

ILLINOIS LUTHERAN CONFERENCE

Topical Bulletin, June 2021

There has been and continues to be very much news coverage concerning the so-called LGBTQ community and their supposed rights. The designation “LGBTQ” is simply the label for: lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-gender, and queer. The LGBTQ people are being recognized by many in civil government and in church-bodies as people who are practicing an acceptable alternative lifestyle. The current Roman Catholic pope was shown on a recent news broadcast telling a supposed trans-gender individual, “God made you the way you are” — a blasphemous statement, to be sure, as we shall confirm a bit later from Holy Scripture.

Lately, the so-called trans-gender people in particular are receiving a lot of attention. Therefore, this month’s topic for consideration will be: **What does the Holy Bible have to say regarding trans-gender individuals and others of the LGBTQ community?**

Before pondering passages from Holy Scripture, consider man’s definition of “trans-gender” as taken from the 4th edition of Webster’s New World College Dictionary: “**Trans-gender** (trans jen’der, tranz-) *adj.* of or being a person, as a transsexual or hermaphrodite, whose sexuality is not readily characterized as exclusively male or female.” Additionally, the definition of “trans-sexual” from the same dictionary is: “**Transsexual** (trans sek’shoo el, tran-) *n.* a person who is predisposed to identify with the opposite sex, sometimes so strongly as to undergo surgery and hormone injections to effect a change of sex.” Thus, the label trans-sexual is actually more accurate in referring to those identifying themselves as trans-gender these days, as their own statements concerning themselves often reflect.

Comment: We shall see from the Holy Bible that the foregoing definitions are NOT accurate because they in effect blame the Creator – God – for the sinful ways of certain human beings, for God has NOT made or predisposed any human being to be trans-gender or trans-sexual.

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” (Genesis 1:26-28)

“This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.” (Genesis 5:1-2)

Comment: Observe that God created man – mankind, human beings – male and female. God did NOT create some sort of strange mix of the sexes in one human being. NO God made man and woman, NOT a being that is ½ man and ½ woman or any other weird percentage mix.

**“And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”
(Genesis 2:21-24)**

**“The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”
(Matthew 19:3-6)**

Comment: It is again evident that God made man and woman, NOT some human beings who are a strange mix of the sexes being part man and part woman. NO, THERE ARE BUT TWO SEXES: MALE AND FEMALE. Additionally, note well that marriage is to be between one man and one woman, NOT two men or two women; nor a man with another man who pretends to be a woman, or a woman with another woman who pretends to be a man. God’s Word is clear.

“Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.” (Leviticus 18:22)

“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.” (Romans 1:21-32)

Comment: Notice that vile, wicked, unnatural, reprobate thinking and behaviors are abominable and are a result of man’s sinfulness and rebelliousness against God. When people deliberately and wilfully turn against the true God and embrace their own imagined wisdom, which is sinful, God finally gives them over to the sinfulness of their darkened hearts. Accordingly, the sins of identifying one’s self as lesbian, or gay, or bisexual, or trans-gender, or queer are sinful human beings own doing and own fault— God did

NOT make anyone sinful: ALL SIN IS MAN'S OWN FAULT!

“Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.” (James 1:13-15)

Comment: So-called trans-gender individuals and others of the so-called LGBTQ community are into such sins by their own fault and choosing; God did NOT make them the way they are! It is blasphemous to blame God for the sins of lesbianism, homosexuality, bisexuality, transgenderism, and all other queer behaviors and beliefs (or any other sins).

“The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.” (Deuteronomy 22:5)

“Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.” (1 Corinthians 11:14-15)

Comment: Observe that men dressing like women and having women's hairstyles make such people unnatural and an abomination to the Lord. Likewise, women dressing like men and having men's hairstyles make such people unnatural and an abomination to the Lord. Hence, there is very much unnatural and abominable behavior going on in the world.

“I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” (Jude 5-7)

Comment: Sodom and Gomorrha are an example of what awaits the impenitent who continue to condone, embrace, and/or practice LGBTQ strange sinful behaviors and beliefs. The ancient cities of Sodom and Gomorrha were reduced to ashes because the people failed to repent of their sins and failed to amend their lives.

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

Comment: The original Greek reveals that the term “effeminate” refers to men who pretend to be women (that is, trans-sexual and trans-gender). The phrase “abusers of themselves with mankind” refers to homosexuals, the so-called gay folks. Note well that people involved with all such sins are unrighteous,

headed for hell, and will NOT inherit the kingdom of God – eternal life in heaven – unless they sincerely repent of their sins and amend their lives in accord with God’s Word. Yes, there is hope for all sinners; but, real repentance and faith in Jesus Christ is required!

Indeed, consider the following Biblical truths and pray that all people stuck in sin would take God’s Word to heart, sincerely repent of their sins, amend their lives, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

“This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” (1 John 1:5-10)

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.” (Acts 3:19-21)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” (John 3:16-18)

Realize that even the most heinous sins are forgivable. However, all sins must be sincerely repented of and one must trust and confide in Christ Jesus as one’s personal Savior and Lord if one would actually personally receive the forgiveness of sins and salvation, **“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23) “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” (John 3:36)**

Pray for widespread repentance throughout the wicked world which is growing worse each day as the end approaches. Let us remember that Jesus our Lord asks: **“And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:7-8)**

m.e.l.