

## Discipleship Night Lecture #5 – Doctrine of Man (Anthropology)

**John Calvin:** "Our wisdom, in so far as it ought to be deemed true and solid Wisdom, consists almost entirely of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves."

### Why did God create us? What was God's *Purpose*?

GOD DID NOT NEED TO CREATE HUMANS, YET HE CREATED US FOR \_\_\_\_\_.

***Isaiah 43:6-7*** – *Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth - everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."*

***Ephesians 1:11-12*** - *In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.*

***1 Corinthians 10:31*** - *So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*

### The image of God — aka, the *Imago Dei*

#### **Genesis 1:26-27...**

*Then 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 birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

**What does it mean when it says that God created us in His image?**

**#1.** First of all, man is the \_\_\_\_\_ creative work said to be made "in the image of God" (Genesis 1:26).

**#2.** Second, the Hebrew words for image and likeness refer to something that is \_\_\_\_\_ but not identical to the thing it represents. The word "image" can also be used of something that represents something else. Thus, the more we study God, the more things we can learn about ourselves.

**#3.** Third, we need to be clear that despite the fall of Adam, we are still in God's image (Genesis 9:6 & James 3:9). That image is \_\_\_\_\_, but it's not lost.

**#4.** Fourth, when a person comes to know Jesus, sanctification is the process of \_\_\_\_\_ that image. We are growing in Christlikeness.

- *We are being renewed in knowledge after the image of our creator (Colossians 3:10)*
- *We are being changed into his likeness (2 Corinthians 3:18)*
- *God predestined us to be conformed to the image of his Son (Romans 8:29)*

**#5.** Finally, when Jesus comes back, there will be a \_\_\_\_\_ restoration of that image. When Christ appears we shall be like him (1 John 3:2).

### **Moral Aspects:**

1. We are creatures who are morally \_\_\_\_\_ before God for our actions.
2. We have an \_\_\_\_\_ of right and wrong that sets us apart from animals (who have little if any innate sense of morality or justice — they simply respond from fear of punishment or hope of reward).

### **Spiritual Aspects:**

3. We have \_\_\_\_\_ physical bodies but also immaterial spirits.
4. We have a \_\_\_\_\_ that enables us to relate to God as persons, to pray and praise him, and to hear him speaking his words to us.

5. Immortality; we will not cease to exist but will live \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Mental Aspects:**

6. We have an ability to \_\_\_\_\_ and think logically and learn, which sets us apart from the animal world.
7. We have an awareness of the \_\_\_\_\_, even an inward sense that we will live beyond the time of our physical death (God puts this into our minds Ecclesiastes 3:11)
8. Our likeness to God is also seen in our human \_\_\_\_\_ in areas such as art, music, and literature, and in scientific and technological inventiveness.
9. In the area of \_\_\_\_\_, our likeness to God is seen in a large difference in degree and complexity of emotions.

### **Relational Aspects:**

10. The depth of \_\_\_\_\_ relationships experienced in human marriage, in a human family when it functions according to God's principles, and in a church when a community of believers is walking in fellowship with the Lord and with each other.
11. Man has been given the right to \_\_\_\_\_ over the creation and when Christ returns will even be given authority to sit in judgment over angels (1 Corinthians 6:3; Genesis 1:26,28; Psalm 8:6-8)

### **Physical Aspects:**

12. Being made in the image of God does not imply that God himself has a body, for God is spirit (John 4:24). But there are ways in which our bodies \_\_\_\_\_ something of God's own character.
- We use our bodies to see, hear, speak, taste, touch, smell, pray, care for others, show love and concern for others...all of which in some way show a characteristic of God.
  - The ability to bear and raise children who are like ourselves is a reflection of God's own ability to create human beings who are like himself.

## Essential Nature of Humanity

**T**\_\_\_\_\_: Some people believe that in addition to "body" and "soul" we have a third part, a "spirit" that most directly relates to God. The view that humans are made of three parts (body, soul, and spirit) is called trichotomy.

**D**\_\_\_\_\_: Others have said that "spirit" is not a separate part of a person, but simply another term for "soul," and that both terms are used interchangeably in Scripture to talk about the immaterial part of humanity, the part that lives on after our bodies die. This view, where people are made up of two parts (body and soul/ spirit) is called dichotomy.

**M**\_\_\_\_\_: Outside of evangelical thought we find another view, the idea that humans cannot exist at all apart from a physical body. The view that people are only one element, and that his body is the person, is called monism.

This view has not been accepted by evangelical theologians because scripture affirms that our souls live on after our bodies die (Genesis 35:18; Psalm 31:5; Luke 23:43,46; Acts 7:59; Philippians 1:23-24; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Hebrews 12:23; Revelation 6:9; Revelation 20:4)

Regardless of what side of this debate that you fall on, what we **can** affirm is that:

1) There is \_\_\_\_\_ in our essential nature. We are made up of more than one part.

2) There is \_\_\_\_\_ — regardless of how many divisions there may be in a person, they are all interrelated — even our body — the end game is that we will get resurrected bodies!

## Male and Female in the Image of God

**Ron Powell:** The world is more complicated than it used to be. Students are worried about their sexuality in ways that they were not 20 years ago. Today, some kids are less certain that the body they were born with matches who they feel they are inside. They are also aware of different options for their sexuality as they mature into adults. Students have asked me, "What if I turn out to be gay?" This used to be a much smaller percentage of the population but culture now presents more options to kids while they are young. Part of me wants to shout *"Stop confusing the kids! If they aren't thinking about this stuff, leave them be."* Well-meaning people are working hard to reach out to students who are same sex attracted or do not feel at home in their bodies. Unfortunately for kids who have never even considered these possibilities, they are being presented with ideas that plant seeds of confusion their minds.<sup>1</sup>

**John 4:5-9** - *So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans)*

### Some Key Terms<sup>2</sup>

- **S**\_\_\_\_\_ simply refers to one's biological sex, which is constituted by one's system of reproduction, chromosomes (men have a Y chromosome while women do not), genitalia, and endocrine systems (i.e. hormones) which effect secondary sex characteristics such as body hair, bone structure, and muscle density.
- **G**\_\_\_\_\_ used to be used synonymously with *sex*. Some people still use them synonymously today, but many people typically use gender to describe one (or all) of the following: (1) Your own internal sense of self, (2) how you express yourself (clothing, mannerisms, interests, etc.), or (3) cultural expectations for what it means to be a man or a woman. In short, *Sex* is a bodily, biological reality, and *gender* is how we give social expression to that reality.

<sup>1</sup> Ron Powell, "How to help students in a sexually confused culture," <http://youthministryunleashed.com/help-a-sexually-confused-culture/>

<sup>2</sup> See Preston Sprinkle's book, "Embodied" as well as his *Pastoral Paper, A Biblical Conversation About Transgender Identities*.

- **T**\_\_\_\_\_ is an umbrella term for the various ways in which some people experience incongruence between their biological sex and their gender identity.<sup>1</sup> In layperson's terms, a transgender person often feels like they're trapped in the wrong body.
- **G**\_\_\_\_\_ **dysphoria** is a fairly new term used by psychologists to describe the level of distress that often comes with the incongruence one might experience between their biological sex and their internal sense of who they are (e.g. their gender identity).
- **Non-binary gender i**\_\_\_\_\_ are identities other than male or female. These identities include *gender-queer*, *gender-fluid*, *pangender*, and *gender nonconforming*. These terms are used by people who don't identify as exclusively male or female, or who reject a gender binary altogether.

### **What does the Bible say about biological sex?<sup>3</sup>**

Preston Sprinkle and Andrew Walker have been very helpful for me in this....I've adapted **8 important truths** from their work that sum up some of the most important passages and theological themes about our male- and female-sexed bodies.

#### **TRUTH #1. THE BODY IS \_\_\_\_\_ TO OUR IMAGE-BEARING STATUS.**

*God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. (Gen. 1:27)*

**Marc Cortez:** *The image of God is "a declaration that God intended to create human persons to be the physical means through which he would manifest his own divine presence in the world."*

**Karl Löning and Erich Zenger:** *"According to the meaning of the Hebrew word tselem, which stands for 'image,' humans are to be in the world as a kind of living image or statue of God."*

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<sup>3</sup> Adapted from chapter 5 of Preston Sprinkle's book, "Embodied."

## TRUTH #2. MALE AND FEMALE IN GENESIS 1 ARE CATEGORIES OF SEX, NOT \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Be fruitful and increase in number" (Gen. 1:28).*

**Phyllis Bird:** The creation accounts of Genesis present the categories of male and female as indispensable to their understanding of humankind by explicit attention to the sexual differentiation of the species...this is observable at birth and encoded in our genes, essential for the survival of the species, and basic to all systems of socialization. It plays a fundamental role in the identity formation of every individual.

**Andrew Walker:** God commands sexual activity to be experienced exclusively within the marital relationship of one man and one woman. The sexual distinction in Scripture bears witness to the sexual and procreative union that male and female bodies are capable of engaging in. In Scripture, sexual union ratifies the marriage covenant, signifying the existence of the marriage union intended to be permanent, monogamous, and exclusive (Gen. 2:24; 1 Cor. 6:16).

Notice in Genesis 1:26–28 that the creation of man and woman in Genesis both is structural and dynamic. As male and female beings made in God's image, their design is ordered toward a particular purpose—filling the earth, subduing it, exercising dominion. More specifically, that purpose is accomplished by male and female design—that the act of being fruitful and multiplying hinges on, and springs from, their respective sex distinction. In this account, general revelation parallels with special revelation. As each of us knows, sexual intercourse is capable of producing children, and this reality is exclusive to only one reality, male-female complementarity.

## TRUTH #3. ADAM AND EVE'S BODIES ARE VIEWED AS \_\_\_\_\_.

*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. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. (Gen. 2:21–22)*

**Preston Sprinkle:** The word for “rib” here refers to the side of a sacred piece of architecture like the tabernacle or the temple. And this meaning informs its usage here in Genesis 2. Adam and Eve’s bodies are compared to sacred pieces of architecture...Temples embody God’s presence, and so do bodies. Genesis 1–2 speaks about our sexed embodied nature as something significant for human identity. Our sexed bodies are like sacred pieces of architecture.

#### **TRUTH #4. JESUS VIEWS GENESIS 1–2 AS \_\_\_\_\_.**

In a debate with the Pharisees about divorce, Jesus cites Genesis 1:27 and 2:24 to reiterate the creation account’s perspective on sexed embodiment:

*“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ [Gen. 1:27] and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’ [Gen. 2:24]?” (Matt. 19:4–5)*

What can we draw from Jesus’ words as they pertain to the trans\* conversation? **At the very least, it appears that Jesus considers God’s original creation of humans as male and female to still be normative thousands of years later.**

- The idea of “male and female” is not just relevant for the beginning of creation. Jesus operates with the conviction that “the created order” as expressed in Genesis 1–2 “is a guide for the moral order.”

#### **TRUTH #5. PAUL SEES THE BODY AS \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MORAL BEHAVIOR AND CORRELATES THE BODY WITH PERSONHOOD.**

*Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. (1 Cor. 6:19–20)*

**Notice how Paul interchanges “you” and “body” in these verses, as he does in several other passages.** For instance, in Romans Paul commands believers to “offer yourselves to God” (Rom. 6:13, 16) and later says “offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God” (Rom. 12:1).

- For Paul, “your bodies” and “yourselves” are inextricably linked...you can’t separate the real you from the embodied you.

#### **TRUTH #6. SCRIPTURE \_\_\_\_\_ CROSS-SEX BEHAVIOR.**



**Deuteronomy 22:5** prohibits cross-dressing: *"A woman must not wear men's clothing, nor a man wear women's clothing, for the LORD your God detests anyone who does this."*

**1 Corinthians 6:9:** *Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality...*

**Romans 1:26–27** - *For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.*

**TRUTH #7. THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST AFFIRMS THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF OUR SEXED EMBODIMENT.**

**Marc Cortez:** *"To be an image bearer, Jesus must be an embodied being."*

If Jesus didn't have a body—a sexed body—he wouldn't have borne God's image. And if we want to find out what it means to be human, what it means to bear God's image, then we must look at Jesus as the ultimate expression of this. Jesus' sexed embodiment challenges the notion that biology is irrelevant to identity.

**TRUTH #8. SEX DIFFERENCE REMAINS \_\_\_\_\_ THE RESURRECTION.**

**First,** not only is sex difference part of God's pre-fall creation (Gen. 1:27; 2:18–24), it's a central part of human personhood and integral to how we mirror God's image.

**Second,** Jesus' resurrection is a model for our own resurrection.

<p><b>TRUTH #9. SEX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN ARE AT THE HEART OF GOD'S GOOD _____ FOR MARRIAGE, THE FAMILY, AND THE CHURCH.</b></p>
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### 3 Major Positions regarding Biblical Roles of Men and Women

**#1: E\_\_\_\_\_:** There is no innate distinction between the roles of men and women in the home or church.

**#2: P\_\_\_\_\_:** Women are not only commanded to follow male leadership, but are not given a voice with male leaders, as women are often kept under thumb as the polar opposite of egalitarian feminism.

**#3: C\_\_\_\_\_:** Men and women are equal yet different. While being absolutely equal in personhood and dignity, man and woman are distinct in their roles in the home and church. This position is to be distinguished from both ancient patriarchy that often neglects the equality of the sexes and egalitarianism which neglects the clear Scriptural role distinctions.

#### Key passages:

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

### *Exercise: Male and Female and the Grand Narrative of Scripture*

These four chapters of God's grand narrative (God's "Big Story") can be summarized in 4 words:

**C\_\_\_\_\_**, **F\_\_\_\_\_**, **R\_\_\_\_\_**, **R\_\_\_\_\_**

**Chapter #1: Creation:** One Hebrew word sums up the picture of Genesis 1 and 2: *shalom*. Peace. Earth was full of God's shalom, the kind of peace in which everything works according to God's intention. The world was made for human flourishing, there we could live in joy in the presence of our Maker, worshiping God by loving Him and one another forever. Everything functioned exactly as it was

designed to function, in perfect reflection of the glory of God. Mankind was God's "image" to reflect to the world the character of God and mankind did just that.

**Chapter #2: Fall:** In Genesis 3, we see that Adam and Eve rejected God's rule over them. We refer to their rebellious choice as "the fall," and because they represented all of humanity, their action affects us too. We have-- through our attitudes and actions-- declared ourselves to be God's enemies. This rebellion results in physical and spiritual death. What most people do not understand is the seriousness of this rebellion, the depth of its impact, and the on-going repercussions of it. Because sin resulted in separation from God, mankind became fundamentally fractured, no longer reflecting God's glory as he was supposed to.

**Chapter #3: Redemption:** Thankfully the loving Creator who rightly shows Himself to be wrathful toward our sin is determined to turn evil and suffering we have caused into good that will be to His ultimate glory. So the next chapter of God's "big story" shows God implementing a master plan for redeeming His world and rescuing fallen sinners. In the Person of Jesus Christ, God Himself comes to renew the world and restore His people. The grand narrative of Scripture climaxes with the death and resurrection of Jesus.

**Chapter #4: Restoration:** The story doesn't end with redemption. God has promised to renew the whole world, and the Bible gives us a peak into this glorious future. The restoration of all things will take place in two ways. Christ will return to judge sin and evil, and He will usher in righteousness and peace. God will purge this world of evil once and for all.