

# A GROWING GENDER INSURGENCE

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*A new trend has been dominating the news and social media, questioning ones gender identity. Primarily, this pertains to people confused about their sexual disposition and consequently, consider alternative genders—becoming transgender. The concept an individual not sexually identifying with their biological birth, or reproductive assignment has been gaining momentum over the years. Why is this "gender dysphoria" happening?*

Many are well aware of Bruce Jenner becoming the woman he "felt" he should have been for many years. Today he goes by the name of Caitlyn Jenner--and has become the personification of this growing *transgender revolution*.



Jenner, this gold medal winner of the 1976 Olympics was considered the epitome of masculinity. His face was all over many of the social magazines at the time, including thousands of boxes of cereal. He was married and divorced three different times, one of whom was Kris Kardashian.

He had the reputation of being a "man's man." He was a good husband, father, and stepfather to his wives and children. It makes you wonder how he could be so successful in his life as a family man and change so drastically. What causes someone to doubt their God given sexual anatomy from birth.

We see this gender dysphoria beginning to gain acceptance and now becoming legitimized by the fashion industry embracing male models, to make them look effeminate. Major "woke" corporations have promoted male models to advertise its line of products instead of female models. It has become more difficult to decipher men from women.

Victoria's Secret has featured male models, including in their fashion shows and as brand ambassadors. Darren Barnet was the first male celebrity brand ambassador, and the fashion show has featured other transgender models.

This just goes to prove the fashion industry is beginning to *push the envelope* of femininity in a rather provocative way by allowing boys and men to dress and look like women. This gender fluidity is now being normalized. It's not only in the fashion world, but also in the movies, sports, schools, and churches.

Currently, this "transgender" movement has caused a lot of debate from the confusion it presents. Already, some political skirmishes have occurred over how to manage— public bathrooms. There has been a lot of resistance concerning whether

a man who "feels" like a woman should be allowed into the women's bathroom, when biologically he's a male. And this applies in reverse as well—after all, a woman standing at the urinal in the men's bathroom would obviously be rather odd—don't you think?

Many are unaware that modern research into this phenomenon of transgenderism CENTERS ON PROMOTING THE IDEA that gender and our biological assignment are *two different things* to keep in mind. This is a **most important premise** to recognize. A recent pamphlet published by the *American Psychological Association* (APA) states:

*"Sex is assigned at birth, refers to one's biological status as either male or female, and is associated primarily with physical attributes such as chromosomes, hormone prevalence, and external and internal anatomy. Gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for boys and men, or girls and women. These influence the ways that people act, interact, and feel about themselves. While aspects of biological sex are similar across different cultures, aspects of gender may differ."*

This idea, of separating the a) *biological assignment* at birth from the b) *gender expression*, advances and promotes the acceptance that we can be a boy/man, or girl/women biologically, but our *gender expression* can be socially constructed—it is separate—it has *nothing to do* with our biology. This allows *justification* that we can be a male, but *act and feel* like a female (or visa versa), depending on how we've *been influenced* by our *social* environment.

Social norms of two sexes is being deconstructed. Male and Female are becoming genderless, an androgynous society, where biology has *no relevance* to any sexual difference. We become one in the same—asexual—embracing each other as equals, and if necessary, finding alternative ways to reproduce, or perhaps, completely stop the reproduction of the human species.

Today there is no single definitive answer to how many genders exist. While the traditional binary of male and female is recognized, there are many gender identities beyond this binary, including nonbinary, transgender, and others. Some individuals may even identify with multiple genders. Today there are organizations that attempt to identify what the LGBT acronyms really means, like Pflag National and GLAAD.

Clearly, this movement is growing and if we are not sensitive to the needs of this small segment of the population then you are just simply labeled clueless and need psychological help for your insensitivity, homophobia, and discrimination.

Gender fluidity is a concept that challenges the traditional binary view of gender, where individuals are strictly categorized as either male or female. People who are gender fluid may experience their gender identity as changing over time. If this struggle drives them to significant distress, or diminished social or occupational

functions, then there is some psychological trauma being experienced by the individual. This anguish is gender dysphoric.

*Gender fluidity* is an important concept to accept and embrace in the transgender world, if you want to understand the logic behind this "gender dysphoria." And the logic goes something like this: *Some individuals experience conflict between their a) biological assignment and b) gender identity. If this struggle drives them into significant distress, or diminished social and/or occupational functions directly underscored by this gender confusion; obviously then, there is some psychological trauma the individual is experiencing—this anguish is considered "gender dysphoric."*

In the 5th edition of the *American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders"* (or DSM-5), gender dysphoria is defined and confirmed.

Now, combine this current acceptance into main stream social science, defined as a mental disorder by the DSM-5 document, along with the ideas presented in some of the more modern day proposals that gender can be socially engineered, and you have a means by which to recognize how an environment can be rationalized to *nurture concessions* as "therapeutic" against what would appear to be the natural and normal resistance to this incongruity—this struggle *against* gender confusion.

Obviously, keeping this logic in mind—that we can socially engineer gender expression apart from our biological assignment—allows us then, to surrender to this mental disorder, enabling us to embrace the dysphoria, thereby *legitimizing* transgenderism. This is all done in the name of modern science's diagnosis of "mental disorders."

This, thereby provides and promotes treatments like hormone programs and cocktails of drugs, even including sexual reassignment surgery—our "healthcare" industry can create people into whatever sexual gender they want to be, regardless of their biology. And in the opinion of those advancing this, they will say, shame on any parent, guardian, sibling, uncle, aunt, or grandparent, friend, or otherwise who would *not* enable and allow, regardless of the God given biology, the gender *expression* most comfortable for the individual. This would be a grave injustice to that person they would argue—it would be unquestionably abusive, irresponsible, and enormously emotionally and mentally destructive to the individual, in the view of those that support this reasoning and methodology.

In light of the social trends and as disappointing and sad as this gender dysphoria is, in the world of "counseling" it is discourage to advise, or instruct someone to question this conflict, this struggle, with the intent of *reconciling* their gender expression with their God given biology. In fact, it could be consider cruel and in some cases illegal, now that it is categorized as a legitimate mental disorder. Consequently, in today's secular and humanistic social environment, Christian ministers, psychologists, and psychiatrists are encouraged to reconcile this conflict

by allowing the individual's confusion to *concede* to embrace their dysphoria, thereby *enabling* them to do what "feels" most comfortable for them, even if it results in their gender expression to be at odds with their natal biology. Since this new paradigm has been "normalized" through the *incremental legitimization* of the social community's acceptance of this gender dysphoria as a legitimate mental disorder, this type of counseling and therapy could be described as child abuse and malpractice.

Those responsible for instructing our youth—as young as four, five, and six years old—and are responsible for the upbringing and education of children, be it at home, youth camps, schools or clubs, like the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, or in our public schools, are grossly mismanaging the direction of our youngsters. The transgenders reading to children in the schools and libraries, books of perversion, is causing greater confusion in their minds, as they grow older, on into adolescence and adulthood.



Interestingly, all of this is based on a misappropriated premise that the *natural* sense of resistance and anguish experienced is *not* a normal reaction, but rather something which should *be appeased* by enabling it to take the course of accommodating and surrendering to the incongruity—the gender conflict, regardless of our biology—even if it requires sexual reassignment surgery! This is enormously unfortunate and incredibly sad that it's not recognized as "thwarting our nature;" but instead, stunningly considered perfectly *normal* and acceptable! Oh, how far we have drifted and how upside down our reasoning—by calling that which is wrong to be right (Proverbs 14:12, 16:25, Isaiah 5:20-23)

### **SO WHERE DOES THIS LEAD US**

The humanistic social environment we now find ourselves living in has a counterintuitive affinity toward anything that imposes itself as *an absolute*. This is disappointing, but true, because it affords secured and absolute boundaries of our human associations to be compromised. And in particular, when those absolutes are interlinked with something considered *spiritual* in nature, it becomes even more unacceptable to the secularist.

Yet, the human genome is very spiritual, regardless of how much we relate this definition to the physical. It has everything to do with our mental, emotional, and spiritual well being. The order and functionality of our genes, chromosomes —our full DNA—including our hormones—have everything to do with how we think, feel, and act. If anything gets "out of balance," this can possibly contribute to some kind of dysphoric proclivity. Unquestionably, there are exceptions and additional,

sometimes extraordinary contributing factors; but suffice it to say, the human body and mind is an interconnected complex chemical and electrostatic organism, that demands management and self-control, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually—and far too many of us are too cavalier about how we take care of managing ourselves, both physically and spiritually.

Man is made in the image of God with a destiny that allows him access to immortality if he can achieve a healthy relationship with his God. But this requires, any human being attempting this, to overcome his or her natural animosity, resistance, or dysphoria toward everything God represents and expects of us when building that relationship with Him through His grace and forgiveness. Remember, when striving for a healthy relationship with God, we must realize it no longer is about us—but rather, it's about Him and what He wants for us. Notice what the apostle Paul says, "For to be carnally [fleshy, physically] minded [inclined] is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity [opposed, at variance] against God: for it is not subject [subordinate, obedient, submissive] to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:6-7).

This is really at the heart of it all, getting right with God—and that's not an easy thing to do. It goes against our nature. Sometimes it requires things we're not comfortable with doing. It demands the abandonment of our former "comfort zones," sometimes physically, emotionally or mentally. Frankly, this is not easy because you're battling your natural behaviors, your natural inclinations—that are at *variance* with God's absolutes. As a matter of fact, we are told those who want the kingdom must take it by force and press into it (Matthew 11:12, Luke 16:16). It is a struggle!

Throughout God's word we're told over and over again the life of a Christian won't be easy. It can be filled with pain, anguish, suffering and sacrifice. We're warned about trials and not to think it strange to be tried. Notice, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as you are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when his glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding joy" (1 Peter 4:12-13).

But, most importantly, what many don't realize is *why* this is the burden of individuals who choose the Christian way—why Christ said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). Keep in mind, to "deny yourself" is an incredible *challenge!* Fighting your own nature can be brutal. Clearly, the Christian lifestyle is contrary to our nature, which is basically selfish and prefers the path of least resistance. It's not easy to "kick against the pricks"—Paul knew that very well (Acts 26:14). Peter explains it this way, "For as much then as Christ has suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin" (1 Peter 4:1).

Did you get that? Read it again! Anyone who follows Christ, be prepared—get ready—it *will cause some suffering*—Why? Because you are going to abandon your sinful ways—it's God's *mandate* on all of us. You are now going to follow God's ways on His terms—fulfilling *His expectations*. It won't be easy because His ways are *counter* to our nature and turning from sin is *painful*. It can be ruthlessly uncomfortable and down right traumatically merciless when we actually try to change our thinking, our habits, our proclivities, and lifestyle!

It has ramifications, consequences, and life-changing effects. You see our life's journeys are different from each other. Each one of us comes to Christ with a unique set of circumstances. Our story, background, and established personality, particular to us, has been constructed over our life's experiences that make us who and what we are. Each of us is required to repent (change) from how we are at the start of this conversion process; and then aspire to something that matches the model of Jesus Christ, since we are now accepting his terms. He now becomes our guide, example, and standard, astonishingly foreign to us, and perhaps, disorienting a bit frightening, especially if we're used to getting our own way and are comfortably ensconced with habits, addictions, moods and methods of thinking, or styles of dressing and acting, which are totally contrarian to the standards and values of God's ways. Obviously, when one finally grasps and understands the breadth and scope of God's expectations, it has to be a life changing experience within us that affectionately grows out of a renewed vigilance and blossoms into a level of commitment and dedication that knows no compromise because of our deep respect, love, and affection, for Jesus Christ and our Father.

Notice what Paul says to the Roman Christians as he addresses the human tendency concerning what mankind thought was right and good with God. "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts and creeping things" (Romans 1:21-23). Paul obviously is referencing the enormous amount of idolatry at the time. However, today, we could include the humanistic teaching of evolution as well, and how it denounces humanity being created in the image of God, and instead, promotes the idea we are offspring of the creation that somehow has mutated into the human species. God calls this foolishness!

Rather than argue with humanity, since by nature we are adverse to any absolute God reveals, He says this: "Wherefore, God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator who is blessed forever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave

them over to a reprobate [void of judgment] mind, to do those things which are not convenient" [becoming] (Romans 1:24-28).

Undeniably, this is portraying homosexuality (and by association, a the variety of inappropriate sexual habits in this category) as an "unnatural behavior," which results from not maintaining a relationship with God and His values in their minds. Paul describes this void as something harmful to the balance of our "nature." It "messes" with our minds and emotions because we allow ourselves to behave adversely to the natural order of God's intents—all because we don't exercise self control and don't discipline our lustful inclinations, or weaknesses in our personality, or character for whatever reason, and there *could* be legitimate reasons, which can and does include the *trauma* that comes with the abuse of individuals who are now mentally, emotionally, and/or spiritually damaged. However, that still doesn't justify enabling the "incongruence" or the perversion of our natural balance, which in the context of gender identity should be "in balance" with our birth biology. Remember, two wrongs never made a right.



The clear and short answer to this gender conflict and confusion is to ***embrace the distress and struggle***, consider it healthy and normal; and then prepare mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, to settle in for the long haul. Understand; if we have inclinations to act, or behave "unnatural," out of sync with our assigned biology, the *discomfort* we "feel" is a *healthy sign and is naturally expected*--it's the *right thing to happen and "feel."* So just

commit to the fight and maintain the discipline to resist the proclivity, which is fighting our natural born biology and sexual attraction. Draw close to God--stay focused. Commit to your discipleship and follow through with an aggressive spiritual strategy to combat your confusion, anxiety, and stress with God and His Holy Spirit as your partners!

Look, all of us are in recovery. Every one of us has been damaged in some way in varying degrees due to sin in our lives. When we come to Christ we're all suffering with the burdens we bring with us. Admittedly, some sins, habits, addictions, or lifestyles may be more difficult and complex than others, but that doesn't make it impossible to root it out of our personalities, behaviors, and way of life. Remember, if God is for you nothing can stop you if you set your mind to it—all things can be done with Christ Jesus as your partner (Romans 8:31; Philippians 4:13).

We know everyone is different, but be assured, we'll never be tested beyond what we can handle (1 Corinthians 10: 13-14). With that said, God expects us to uproot the idolatrous habits in our lives. It's no longer about us—our passions, our lusts, or our terms—instead, it's about God and pleasing Him in our lives. Finding our balance with Him is our new mission and if we can persevere under the pressures

and tensions that come with conversion, eventually we'll do just fine and come out on the other side a better person for it! And that is what God expects of us.

Christ says, "Come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Those of us who are "heavy laden," and overburdened, those of us that are loaded up and having difficulty in the conversion process; maybe we're depressed, tense, stressed, and overwhelmed. Christ says, "Take my yoke [obligations, beam of balance] upon you and learn of me [study Christ, His model of thinking and living]: for I am meek [humble, gentle] and lowly [humiliated in disposition and circumstances] in heart, and you shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:29-30).

This is His way of encouraging us to recognize we are in the "throes of change" and it is a humbling experience; but if we take on His obligations and "beam of balance" we will become stable and find rest in our souls eventually. He will heal us from the emptiness and ruin of our lives and we will be filled and have a healthy relationship with God over time who will fill the void in us and bring peace into our lives.

However, understand, it won't happen over night, or in one day, one week, or even one year. It's taken years in most cases to ruin and mess ourselves up with the sins we've grown comfortable with. Depending on how bad the damage is, will determine just how much time and labor it will take to construct new "comfort zones" with Jesus Christ. I can assure you change won't come easy, quickly, or comfortably! Most withdrawals from any addiction—and sin is an addiction—takes hard work and an indeterminate amount of time. So again, stay focused; be resourceful, patient, and committed!

The best advice we can keep in mind as we embark on this journey that is dedicated to recognizing, resisting, and replacing our sins with Godly behavior is what Jesus mentions in Luke, notice; "In your patience possess you your souls" (Luke 21:19). That is the key to successfully managing the conversion process with God's Holy Spirit. It will take time, but that is exactly what God needs and wants. Let Him have the time with you so you can "learn of Him" for the benefit of the conversion process so you can become like Him. Clearly, it will be well worth the pain and sacrifice for the present, and on into the future. It's the least we can do. It's "our reasonable service" considering what God is offering. (Romans 12:1-2).