

TRANSGENDER – WHAT THIS TRANSREALITY IS SUPPOSED TO BE

GOLDEN TEXT

“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh”. (Genesis 2:24)

USEFUL PRACTICE

Biblical sexuality is heterosexual, biologically defined as the divinely created sex.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 2:7, 18-25

7 Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

18 The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

19 Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.

20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found.

21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh.

22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

I) To explain that the transgender phenomenon encompasses issues of gender identity, distinctions between cisgender and transgender, and the issue of sexuality;

II) To reaffirm the biblical view of gender;

III) To list the effects of the transgenic ideology.

INTRODUCTION

Biblically, human beings have a biologically determined sex, of heterosexual conformation (Gen. 2:24). However, the deconstruction of values and sexual revolution present new forms of sexuality, among them, *transgenderism*. In this lesson, we will look at the characteristics of this phenomenon, the biblical view of sex, gender and the effects of transgender ideology. Our goal is to reaffirm God's will for human beings to live consistently with divine purpose through their biological sex.

I – UNDERSTANDING TRANSGENERITY THINKING

1. Gender identity. Gender identifies unequivocally male and female beings. However, in the 1970s, feminists used the term "gender" to differentiate it from anatomical "sex". The social sciences began to emphasize that the social behavior of the genders is established by the

culture and not by the biological characteristics of the sex. Thus, they argue that a person does not need to behave according to their birth sex. They claim that gender and sexual orientation are not determined by biological sex. In this case, they assess that the sexual relationship between male and female corresponds to social roles imposed by the cultural and social context, not by the anatomical and biological constitution of the human body. In this way, they validate any sexual behavior.

2. Cisgender and Transgender. In gender studies, two terms are used: “Cisgender” and “Transgender”. Cisgender refers to a person whose gender is in accordance with the sex at birth, that is, a female born with female sexual organ who is recognized as a woman and a male born with male sexual organ who is recognized as a man. Transgender (or Gender Dysphoria) classifies the person whose gender is in opposition to the sex at birth, that is, an individual who is born with male genital organ, but who is assumed to be a woman, or who is born with female genital organ, but who is assumed to be a man. These are people who claim to have been born in the wrong body and identify with a different gender than their biological sex. The social movement representing this group is called LGBTQIAPN+. This *cosmovision* ratifies the idea that gender identity is independent of biological sex.

3. Transgender and sexuality. For experts, a person's sexual orientation is defined according to the gender they identify with and which gender they are sexually attracted to, namely:

- (a) heterosexual, when the attraction is to the opposite gender;
- (b) homosexual, when the attraction is to the same gender;
- (c) bisexual, when the attraction is to both genders;
- (d) asexual, when there is no attraction to any gender;
- (e) pansexual, when attraction does not depend on gender. In addition to these categories, there are people who call themselves non-binary, who do not fit into any gender, neither male nor female. Thus, as in this ideology there is no connection between biological sex and gender, a person who identifies as transgender is freely open to all types of sexual relations.

II – REAFFIRMING THE BIBLICAL VISION OF GENDER

1. The biological constitution. From the Hebrew *adham*, man was formed from the damp dust of the ground (Genesis 2:7). Our Lord ratified that "at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female" (Mark 10:6). Our Statement of Fundamental Truths professes that human beings

are constituted of three substances, a physical one: body; and two immaterial ones: spirit and soul (1 Thess. 5:23; Hebrews 4:12). Thus, the physical body is the covering of the immaterial parts (Gen. 35:18; Dan 7:15). The gender of this body is defined by the genetically determined gender of creation: male or female (Gen. 1:27; 2:24). In this case, sex and gender are related to the organic characteristics of the body and genitals. It means that in divine creation, XY sex chromosomes determine the masculine sex (male) and XX determine the feminine sex (female).

2. The moral constitution. Man was created, among other things, in the image and moral likeness of God (Gen. 1:26, 27). However, sin corrupted the morality of mankind (Gen. 6:5). Therefore, in the divine plan, believers need to be renewed according to the original moral likeness (Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:10). This renewal is the work of the Holy Spirit who works within and promotes the sanctification of the spirit, soul and body (Rom. 8:2-5, 13, 14; 1 Thess. 5:23). Thus, the Scripture says to the saved, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body” (Rom. 6:12). Thus, illicit sexual practices are prohibited (Ex. 20:14; Rom. 1:26, 27). The Bible teaches that sexual immorality is an affront to the body, which is the temple and dwelling of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:18-20).

3. The constitution of sexuality. By creating human beings “male and female”, God also instituted sexuality (Gen. 1:27, 28). It has always been part of God's original creation for man to unite sexually in one flesh with his wife (Gen. 2:24). When addressing the subject, the Lord Jesus associated the anatomy of the sexes with the divine purpose of sexuality and reproduction (Matt. 19:4-6). A sexual relationship, as idealized by the Creator, provides for complete satisfaction between man and woman in the search for marital fulfillment and in the procreation of the species (Eccl 9:9; Ps. 127:3-5). The monogamous and heterosexual union represents the biblical model of sexuality (1 Cor. 7:3, 4). Thus, in the divine plan, sex, gender and sexuality are not mere stereotypes of a social construct, but are biologically constituted and intimately related.

III - EFFECTS OF THE TRANSGENDER IDEOLOGY

1. Deprecation of heterosexuality. We have seen that the model of sexuality in Scripture is heterosexual (Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5; Mark 10:7; Eph. 5:31). However, activists act to deconstruct biblical sexual orientation. In 1991, the term heteronormativity began to be used to disparage heterosexual practice. It is an indoctrination proposal to present the criticism that the recognition of the biological distinction between men and women, as an obvious fact of human development and reality, that is, heteronormativity (which is already an indoctrinating term), is an

oppressive and normative system in which people are forced to relate sexually only between men and women. In this sense, they accuse straight people of being prejudiced, discriminating and transphobic.

2. Construction of narratives. Trans militants allege that the subjectivity of someone feeling like a man or a woman must take precedence over biological aspects. In that sense, they rebel against their own biological makeup. So, in order to adjust the body's dissatisfaction with the mind, hormone therapy and sex reassignment surgery are required as alleged solutions. This is so serious that education and public health activists end up imposing their indoctrination on children and adolescents. In the search for social acceptance, they spread the idea of being born in the wrong body. On the other hand, in 2017, the American Association of Pediatricians (American College of Pediatricians) published that:

(a) conflicts between mind and body must be corrected by aligning gender (mind) with anatomical sex (body), and not by making invasive interventions in the body;

(b) boys are not born with a female brain and girls are not born with a male brain; and

(c) the idea of people trapped in the wrong body is an ideological belief that has no basis for rigorous science (Rom. 9:20).

3. Neuter gender language. The LGBTQIAPN+ movement requires the neuter or non-binary terminology to be inserted into the language. The objective is to identify those who do not recognize themselves as male or female. Activists regard normative grammar as sexist and elitist. However, in Portuguese, the neuter gender is absorbed by the masculine. Thus, the masculine is used generically to identify the human species (men and women). However, militants intend to replace the vowels 'a' and 'o' in the attempt to make the gender become neuter. In this way, the grammatical norm is deconstructed to meet gender ideology (Is 5.21).

CONCLUSION

Sex, gender and sexuality are part of the divinely instituted anatomical and physiological constitution. In the Scriptures, there are only two possibilities of gender and human sexual anatomy, that is, the masculine/male and the feminine/female (Genesis 1:27). At the end of creation, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). He made no mistake in creating heterosexual sexuality for mankind. Therefore, no one is born predetermined to identify as transgender. Culture changes, but the Word

of God remains unchanged (Matt. 24:35).