

Sermon to the Saints of God assembled at Topeka, KS: Sunday, April 10, 2022

Made in the Image of God

My friends, Satan is gleefully having his way with this generation. The subtil and murderous hiss of the serpent in the Garden of Eden has become a deafening roar that echoes across the entire globe. “And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.” (**Genesis 3:4,5**) In other words – God is wrong, His standards are not true, righteous, fair, or just; His promised judgments can be averted, and all of His law replaced and subverted by your personal judgments and desires. Nowhere is that more evident than the current transgender blitzkrieg. The Lord God has warned this generation of this outcome for decades through the preachments of this little church, but they would have none of His reproofs. Having abandoned any outward standard of justice and righteousness, this generation is left with confusion of face, and continual pain. “*Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.*” (**Proverbs 14:34**) My friends, Satan carefully worked for generations to prepare the chess pieces for this hour, and He is now putting on a master class in hateful murderous destruction. The Lord has appointed it all as a punishment for a rebellious people. The majority of the people in this country see the great folly of this transgender juggernaut, but because they abandoned God in every facet of their lives, they are now left impotent to do anything effective to oppose it. In that vacuum of moral authority, children have indeed become their oppressors, and women rule over them.

Satan’s assault with this transgender matter is continual and takes on many faces. Today I’d like to walk through just a very few current events on the topic, while addressing the scriptural reality of the matter. Keep the following concepts in mind as we walk through these examples.

- **Controlling the Language:** Language is one of Satan’s most fundamental tools in this wickedness. If you can control the lexicon, then you can control the discussion. To control the language, you can ban certain language (and the people who use that language) from the discussion, you can make words and facts disappear from the landscape, and you can change the meaning and application of words. All of those strategies are being aggressively implemented.
- **Wicked Leaders:** This wicked generation has appointed leaders (religious, political, and corporate) who are willing to serve their base desires; leaders who are willing to abandon any semblance of righteousness in order to build and maintain their status and power. These leaders are the driving force behind the effort to redefine and control language.

- **Isaiah 3:9-12** *“9 The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves. 10 Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. 11 Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him. 12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.”*
- **2Timothy 4:1-5** *“1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.”*
- In this day and age, perhaps the most pervasive and pernicious of these leaders are the massive corporations that hold the keys to the marketplace of ideas in this nation. They own the digital platforms, and it is at their sole discretion to determine who is allowed to exist and to speak; they determine what you are allowed to speak; they craft the content that flows into the schools, and into our homes. These days, the line between reality and fantasy is blurred in many ways – people have a digital “life” that is increasingly disconnected from reality, which creates a generation of people that live in utter confusion, and in the constant pursuit of their next fleshly gratification. What we are seeing gives us some inkling as to Satan’s power to work “signs and lying wonders” that will deceive the whole earth into following after Antichrist.
 - **2Thessalonians 2:8-12** *“8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”*
- **Puppet God:**
 - There are certainly some people that are objecting to this transgender nonsense, but you will rarely hear them speak of God and His authority as

the Creator to determine gender. Primarily what you hear are political and logical arguments in defense of the personal idol(s) of the speaker. If God is mentioned by these folks, He's only used as a prop to support their own personal ideologies.

- On the other hand, God is constantly mentioned by those supporting this folly. Preachers long ago stopped preaching the actual words of the scriptures, such that our current generation only knows catch-phrase theology. It is no longer surprising to hear God and the Bible used to support and promote presumptuous sins against God, but it will never cease to be shocking. Fallen man believes that God is a puppet to be used in whatever vile way the dark heart dreams up.

On to the news ...

- **Will Thomas** is a young man that attends the University of Pennsylvania. Two years ago, Will decided to be a she, and call himself "Lia". You might have heard that Lia is a swimmer on the women's team at Penn. I'm not going to rehash this whole saga, because we've all been inundated with it for months. Suffice it to say that the whole nation is warring over whether biological males should be able to participate in women's sports. Why is this particular circus sideshow getting so much attention? I just mentioned the fact that most people see the absurdity of the tranny agenda; you have to completely suspend reality and all principals of logic to buy into this nonsense. But since they have en masse turned from God in favor of the sins that they DO like, they have given up any moral authority, and now have no real voice. This tranny sports issue is a place where they can voice their displeasure without having to rely upon God's standard as the reason. In this arena, they can couch their entire objection in terms of fair competition. Ah yes – competition – a piece of fundamental Americana. Whether we're talking sports, politics, or capitalism, this country is all about competition – how can I dominate and oppress my fellow man. It's the American dream – I win, you lose. It is an idol with this nation, but it's certainly not the standard of God found in the scriptures. Where their idols are affected, people will push back, because it disrupts their personal ideology and world view; it has nothing to do with the Creator's law. One final note on this: recently it was discovered that NBC had altered a picture of Thomas to go along with their reporting. The altered picture was softened in order to look more feminine. Just a very small indication of the detailed and intensive satanic effort that is going on all day every day to deceive this generation.
- **Disney:** Speaking of corporate dedication to use their massive influence to promote sin. First of all, anyone that didn't already know that Disney had an agenda to promote sodomite filth, has been actively lying to themselves. Disney was at the forefront of the sodomite movement 30 years ago when we started

preaching on the streets of this nation, and they have only gotten worse. They've been in the news for a couple of things during this past week. They are declaring war against the Governor of Florida, because he is pushing legislation that will mildly slow down the torrent of sodomite indoctrination that is being dumped on the grade school children in that state. Of course Disney has major operations in that state, because Disney World is in Orlando, and so they are using their considerable influence to fight against the Governor. With that backdrop, a video was leaked that showed an internal conference of Disney employees discussing their longstanding efforts to fill up their content with sodomite characters, themes, and lessons. This video had a cast of preening, bizarre critters telling how they have used their power at Disney to shove LGBTQ+ characters into the background – and now the foreground – of their various shows, movies, and other productions. They have a database of these characters, by which they will be ensuring that they have at least 50% of all future characters that are “diverse”. In the meanwhile, they are removing references to “ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls” from their theme parks. They don't want to have language that excludes gender non-conforming young people. *“Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.” (Jeremiah 6:15)*

- **New Jersey school standards:** New Jersey quietly enacted new standards for grade school children during the heart of the COVID panic, while attention was elsewhere. These new standards will go into effect in September, and they require that 1st and 2nd graders be taught about gender identity, specifically that “You might feel like you're a boy even if you have body parts that some people might tell you are 'girl' parts. You might feel like you're a girl even if you have body parts that some people might tell you are 'boy' parts. You might not feel like you're a boy or a girl, but you're a little bit of both. No matter how you feel, you're perfectly normal!” In addition they are to be taught about specific body parts and are expected to be able to identify various parts of genitalia. There is some public outcry in New Jersey, but it is all couched in terms of “sexualizing” little children, as though the problem is the timing of the lesson. Yes, that is a wicked thing that's happening there – of course they have no business teaching such things to little children, and of course they have no business intruding upon the parents prerogative to teach those matters according to their own conscience. What they're not saying is that this whole discussion, whether we're talking about 6 year old or 60 year old people, is a grave sin against God Almighty! Where is any faithful witness for the truth of God? Where are the churches and preachers of New Jersey?
- **Dr. Richard Levine:** This 65 year old man is a pediatrician and a four-star admiral in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. He

has served as the United States assistant secretary for health since March 26, 2021. He is also the first transgender 4-star officer in any of America's eight uniformed services. These days Richard goes by Rachel, and was named by USA Today as one of their "Women of the Year". Beyond the sheer sinfulness of it all, I'd like to point out a couple of particulars about this situation. First, recognize the power of the media once again on display. The leaders of USA Today took counsel together to work this wickedness, declaring as a truism that this is a "woman". Further, when a satirical company (Babylon Bee) made commentary on their Twitter account, referring to Richard as the "Man of the Year", they were suspended from Twitter. Dissent is not an option - these companies hold the keys, and not only will they promote wickedness, they will not allow anyone else to object. "But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in." (Matthew 23:13) One final note on this: when I went to validate my memory about Richard's birth name, it took a little bit of extra looking to find it, because these gatekeepers of the digital world have actively scrubbed that information out of existence. Take Wikipedia as an example: despite the fact that this man practiced as a Pediatrician until the age of 55 under the name Richard, you will not find a single reference to the words "he", "man", "male", or "Richard" on his entire entry. It's not enough to try to change his current reality, these people are going to insist upon a fable and rewrite the very facts of his history.



- **New terminology:** We've all seen the fundamental shift of the English language that is underway with this wicked generation. At this point, pronouns are a weaponized and oppressive minefield. I mentioned several sermons back that there is a push to change medical terminology, particularly in the maternity realm, such that "mother" is replaced with "birthing person", and "breast feeding" is now "chest feeding". In today's episode of the absurd, look at this advertisement from a London based company that specializes in feminine products:



- **Ketanji Brown Jackson** will be the first black woman on the United States Supreme Court. Much was made of her gender and race in the past few weeks – a thing that should be irrelevant – the important question is whether she will judge righteously or wickedly with the power that the Lord has given her. We got a clear indicator of her wicked intent during her confirmation hearings before the Senate, when she was asked to define the word woman. “No I can’t. Not in this context – I’m not a biologist.” Ironically, if a biologist was the place to look for this answer, then the whole transgender thing wouldn’t exist. Biology is pretty clear, what with the whole chromosomes and reproductive organs, etc. The science-is-king generation has completely abandoned objective science when it comes to trannies. More importantly, the Scriptures can give the honorable judge some help, if she is willing to hear. These matters are beyond dispute, and are painfully simple.
 - **Genesis 2:21-25** “21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”
 - **Genesis 3:16, 20** “16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall

be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. ... 20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living."

- **Genesis 4:1** *"And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD."*

- Here then we see that a woman is a distinct part of the human creation, and every individual person therefore is either a man or a woman. It is a binary operation – black and white – not a sliding scale! Further, we see that the gender of a person is appointed by God at their creation, as an indelible attribute, that has absolutely nothing to do with your thoughts or feelings about the matter! We see also that the female creation is endowed with the physical attributes that enable her to bear and birth children into the world. No need to even examine chromosomes, when the very structure of the body is markedly different in very apparent ways.

- **Dr. Jerry Farley:** Recently, a student organization at Washburn University invited a speaker to campus who intended to mildly object to the transgender message. This caused the president of the university – Dr. Jerry Farley – to send this message to the entire campus: "While we support the right to speak freely, Washburn University does not condone the hate and misinformation spread by the speaker and his supporters. Thursday also happens to be International Trans Visibility Day. Washburn University supports the Trans community and students who identify as LGBTQ+. We support and stand in solidarity with Trans people around the world and encourage you to learn more about the issues affecting students, faculty and staff who identify as LGBTQ+. We will continue to engage our resources to influence campus community to be an inclusive place where all feel they are protected, affirmed, and valued. I encourage you to celebrate the day with messages of compassion and support. With your help this university can be a shining light and example to the greater community. We will learn together and from each other and we will be better people for the effort."

- **Is that you, Satan?** I don't know where to begin with this next mess. Below is a part of a string of messages on Twitter, wherein this man is glorying in the fact that his son is about to go under the knife for a sex change operation.



Andrew Wetzel
@CircleReader

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Charlie asked us to record Scripture & prayer to become part of a musical composition played as she goes under for her bottom surgery, part of the ongoing photography/multimedia project linked above. Nicole read Psalm 139. Here's what I read, ending with a blessing we often sing:

The Psalmist says:

*You knit me together in my
mother's womb*

*I am fearfully, wonderfully
made*

*You watched me...as I was
woven together*

In the dark of the womb.

*You saw me before I was
born...*

Jesus' beloved disciple John once told how Jesus transformed a blind man so completely, he seemed a whole new person. And when others wouldn't accept it, couldn't see it, Jesus was there, saying, "You're seeing what they longed to see but can't — the Kingdom of God at work!"

Anticipating the resurrection, St. Paul compared the human body to a seed. Buried in the dark earth, God gives it new & different form, bearing its own particular gifts — a new glory grown from the old body, now transformed.

May we who love you see & know you truly; and may the God who sees & knows your inmost parts, who watched over you before anyone else could see you, who chases after you to comfort you & show you the light of the world — may that Lord bless you & keep you, make His face to shine upon you & be gracious unto you; may the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

- There is so much wickedness in this writing that I don't exactly know where to start with it. Surely I could spend an entire sermon addressing the blasphemous folly of it all. Let me just answer it with pure scripture, taken directly from the very passage he uses – Psalm 139.
 - ***Psalms 139:15-24*** *"15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. 17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee. 19 Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men. 20 For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain. 21 Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? 22 I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies. 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: 24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."*

- **President Biden:** Finally, consider the words of the President of the United States, spoken on the occasion of the “Transgender Day of Visibility”: “To everyone celebrating Transgender Day of Visibility, I want you to know that your president sees you — Jill, Kamala, Doug, our entire administration sees you — for who you are: made an image of God and deserving of dignity, respect and support. ... We know it’s hard when there are those out there who don’t see you, don’t respect you. For example, the onslaught of anti-transgender state laws attacking you and your families is simply wrong. This administration is standing up for you against all these hateful bills, and we’re committed to advancing transgender equality in the classroom, on the playing field, at work, in our military, and our housing and health care systems — everywhere, simply everywhere. ... To parents of transgender children, affirming your child’s identity is one of the most powerful things you can do to keep them safe and healthy. Any transgender American who’s struggling, please know you’re not alone. You’re so brave. You belong and we have your back.”
 - With respect to the brevity of life, I’m going to focus my comments on the statement that transgender people are “made an image of God”. I have been hearing this perversion of scripture for my entire life, and it is used as a defense against any accountability for sin. Something like: “God made me in his image, and this is the way that I am, so my sinful behavior is justified.” Nothing could be further from the truth. Let’s take a minute to look at what the Bible actually says.

Made in the Image of God

Genesis 1:26-28 *“26 And 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 fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”*

- In what way is mankind created in God’s image?
 - First, recognize that this has nothing to do with the attributes of our physical flesh. God is a Spirit. *“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:24)*
 - Recognize also that we are made after his likeness, which means that the human creation is **reflective** of some of his attributes, but we are not essentially like him – we are not of his essence. Satan has deceived men since the beginning that they have the essence of God within their flesh, such that they believe themselves to be as God themselves. (**Genesis 3:5**)

- **Romans 1:22,23** “22 *Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.”*
 - On the contrary, the only time God has inhabited flesh is in the person of Jesus Christ – HE alone is the **express image** of God in the flesh.
 - **2Corinthians 4:3-5** “3 *But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake.”*
 - Everything that had been created prior to man – the universe, the earth, the features of the earth, the plants, and the animals – were all an entirely physical creation. Even on this same day of creation (6th), God had created the beasts of the field, etc. But now we come to a peculiar work, wherein God joins His physical creation with a spirit. Now we have something of God’s likeness in the equation; what had been only temporal, now has an eternal and spiritual component to it.
 - In addition, that spirit contained the ability for moral understanding and excellence; a capacity to understand truth and righteousness, and to joyfully conform to the will of God.
 - **Matthew Henry:** *Man was made upright. (Ecc 7:29) His understanding saw divine things clearly and truly; there were no errors or mistakes in his knowledge; his will consented at once, and in all things, to the will of God. His affections were all pure, and he had no bad appetites or passions. His thoughts were easily brought and fixed to the best subjects. So holy, so happy, were our first parents in having the image of God on them. But how is this image of God on man defaced! May the Lord renew it in our souls by his grace!”*
 - Finally, we see a reflection of God’s attributes in the fact that man was placed as a representative head in the earth; he was given dominion and authority over the creation of God.
- Having established the way in which man was created in the image of God, we must be clear that the likeness of God upon man was corrupted when Adam and Eve brought sin and death into the world. At this hour, we have no claim upon the image of God in our corrupted flesh. Rather, we are reflective of the image of our corrupted parents. No, Mr. President, neither you, nor I nor any of the sons and daughters of Adam can make a claim that they are created in the image of God. More importantly, none of us will fare well by sinning willfully and excusing it as a reflection of God’s image. God forbid!

- **Genesis 5:1-3** *“1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; 2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created. 3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:”*
- We can only regain that likeness of God through Jesus Christ. If we have fellowship with Christ, then we must strive to put off the deeds of this corrupted flesh, and walk after the Spirit of God.
 - **Ephesians 4:17-32** *“17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: 19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But ye have not so learned Christ; 21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. 25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. 26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: 27 Neither give place to the devil. 28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. 29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: 32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”*

I love you all. Amen.