

Moral Clarity Behavior

7-8-18

The world thrusts a multitude of behaviors at us declaring them as normal and demanding that we unquestioningly agree with them. Two of the most recent behaviors the world says we must declare as normal are Gender Identity and Homosexuality. First of all, they try to make these racial issues. These are not racial issues, these are behavioral issues. As we saw last week, for moral clarity we must look to the Scriptures.

Genesis 1:27 (ESV)

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

What we see is the natural order designed by God. Not only did God create man and woman uniquely different, HE created them in HIS image. **This means that man and woman each with their unique differences reflect the very image of God.** Therefore, and this is a big therefore, the combined unique differences of a man and woman make up the totality of the image of God. Man and woman together give us a full picture of God. **Therefore God says don't confuse the sexes.**

#1 Gender Behavior:

Deuteronomy 22:5 (NIV)

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.

Don't limit this with the type of clothing to wear. This goes much deeper than clothes. Behavior is the key thought here! What is the intent! This not to judge someone but it is to give each believer Moral Clarity: The distinction between the sexes between male and female is natural and established by God, and should not be disregarded or camouflaged. A Man and Woman each should embrace their gender with all its glory! **This was God's intent because it reflects HIS image.**

#2 Sexual Behavior: As God created male and female, HE also determined their sexual behavior to reflect HIS image! **Behavior is a key word here.**

Leviticus 18:22 (NIV)

Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable.

God is not pleased with us changing HIS definition of moral behavior – **again behavior is the key word here.** Listen to what God says in HIS Holy Scriptures!

Romans 1:25–27 (ESV)

²⁵ They **exchanged the truth** about God for a lie. ²⁶ For this reason **God gave them up** to dishonorable passions. For their women **exchanged** natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷ and **the men likewise gave up natural relations with women** and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men.

This not to judge someone but it is to give each believer in this crazy world Moral Clarity as determined by God. God created a Divine order and design, which reflects God's image. **As believers, we come to Jesus and Jesus tells us to behave according to HIS divine order.** Therefore, as a result of coming to Christ, our Behavior including our Gender Behavior and sexual Behavior starts to conform to what God intended.

When we come to Christ our motivation changes:

1Peter 1:14-16 (NIV)

¹⁴As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶for it is written: **“Be holy, because I am holy.”**

We desire to be holy because we see that God is holy. **This is not a checklist to follow, but this is our heart motivation.** As we see how much God loves us, God becomes our passion! When we make a decision for Jesus, **Jesus Himself adjusts and empowers our behavior.** God comes to live inside a believer to give him the desire and power to live as Jesus did. God empowers those who follow HIM to behave like Jesus!

Acts 2:38 (ESV)

And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the **forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**”

When we come to Jesus, God Himself, transforms us through the power of the Holy Spirit!

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed** into the same image from one degree of glory to another. **For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.**

Pastor Minter shared with a man in the homosexual lifestyle that Jesus would accept him just as he is. The man replied, "Yes, but you know HE will change me."

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, **the new has come**.

We all have sinned and fall short of God's glory. We accept Christ and are forgiven! Plus we become "**New Creations**" that are empowered to behave like Jesus!

All of us when we accepted Christ will be changed through the Holy Spirit. There are hundreds of testimonies of people who came to Christ and subsequently came out of the homosexual life style.

We are not here to judge, but before God, we have Moral Clarity and are confident in our position. We are not here to attack people's lifestyles, we don't judge, **but we boldly stand on the Word of God and share Christ.**

For those who reject Christ, we “Leave them in God’s Hands” while we continue to live for Christ.

Revelation 22:11 (ESV)

Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.

Jesus is necessary to have Moral Clarity!

To have moral clarity and change our behavior, we must trust Jesus, receive the Holy Spirit, and consult the Scriptures! To those who don’t know Christ, we have “one” message and only one message!

John 3:16–17 (ESV)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him **(AND HAVE MORAL CLARITY!).**

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.