

Will “Ze” Replace “He” and “She”?

According to **Newsmax** (Dec. 12, 2016) students at Oxford University have been requested to use the gender-neutral pronoun “ze” rather than “he” or “she” in order to avoid offending “transgender” students. Reportedly, Oxford has also implemented gender-neutral bathrooms on campus. LGBT rights campaigner, Peter Tatchall, said “it’s about acknowledging the fact of changing gender identities and respecting people’s right to not define themselves as male or female.”

The above information reminds me of the pilot who spoke on the intercom, saying to the passengers, “I have bad news and good news. The bad news is we are lost. The good news is we are making good time.” This, in my judgments, describes our society in general; (1) we are lost, but (2) we are making good time. Sadly, however, it seems that society is traveling in the wrong direction!

All of this goes completely contrary to God’s plan from the very beginning. Please note Gen.1:27: “*So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; **male and female** he created them.*” Later, in Genesis chapter two, more detailed information is given. According to Gen. 2:18 God said “*it is not good that **man** should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.*” It was then that God “*caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and **he** slept,*” whereupon God took a rib from **his** side, from which He made “**woman**, and He brought **her** to the **man**. 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**,*” Gen. 2:21-23. Later, we note that “*Adam knew Eve **his** wife, and **she** conceived and bore Cain;*” later “***she** bore again, this time **his** brother Abel...*,” Gen. 4:1-2. You will please note the pronouns “**he**” and “**his**,” “**she**” and “**her**.” We read about “**man**” and “**woman**.” God made two genders, “**man and woman**,” “**male and female**.”

The fact is this: the Bible says absolutely **nothing** about “transgenderism,” or “transsexualism,” as it is sometimes called. However, we are told that many people have a brain that functions as one gender while, biologically speaking, the rest of the body is another gender. Hence, one person might claim to be “a man trapped in a woman’s body,” whereas another may claim to be “a woman trapped in a man’s body.” Consequently, many have even undergone “sex-reassignment surgery” or have sought “hormone therapy” so as to make their body correspond to the gender which harmonizes with their feelings.

All of this is contrary to God’s plan from the beginning. Originally, God made woman to be a complement of man, and through the union of both man and woman (“**male and female**”) children are born and the human family is perpetuated. We admit that, in time, gender issues became distorted, as was evidenced by the homosexuality which characterized the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, Gen. 19:1-7; Jude 7. However, this was a perversion of God’s plan; in fact, it is called an “*abomination*,” Lev. 18:22, and “*against nature*,” Rom. 1:22-28. But, thanks to the grace of God, those who are caught up in that life style can turn away from such and obtain forgiveness, I Cor. 6:9-11.

Homosexuals do not have to remain homosexuals any more than liars have to remain liars; through obedience to the gospel they can be forgiven and, by submitting to God's plan, they can "*shine as lights in the world*," Phil. 2:15. However, becoming involved in conduct which is biblically described as "*against nature*," does not change a person's **gender**! A homosexual knows he is a male; a lesbian knows she is a female.

The Bible plainly says that "*evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived*," 2 Tim. 3:13. This is certainly reflected in the modern trend to trample the rights of people in general in order to accommodate the presumed "rights" of transgender or transsexual people. So more and more public places, including schools, will now have "gender-neutral bathrooms," and more and more confused persons will undergo "sex-reassignment surgery," supposedly to turn "he" into "she," and "she" into "he," and some even dare to suggest that each one of us become a "ze" instead of a "he" or a "she!"

But God made both "*man*" and "*woman*," and God gave instructions to each. Under the Law of Moses "*a woman*" was forbidden to "*wear a man's garment*," and a man was forbidden to "*put on a woman's cloak*," Deut. 22:5. Under the gospel of Christ God does "*not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man*," I Tim. 2:12; wives are to be "*subject*" to their "*own husbands*," I Peter 3:1-2, and husbands are to love their wives as "*as their own bodies*," Eph. 5:28. The Bible gives specific instructions to "*older men*," to "*young men*," to "*older women*," and to "*young women*," Titus 2:1-8, but it gives **no** instructions to "*transgenders*!" An elder is to be "*the husband of one wife*," Tit. 1:6, but think of the confusion generated if "*the husband*" decides to be the "*wife*," and the "*wife*" decides to be "*the husband*!"

In today's world "gender distortion" exists — not because God planned it that way, but because of psychological, physiological, hormonal, and sinful issues. But the solution to these problems is not derived by undergoing a sex-change operation, or creating "genders" in addition to "males" and "females." It is "*in*" God that "*we live, and move and have our being*," Acts 17:28. Properly understood, our bodies belong to God; hence, the saints at Corinth were admonished to "*glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's*," I Cor. 6:19-20.

A fact which cannot be successfully denied is this: God made two genders; He made **males** and **females**. The two are not identical; they are not interchangeable. If you were born a "he," then thank God, and serve Him accordingly. If you were born a "she," then thank God, and serve Him accordingly. Remember, you are either a "he" or a "she," not a "Ze." Pardon my grammar, but don't try to be what you ain't!

**** —Bobby Witherington

It Isn't Easy...

To Admit wrong.

To begin again.

To apologize and ask forgiveness.

To face a sneer bravely and calmly.
To endure success with gratitude.
To keep on trying when discouraged.
To be unselfish.
To forgive and forget.
To profit by mistakes.
To keep out of the rut of the world.
To think and then act.
To accept responsibility.
To subdue an ugly temper.
To change an unpleasant disposition.
To make the best of little.
To shoulder deserved blame.
To maintain a high standard.
To recognize the silver lining.
To be grateful for every blessing.

But It Always Pays in the End!

(borrowed)