



Systematic Theology

A study of the major doctrines of Scripture

TOPIC 4 – THE DOCTRINE OF MAN

LESSON 79 – CREATED MALE AND FEMALE

BIBLICAL DOCTRINE – JOHN MACARTHUR, PGS. 399-451

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY – WAYNE GRUDEM, PGS. 439-528

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, ALL SCRIPTURE TAKEN FROM THE NEW KING JAMES VERSION. COPYRIGHT © 1982 BY THOMAS NELSON, INC.. USED BY PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Gender Created by God

- ▶ God specially and specifically created gender and human sexuality.
- ▶ Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- ▶ Jesus repeated this truth in Matthew 19:4, so gender is not vague, flexible, or personally determined, assigned, or accidental.
- ▶ In addition to being created by God as part of the “very good” creation, the first man and woman were created differently. God formed Adam from the dust of the ground and breathed life into him, and then He took a rib from Adam to make Eve (Gen. 2:22).
- ▶ The basis of creation then has significance for functional distinctions between men and women.

Gender Created by God

- ▶ The roles that men and women have in society, the family, and the church are founded in the differences between men and women that God instituted by and at their creation.
- ▶ Gender is established at conception. When a sperm carrying an X chromosome fertilizes the ovum, a girl is produced, while a Y chromosome brings a boy. Gender is defined permanently at conception and revealed at birth.
- ▶ No one can legitimately claim that he or she is really another gender, nor can anyone truly change his or her gender. It's science!
- ▶ God commands women to present themselves as women, and men to present themselves as men (Deut. 22:5). For a man or woman to dress or present themselves as the opposite sex is "an abomination" – an extreme offense to God who created them as a man or woman.

Gender Created by God

- ▶ Modern culture sees gender as subjective – making it subject either to feelings or determined by the whims of individuals and societies.
- ▶ Transgenderism is becoming more acceptable in some societies and can be expressed by cross dressing all the way to the extreme of so-called gender reassignment surgery.
- ▶ Gender confusion and tampering assaults God's purposes for humanity in reproduction.
- ▶ The Biblical worldview affirms that gender and the biological structure of our bodies serves a purpose granted by God. They are not the product of evolutionary accident without moral implications but are gifts from God to be used for His purposes and glory.
- ▶ Deviation from God's plan and purposes for gender is rebellion against Him and His Word (Romans 1:24-27).

Gender and Marriage

- ▶ Male and female were created for relationship, not isolation. Desire for human companionship is not faulty, but designed.
- ▶ When God brought Eve to Adam, he immediately realized that the woman was the suitable companion for him (Gen. 2:23).
- ▶ Genesis 2:24 summarizes God's intent for man and woman: Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
- ▶ Being one flesh, while including sexual intimacy, involves mutual dependence upon one another in all areas of life.
- ▶ Marriage as instituted by God is a blessing, referred to in 1 Peter 3:7 as "the grace of life."

Gender and Marriage

- ▶ Ultimately marriage points to Christ and the Church.
- ▶ Ephesians 5:31 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.
- ▶ Marriage should illustrate the loving relationship of Christ and His Church, with the husband loving his wife as Christ loves the church and the wife responding to her husband’s loving leadership as the church responds to Christ (Eph. 5:22-33).
- ▶ Though marriage is subject to the curse after the fall, Christians under the control of the Holy Spirit should experience peaceful, productive, and fulfilled marriages.
- ▶ The expectation and command of Scripture, in order to promote true unity in marriage, is that believers must only marry other believers (1 Cor. 7:29; 2 Cor. 6:14).

Gender and Marriage

- ▶ Marriage has only one definition, and it is sanctioned by God.
- ▶ Marriage is the union of one man and one woman for life, dissolved only naturally by death. It is a covenant between the man and woman and God. (Gen. 2:23-24; Matt. 19:4-10).
- ▶ Prolonged cohabitation is not the equivalent of the marriage covenant (John 4:18).
- ▶ Where a valid marriage has been established prior to faith in Christ, the couple should keep the covenant and remain married (1 Cor. 7:24).
- ▶ Unnatural dissolution of the marriage may be accepted by divorce on the grounds of an unbelieving spouse leaving (1 Cor. 7:15) or adultery (Matt. 5:32). However since marriage between believers is a model of Christ and the church, the example of Hosea establishes the expectation of permanence of the covenant even if it has been broken.

Gender and Procreation

- ▶ God designed us as male and female and gifted us with the blessing of marriage for many reasons. One primary reason is procreation.
- ▶ Genesis 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”
- ▶ The biological features of male and female together produce children.
- ▶ Reproduction allows man to fulfill the creation mandate to fill the earth and subdue it as a steward of what God has created.
- ▶ The procreation command given to Adam was repeated to Noah after the global flood.
- ▶ A main threat to fulfilling this command is murder so in the covenant with Noah, God commanded that “Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man.” Executing murderers protects life.

Gender and Procreation

- ▶ After the fall, the curse on the woman meant giving birth would be painful.
- ▶ Genesis 3:16 To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children;
- ▶ Procreation, with all its blessings, is painful and often filled with tragedy. Rachel died while giving birth to Benjamin (Gen. 35:16-18), some children die in the womb or have their lives taken by abortion, and some women desire to have children but never see that desire fulfilled (Gen. 30:1).

Satanic Counterfeits

- ▶ Satan and evil men continue to try to pervert all that is good in God's creation, including gender and marriage.
- ▶ Sexual perversions appear soon after the fall, in fact as soon as they had sinned, Adam and Eve became ashamed of their nakedness and tried to provide a covering for their bodies. This was followed by the introduction of polygamy as early as Genesis 4.
- ▶ Other deviations include lewdness (Gen. 9:22), adultery (Gen. 12:15-19), fornication (Gen. 16:4), incest (Gen. 19:36), rape (Gen. 34:2), prostitution (Gen. 38:15), and sexual harassment (Gen. 39:7).
- ▶ Marriage is good and holy, but the perversion of homosexuality appears as early as Genesis 19. It is a threat to God's purpose and design and rebellion to His Word and will.

Satanic Counterfeits

- ▶ At the turn of the century, no countries recognized same sex marriage as legal. Several countries have changed their laws in this regard, including the United States in 2015.
- ▶ The Bible presents all sexual immorality as sin and explicitly states that those practicing such will not inherit God's kingdom.
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

God's Design

- ▶ Marriage is a sacred institution, and any sexual activity with someone other than one's spouse is strictly forbidden by God (Gal. 5:19; Heb. 13:4).
- ▶ Christ reiterated the command not to commit adultery by instructing us as to the heart motive behind immorality in Matthew 5:27-28:
- ▶ “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
- ▶ Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

PRBC Bylaws – Amended June 28, 2015

▶ **Article Twelve – Gender and Marriage**

- ▶ Section 1 – Gender: From the beginning God has created man in His image, immutably male or female.
- ▶ Section 2 – Defining Marriage: In keeping with our constitution and our confession, we believe Scriptures define marriage as a covenantal union between one man and one woman. This means that marriage is the only legitimate and acceptable sexual relationship. We deny that the state has the authority to impose a definition of marriage that is in direct violation to the teaching of Scripture including, but not limited to, so-called same- sex marriage, polygamy, polyamory, incest, bestiality, or cohabitation.
- ▶ Section 3 – Weddings: We reserve the right to host and perform wedding ceremonies only for those who are members of our church and/or willing to submit to the policies of the church as they relate to marriage.