

AKRON



CANTON

# PARKSIDE GREEN

1 TIMOTHY 1:15

## Gender Identity, Charity, and *Christian Hope*

Foundational Theology:

- **G.K. Chesterton:** These are the days when the Christian is expected to \_\_\_\_\_ every creed except his own.
- Creation
  - You have a \_\_\_\_\_
  - You are a \_\_\_\_\_ being
  - You are an \_\_\_\_\_ being
  - **Sam Andreades:** The Bible sees gender as a further \_\_\_\_\_ added upon our biology, shaping our identities and deeply revealing of God's self.<sup>1</sup>
  - There is a \_\_\_\_\_ behind your creation!

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<sup>1</sup> Sam A. Andreades, *engendered: God's Gift of Gender Difference in Relationship*, (Wooster, OH: Weaver Publishing, 2015), 38-39.

- Pushback from the culture
  
- Fall
  - **Sam Allberry:** The world isn't right as both a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ of the fact that we're not right.<sup>2</sup>
  
  - **Sam Allberry:** What's true of creation in general is true of our bodies, too. They're part of the physical order that's been subjected to this frustration. We see this frustration in a variety of ways. Some face unremitting health issues; others contend with a whole range of body image struggles; still more experience body dysphoria—feeling as though they're trapped in the wrong kind of body. The fact is, virtually no one has an entirely straightforward relationship with their own body. It's the way of life in this world. And while it true that anyone can see this problem, Christians can uniquely account for it.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Sam Allberry, "What Christianity Alone Offers Transgender Persons," January 10, 2017. <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/what-christianity-alone-offers-transgender-persons/>. Accessed 18 February 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

- Redemption
  1. John 1:14
  2. 1 Cor. 6:19-20
  3. 2 Cor. 3:18
    - **Sam Allberry:** No, the only answer to our experience of brokenness in our bodies is found in the ultimate \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ's body. He experienced the ultimate affliction. His was the body most reviled by others. And the ultimate dysphoria ever experienced was when he "who had no sin" was "made sin for us" (2 Cor. 5:21). Talk about being in the wrong flesh. Yet he went through all of that for us. He experienced ultimate brokenness so that we would never have to.
  
- Consummation
  - **Andrew T. Walker:** A Christian is free to look \_\_\_\_\_ all that makes them groan, but right now they are not \_\_\_\_\_ from what makes them groan.
  - **Andrew T. Walker:** We live in a Genesis 3 world with a Genesis 1 blueprint on the trajectory to a Revelation 21 future.

- Summary:
  - **Jeremy Pierre:** People are obligated to \_\_\_\_\_ their self-conception to God’s conception of them, and his divine conception has been unfolded in a story, a sweeping narrative that includes all human beings and their personal experiences.<sup>4</sup>
- EXCURSUS: Understanding identity and its role in human experience

#### TRADITIONAL IDENTITY

#### MODERN IDENTITY

- **John Stuart Mill:** Over himself, over his own body and mind, the individual is \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>5</sup>
- **Richard B. Corradi, MD,** Professor of Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve<sup>6</sup>: Clearly forming a stable personal identity is a complicated business. For some people it is prolonged, and some \_\_\_\_\_ achieve it.

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<sup>4</sup> Jeremy Pierre, *The Dynamic Heart in Daily Life*, (Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2016), 130-137.

<sup>5</sup> John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*, ed. Elizabeth Rapaport (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1979), 9.

<sup>6</sup> Richard B. Corradi, “Transgenderism is Mass Hysteria Similar to 1980’s Era Junk Science”, November 17, 2016. <http://thefederalist.com/2016/11/17/psychiatry-professor-transgenderism-mass-hysteria-similar-1980s-era-junk-science/>. Accessed 16 March 2017.

## GOSPEL IDENTITY

- **Tim Keller:** Part of having an identity is having a stable, core sense of who you are, day in and day out, in different settings and times. That is why the traditional way of forging an identity through connection with something solid outside the individual self made sense. But if your identity is just your desires, they are going to be \_\_\_\_\_ all the time.<sup>7</sup>
- **David Powlison:** The biblical truth is this- God gives you a new \_\_\_\_\_ in salvation

### Discussion Questions:

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<sup>7</sup> Tim Keller, *Making Sense of God*, (New York, NY: Viking Press, 2016), 124.