
BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: **What does the Bible say about transgenderism?**

Transgender means "having changed gender identity from male to female, or from female to male."

What does the Bible say about this?

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

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.

Notice two terms in this passage of scripture:

- "Homosexuals" – these are people who have sex with those of the same gender.
- "Sodomites" – these are men who dress and act like women.

The passage is plain enough. Those practicing things are sinning. Please notice the difference between being tempted and practicing. Someone may be tempted with homosexual or transgender behavior, but they do not actually perform those acts. Being tempted is not sinful. Even Jesus was tempted, but He never committed any sin (see Heb 4:15). Those who are tempted and give in to the temptation have sinned and, unless they get forgiveness, they cannot "inherit the kingdom of God." That means they cannot be saved on Judgment Day.

Here is good news: Those who have sinned in these ways can receive forgiveness provided they repent and seek forgiveness on God's terms. Notice:

1 Corinthians 6:11

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.

Some of the members of the church at Corinth had practiced homosexuality and transgenderism in the past before they became Christians, but they repented and were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:38). When they did this, they were forgiven of all their sins and stood justified before God.

Our society today is asking that we treat transgenderism differently than any other abnormality. This is inconsistent and irrational. Let me illustrate.

Suppose a young lady was suffering from the eating anorexia. When someone has anorexia they look into a mirror and imagine that they see nothing but obesity and fat. Suppose a young lady was suffering from this mental disorder. She is five foot two inches tall and weighs 98 pounds. She's starving herself to death. She looks in the mirror and thinks she's obese and needs to lose more weight. What should we do? Should we sympathize with her and agree with her? Should we put our arm around her and say, "You're right. You are obese and you do need to lose more weight." Should we do this? Certainly not. We should try to help her see that she's not thinking rationally and we should try to help her see things as they really are.

Likewise, when a man thinks he's a woman, we should not put our arm around this person and sympathize and agree and say, "You're right. You are a woman trapped inside a man's body." Instead, we should try to help this person see things the way they really are. This person needs help to break away from a tremendous mental disorder. Do you realize that the suicide rate of transgender people is 41% - more than twice the suicide rate of any other group. (See: <https://www.livescience.com/11208-high-suicide-risk-prejudice-plague-transgender-people.html> - accessed 10/23/17.) We are not helping people with transgender issues by sympathizing with them in their transgender mentality. These people need help to see themselves as they really are – they do not need surgery or sympathy to further their unrealistic thinking. There is hope in Christ for forgiveness and transformed living, but there is no hope in sin, denial, and misconceptions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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