

Teaching: The Gender and Identity Assault: Renewing the Mind According to God's Design

Introduction

We live in a time when many foundational truths are being questioned, including God's design for identity, gender, and the purpose of the human body.

As believers, we must understand that every battle begins in the mind. The issue is not merely cultural, social, or political—it is fundamentally spiritual. God's Word provides the answer to every deception and every attack against His truth.

The key Scripture for this teaching is Romans 12:2:

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."

This verse reveals two possible directions for every person:

1. Conform to the world's thinking.
2. Be transformed by God's thinking.

There is no neutral ground.

I. The Battle for the Mind

Romans 12:2 — The Foundation

The Apostle Paul teaches that believers must continually renew their minds with God's Word. If we fail to do this, we will naturally conform to the world's way of thinking. The world is constantly presenting new ideas, philosophies, and definitions of truth. Without God's Word as our standard, our thinking can gradually drift away from God's design.

Key Principle

Wrong thinking produces wrong living.

Transformation begins with renewed thinking. Before behavior changes, thought patterns change.

Proverbs 23:7 says:

"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."

Satan understands this principle. Therefore, he continually targets the mind.

II. Satan's Strategy: Attack God's Design

From the beginning, Satan has opposed everything God created.

- God created truth—Satan promotes lies.
- God created life—Satan promotes death.
- God created male and female—Satan seeks to confuse and distort that design.

Genesis 1:27 declares:

"So God created man in His own image... male and female He created them."

God's design was not accidental. It was intentional and perfect.

The enemy's objective is always to challenge God's authority and redefine what God has already established. This is why believers must be rooted in Scripture rather than cultural opinions.

III. The Importance of Understanding Identity

A person's identity should not be determined by feelings, cultural trends, or public opinion. As Christians, our identity is established by:

- Who God says we are.
- How God created us.
- What God's Word declares.

When identity becomes disconnected from God's truth, confusion follows.

Important Question

Who has the right to define identity?

- God the Creator?
- Or the culture He created?

The answer determines the direction of a person's life.

Believers must continually return to Scripture as the final authority.

IV. Your Body Is God's Temple

One of the strongest biblical truths regarding identity is found in the teaching that our bodies belong to God.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

"Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit... you are not your own?"

Paul reminds believers that salvation affects every part of life, including the body.

Three Truths About the Temple

1. God Created It

You did not create yourself.

Psalm 139 teaches that God formed us and knew us before birth.

2. God Owns It

Believers were purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ.

3. God Should Be Glorified Through It

Every aspect of our lives should bring honor to Him.

When we understand that our bodies are God's temple, we begin to view ourselves through God's perspective rather than society's perspective.

V. Renewing the Mind Protects Us from Deception

One of the greatest safeguards against deception is continual exposure to God's Word.

Jesus prayed:

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth." (John 17:17)

Truth protects.

Truth stabilizes.

Truth reveals error.

If believers stop renewing their minds with Scripture, worldly ideas will naturally fill the void.

Romans 12:2 teaches that transformation is not automatic—it is the result of intentional renewal.

VI. The Home Is the Primary Place of Discipleship

The solution to cultural confusion begins in the home.

Parents have a God-given responsibility to teach their children:

- God's truth.
- God's design.
- God's purpose.
- God's identity.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 instructs parents to diligently teach God's Word to their children.

Children are constantly being disciplined by someone:

- Parents.
- Schools.
- Friends.
- Social media.
- Entertainment.

The question is not whether they are being taught.

The question is: **Who is doing the teaching?**

VII. The Solution: Follow God's Design

The solution is not found in arguments, politics, or public debates.

The solution is found in:

1. Knowing God's Word

Truth must be learned.

2. Renewing the Mind Daily

Transformation is ongoing.

3. Refusing Worldly Conformity

Believers are called to stand apart from cultural pressure.

4. Embracing God's Design

God's design is good, acceptable, and perfect.

Romans 12:2 promises that renewed minds will recognize God's will and walk in it.

VIII. Following Jesus' Example During Temptation

When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, He responded with Scripture.

Three times He declared:

"It is written."

Jesus did not rely on emotions, opinions, or circumstances.

He relied on God's Word.

When believers face attacks on identity, purpose, or truth, the response must be the same:

"It is written."

The Word of God remains the believer's greatest defense against deception and confusion.

Conclusion

The battle over identity is ultimately a battle over truth. Every believer must choose whether they will be shaped by God's Word or by the world's thinking.

Romans 12:2 provides the answer:

- Do not conform.
- Be transformed.
- Renew your mind.
- Discover God's will.

As we continually fill our minds with God's truth, we become firmly established in His design, secure in our identity, and equipped to help others walk in truth as well.

Key Takeaway

The strongest defense against confusion is a mind continually renewed by the Word of God.

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