



LGBTQ: CHOICE OR GENETICS

"The family is threatened by growing efforts on the part of some to redefine the very institution of marriage, by relativism, by the culture of ephemeral, by a lack of openness to life."

—Pope Francis on Marriage [01/2015]

TEASER:

A couple of days before Thanksgiving, Joy Behar, on *The View*, said, "People should come out of the closet at the Thanksgiving table." A shocked Whoopie Goldberg asked her to clarify that statement. Ms. Behar replied, "I mean exactly what I said. People should use the Thanksgiving table to come out of the closet. And, if the family doesn't like it, that person should leave the table and walk out the door."

Maybe the best way to say "Happy Thanksgiving" or "Merry Christmas" isn't by dropping a hot button bomb like that. So how do we deal with someone we love coming out of the closet? It might just happen this Christmas.

INTRODUCTION:

There's a tsunami rolling over us. February 2021 ABC Poll: 5.6% of Americans now identify as LGBTQ, double the amount eight years ago in 2012. Among Gen Z's, the number a whopping 15.6%. Estimates that a quarter of this generation will identify as LGBTQ within the next decade.

4,000% increase in transgender conversions in past decade in Great Britain & North America. Gender dysphoria among 5&6 six-year-olds doubled in last five years. New term by Brown University study: Rapid Onset Dysphoria.

Headline from December 29, 2019 NBC report: A Very LGBTQ decade: Gay Marriage, Trans Rights, and a Rainbow Wave.

A SECOND TSUNAMI:

More than Rainbow Wave. More like Rainbow Tsunami. Have to deal better than we did with the first tsunami in the mid 1800s: Charles Darwin and *The Origin of the Species* that rocked the church and changed everything.

First Tsunami: Ineffective responses of the Church

1. **Denial.** Head in the sand.
2. **Bad Science:** Bishop Usher's date
3. **Convergence:** The Gap Theory
4. **Schizophrenia.** Sacred/Secular dichotomy
5. **Adaptation.** Turning history into myth

Second Tsunami: First about origins of man. This is about the very nature of man. Much worse. But same responses.

1. **Denial.** Fear of grappling with rainbow issues
2. **Bad Science [and Bible]** Holding to assumptions that are not true scientifically or biblically.
3. **Convergence:** Converging biblical interpretations with new cultural norms.
4. **Schizophrenia:** Professing belief in the Bible on Sunday, going along with rainbow wave Monday through Saturday.
5. **Adaptation:** Rather than taking LGBTQ prohibitions in Scripture, redefining them in a friendlier light toward rainbow desires.

A GLOSSARY OF TERMS

LGBTQ: Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Gay [usually male homosexuals], Transgender, and Q which can either mean Questioning [as in, "I'm not sure what I am yet."] or Queer.

Queer:

Sex:

Intersex:

Gender and Gender Identity:

Non-binary:

Transgender:

Cisgender:

Sexual Identity:

Asexual:

Pansexual:

Issue for us: 1 Chronicles 12:32, the Men of Issachar.

1) Know the times; 2) Know what to do about it.

JESUS SPEAKS TO LBGTQ ISSUES [Matthew 19:1-12]

1) **Trick Questions** [Matthew 19:3; Deuteronomy 18:17-20]

2) **Back to the Beginning** [Matthew 19:4-6 & Genesis 2:24]

- **The Creator, not the created ones determine who we are when it comes to sex, gender, and sexual activity** [Matt. 19:4, Gen. 2:24; Psa. 139:12&13]
- **Our creator, and not created humans or their created cultures, determines the boundaries of marriage and sexuality.**
“Leave” = *Commitment* to monogamy
“be United” = *Covenant* to go the distance
“become one flesh” = *consummation* through sexual Intimacy.

In the above order. To reverse it is to curse it.

Putting it all together: Sexual intimacy can only be between a man and a woman, in a covenant marriage for life. God’s plan does not allow for premarital sex, extramarital sex, homosexuality, bi-sexuality, pansexuality, bestiality, pedophilia, divorce or remarriage [except for adultery], or serial marriages. Sadly, by opening the floodgates of marriage and remarriage, as well as a lax view of living together and premarital sex, that has brought about so much of the new perversions of God’s plans [Hosea 8:7]

3) **The Reality of a Post-Genesis 3 World.** [Why Moses permitted divorce [Matthew 19:8&9]

We have to deal with the hand dealt us.

We cannot violate Clear Scripture demands [Matthew 19:9]

- 4) **A Genesis 2 life is never easy in a post-Genesis 3 World.** [the disciple's response in Matt. 19:10]

The issue of the Eunuch [Matthew 19:12&13] Eunuchs are by definition sexually dysfunctional, unable to fulfill the demands of Genesis 2:24. This is a useful tool to deal with LGBTQ issues, particularly on the question of why people are sexually dysfunctional [not a pejorative term or gay slur, but in terms of functioning according to God's design in Genesis 2:24]

- **Like some eunuchs, some people are born with sexual dysfunctions.** [vs. 13] Sin twists everything, even that which is in the womb.
- **Like some eunuchs, some people are shaped by other people to be sexually dysfunctional** [vs. 13]
- **Like some eunuchs, some people choose to be sexually dysfunctional** [vs. 13]

SO WHERE DO WE START?

- 1) **With humility.** One of the best antidotes to judging or condemning the actions of others is a self-awareness about ourselves and our own sins and shortcomings.
- 2) **With Convictions.** Like Jesus, we must not roll over on God's design for sexuality, marriage, or family. We will be persecuted and cancelled. Just like Jesus. But it's the only way we'll change the world like Jesus.
- 3) **On our Knees.** Prayer is the best way to protect our children and grandkids in a seductive culture. It's the only way we will bring them home from the far country. It's the only way they will be redeemed and changed. It's the only way we will know what to do next, and how to respond to the difficult questions.
- 4) **By accepting them without blessing, affirming or celebrating their lifestyles.** Open ears, open hearts, open doors without compromise.

We will be moved by our compassion but not from our convictions.