outside the home, but includes examples of that very thing (Act 16:14; 18:3). Many of-

fer the woman in Proverbs 31 as having some business that involved work outside of the home (Pro. 31:16, 24). Thus it can be demonstrated that women have in both the Old and New Testaments had work that was outside of the home. However, one would be wrong to conclude from this that a woman's chief sphere is a career outside the home similar to the man's role. This was never her primary role. Paul instructed Timothy to exhort young widows to, “marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully” (1 Tim. 5:14). Paul told Titus to exhort the older women to, “teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children. To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed” (Tit. 2:4-5). Even when one considers the virtuous example of the worthy woman in Proverbs 31, she was one who “looketh well to the ways of her household” (Pro. 31:27).

These aren't the opinions of a misogynist, but they are what God called, “sound doctrine” (Tit. 2:1). There is a difference between the role of a male and a female. We all understand this. For example, biologically, in regard to human reproduction, men cannot conceive and bear children, only women can. Nor are women fitted to take the male role in that process either. Likewise, men are not told to be “keepers at home” or to “guide the house” but instead they are to be the head of the house (Eph. 5:22-33)! Again, those who have fallen prey to the wisdom of this world and its desires are precious souls who are being deceived by the world and its lusts (1 Cor. 4:4)! Do not be deceived. While a woman may choose to and sometimes may even be forced to work outside the home that doesn't authorize her to neglect her role as a female. This is likewise true for

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**Would you like to receive the Exhorter every month?**

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the male. When one chooses to do something that causes the male or the female to neglect their God given roles such is wrong regardless of what the world might think or say!

God said it wasn't good for man to be alone (Gen. 2:18). He knows better than you or me. He made a helper to complement man and that was woman. God intended for males to be male and for females to be female. Let us trust God and not man. Let us respect God's design and purpose and glorify God in our bodies and perform our respective duties as men and women, boys and girls. Paul told the Colossians, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Col. 2:8). Let us look to God to guide us and not the wisdom of this world. – Phillip Stuckey

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## It's Just A Little Sin..

Let's play a game. The object of this game is to name a little sin. A small sin, nothing too big. Nothing that is really worthy of punishment. Nothing that God would disapprove of. Do you have your final answer? If you said, "There is no little sin", congratulations you're a winner! Unfortunately, not all think this way. We see such an example in the gospel of Luke.

Luke 18:10-14 states, "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Ever been the Pharisee in this story? We look at a homosexual, a rapist or a serial killer and say, "They are just so horrible, so dirty, so guilty of sin—I'm glad I'm not walking in their shoes!" If we haven't said it, then we've thought it. I'm convinced the reason why people believe this kind of

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thinking is because of humanism. Can you blame them? You go to jail for murder or stealing, but nothing happens when you lie to your parents, are unloving or unforgiving, or (unless caught) commit adultery. Hey, what the spouse doesn't know won't hurt, right? I mean let's be real, if I watch pornography I'm not hurting anyone, no one knows, I'm not breaking any laws, I have rights!

As I was listening to the radio the other day, one woman said, "cheating isn't a crime". She would be correct if you only regarded man's law. It's because man has "standards" or "laws" in which we are to abide by. And if an action, behavior, or liberty is not included in "man's law", then we have the right to do as we please. Or should I say, sin as we please. Yet as Christians, should we accept what society has deemed fit? The government has placed laws that are not to be crossed and when those lines are violated, we are punished with some form of earthly punishment. These boundaries include murderers, rapists, thieves, drug dealers, kidnappers, etc., but if I use profanity or watch rated R movies, I'm untouchable, no jail time for me! Again, "cheating isn't a crime". Is this really the kind of sick thinking people have? It's obvious that it is, and we as Christians aren't far behind this kind of thinking! It's because of humanism that we like to judge different sins as the world would judge them. There's nothing wrong with premarital sex as long as you practice "safe sex". Right? At least, that's what my friends have always told me. However the scriptures teach otherwise. The Bible says that not only is premarital sex a sin (Hebrews 13:4; I Corinthians 7:2; I Corinthians 6:9, 18) but that sin is sin. Let me say that again: For all of you who believe that you can lust after someone in your heart and that you haven't sinned like the guy over there awaiting the death penalty because he raped and killed ten women, SIN is SIN. Period.

"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness". 1 John 3:4 clearly states that sin is sin. No matter the sin, whether great or small, sin is lawlessness. That means, that when I speed, don't wear my seatbelt, and text while driving, that I'm breaking man's law (which is sin) and I'm just as guilty as the adulterer, thief, or murderer as far as God is concerned.

Yet, some Christians have the idea that it is not sin, but a "mistake." Sin is disobedience of God's law. It is a transgression (1 John 3:4), it is unrighteousness (1 John 5:17) and sin is an omission of doing what is right (James 4:17). God's word is very plain about sin. Sin will send a person to hell - even one sin will.

What I want every reader to realize is whether you are a rapist, a serial killer, or maybe you just stole a pack of cheese, lied to your parents, or maybe you simply just gossiped about your sister in Christ, that in God's eyes, sin is sin. There is no difference. When you get angry and sin, when you have hatred in your heart, when you are jealous of someone or something, or when you are unloving or unforgiving, you are just as guilty as the homosexual, the rapist, and the serial killer. Don't become just another product of the world and believe otherwise or you will commit every "small" and "little" sin known to God and send yourself straight to hell. – Bryan Garlock

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### **What Must One Do To Be Saved?**

**Hear – Matthew 17:5; Romans 10:17**

**Believe – John 8:24; Romans 10:9**

**Repent – Luke 13.3; Acts 2.38**

**Confess– Romans 10:9-10; Acts 8:37**

**Baptized– Mark 16.16; Acts 2:38**

**Live Faithfully – Revelation 2.10; 1 Corinthians 15:58**