

To Be or Not to Be – A Male or A Female

“Good-bye, see you later. I’m going shopping,” says the wife as she scurries out the door for a day of fun-filled shopping. She is eagerly on her way to the nearby department store; a store that includes a variety of departments within the store. When she arrives, her eyes scan the store in search of the “Women’s Department.” It includes women’s apparel, make-up, and women’s fashion accessories. Her next search is for the “Men’s Department,” but make note the two departments do not sell the exact same merchandise. As she walks from one department, she sees a new department, “PRIDE Department.” What is that?” she asks.

In the past, this has not seemed to be a problem but because of Satan’s influence in the world, the world is trying to change the thinking of the general population concerning the questions, what is a male and female? Specifically, some of our nation’s leaders are claiming they do not have enough knowledge to define the term “woman.”

It was Senator Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee who asked Ketanji Brown Jackson, running for federal judge, to define the term “woman.” Ketanji Jackson stated she was not able to do so because she was not a biologist. Upon hearing her answer, immediately 1 Corinthians 3:18-19 came to mind. This woman, a woman of higher education, could not define the meaning of the term “woman?”

Before turning to the scriptures, let us begin this study by searching Webster’s dictionary, a trusted source for etymology. Webster’s dictionary states, a woman is “An adult, female person.” Although this is a definition for the term “woman,” it leads one to ask, “What is a female?” Webster states, “of, relating to, or being the sex that typically has the capacity to bear young or produce eggs.” *Conclusion:* A woman is one who can bear young by producing eggs.

Now, let us examine the definition biologists give for the term woman: “An individual of the sex which conceives and brings forth young, or (in a wider sense) which has an ovary and produces ova.” From these two etymology authorities, it can be understood that a human who has the ability to naturally bear young is a woman/female.

Webster’s dictionary defines a man as, “an adult male human.” What is a male? “of, relating to, or being the sex that typically has the capacity to produce relatively small, usually motile gametes which fertilize the eggs of a female.”

Biologists define a male as, “of, relating to, or being a person with a certain combination of sex characteristics, commonly including an X and Y chromosome pair in the cell nuclei, a penis, scrotum, and testicles, and facial hair developed at puberty.” *Conclusion:* From these two authorities, the kind of human who has the ability to fertilize eggs is a male.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, teaches that Christians should go to God’s word for answers to questions. Genesis 5:2 states God named male and female as “mankind” on the day God created mankind. God created two kinds of humans: male and female. How did God “feel” about His creation of mankind? Genesis 2:31 states “...it was very good.”

- **Who created woman/female humans?** God - Genesis 1:27-28.
- **Who create man/male humans?** God - Genesis 1:27-28
- **How was woman created?** She was created by God from man’s body, specifically man’s rib, Genesis 2:22-23.
- **How was man created?** Genesis 2:7 He was created by God from the dust of the ground.
- **What is the purpose of a woman?** Woman was created to be a help-meet for man, Genesis 2:18 and to “fill the earth,” Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 2:18-19.
- **What is the purpose of man and woman?** Genesis 1:27-28. “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the

earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” Genesis 2:24 teaches a male and female can be joined together, forming a family as defined by God: “For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.”

Does God’s word give authority for man to change the way God has created humans? According to God’s word, there are two kinds of humans: male and female, Genesis 1:26-27. It is not part of God’s plan that males should transform (transgender) into females or vice-versa. In Brad Harrub, Ph.D.’s article, “Battle Plan for Gender Confusion,” he states, “You can’t change someone’s gender with a scalpel or pills. Men are born with XY chromosomes in our cells. Women are born with XX chromosomes in their cells. Men have reproductive systems and hormones that can be altered, but it does not change the fact that every cell still declares that person a male.”

God created each person to be a male or female because that is what He wanted each person to be. No matter how hard one tries to change his gender, man is not capable of doing this. We know from Genesis that God was very pleased with what he created, Genesis 1:27-31. We know God had a purpose for each kind of human. Males were created to be the provider for the family, 1 Timothy 5:8, and females were created to serve as the nurturers for the family, Titus 2:4-5. God gives each person the responsibility to love and worship Him, as well as to take the gospel throughout the world, Mark 16:16.

Spiritually speaking, God’s plan includes a purpose for each gender in His body, the church, Romans 12:4-5 and Colossians 1:24. He has specific roles for males in the church and specific roles for females. 1 Corinthians 12:18 teaches, “But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.” It is up to each individual to use his gender in the way God planned for His spiritual body, the church.

God has specified differences in the responsibilities of the male and female (husband and wife) within the home. The male is to be the spiritual leader in his home, 1 Timothy 5:8. He is to provide for his family. He is to love his wife and treat her as he would treat himself, Ephesians 5:25-33. According to God’s plan, a wife has different responsibilities within the home. The wife is the nurturer, Genesis 3:20. The wife is responsible for the home, Titus 2:5. The wife respectfully submits to her husband, Ephesians 5:22-33.

A good guideline for Christians to follow is to, “Keep silent where the Bible is silent, and speak where the Bible speaks.” God says He created mankind, male and female. Mankind is different from animals in that God created mankind after His likeness, Genesis 1:26-27. Mankind has a soul that will one day live in Heaven, Genesis 2:7. Christians should be satisfied with God’s plan. They should not attempt to make changes concerning their gender because they have no God-given authority to do so. Instead, they should glorify God the way God has made them.

On July 23rd we had corresponding lessons on this topic. Check our website for sermons titled “Barbie 2023 (Isaiah 5:18-23)” from the AM service and “Stay in Your Lane (Proverbs 22:1-6)” from the PM service. Also, you can find our worship services on our Facebook page.