

#AskingForAFriend: Is God Really a Woman? Genesis 1.27-28; Romans 1.23 & 25 – March 5, 2019

It's a discipleship issue to embrace God's vision for gender & sexuality and to surrender to the loving Lordship of Jesus.

How sex becomes God:

+ **Genesis 1.27-28** – the way God made us: created, *imago dei*, male-and-female, responsible. Sex becomes God when we look to sex/gender to replace what was lost in the fall.

>>Two problems with this: 1/ Sex/gender is broken, too. 2/ Sex/gender makes a poor god.

+ **Romans 1.23 & 25** – how we're broken: trade truth for lie, worship created instead of Creator. Sex becomes god when we worship the created instead of the Creator.

- In our brokenness, we promote sex to God-status
- In our brokenness, we demote God to secondary status
- @TimKeller: "Freud said religiosity is pent up sexual desire. Close. Sexual desire is pent up religiosity."

What happens when sex is God? When sex becomes God, two unfortunate things happen:

1/ **idolatry over intimacy** – too high a view of sex – giving loyalty and devotion to an unworthy thing.

2/ **objectification over relationship** – too low a view of sex – using people as objects to get what I want.

>> When sex becomes God, idolatry and objectification replace God's intention for us of intimacy and relationship.

Since God's not a woman...THEN WHAT???

1/ Fall in love with _____.

- Buy into the Creator's vision and intentions for male/female.
- Listen to helpful voices: @DavidACBennett, @PrestonSprinkle

2/ De-orient from culture

- De-orient sex/gender from being the most important thing to you or about you
- De-orient culture from having the strongest gravitational pull on you
- Sober up / get "undrunk" on cultural sexuality/gender. Instead get drunk on / under the influence of our Creator's vision for sex and gender!

>> *The sanctification of sexuality by the Holy Spirit: Healing for your wounds... Forgiveness for your failures...Holy Spirit powered self-control for your desires... Reprogramming for your habits and sex addictions...Biblical boundaries for your sex ethics... Discipline for your freedom...Strength for your struggles...Wholeness for your brokenness*

3/ Re-orient with God as Creator

- Re-orient sexuality as matter of discipleship and sanctification
- Re-orient as a creature who worships the Creator with your gender and sexuality

The last word... The context of Rom 1.23 & 25 deals with *the power of the gospel to save and to make us right with God by trusting Jesus [1.16-17]*. The solution to our struggles with sex and gender is not merely to follow the rules. The solution flows from a trusting relationship with God. And in that intimacy with God, our sexuality and gender find their definition from our Creator.