

The Old Paths

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“God Created Male And Female”

Jarrod Jacobs

A few months ago, there was a news report about the Irving Middle School in Lincoln, Nebraska, and their decision to not refer to their students as “boys” and “girls”, but rather in “non-gender” terms. Specifically, a training document was distributed to the faculty discouraging them from identifying their students according to gender. Instead, they were to use “gender inclusive terms” when referring to the students. This includes calling their younger students such things as “purple penguins” so as to avoid calling them “boys and girls.” The training document also spoke negatively of the “binary terms” of “boy” and “girl” or “male” and “female”, and suggested that gender is actually a “spectrum”. Included in this “spectrum” are: “neither”, “two-spirit”, “androgynous”, “gender-neutral” and others.

In recent weeks, it has been reported that the social media website, Facebook, now gives its subscribers 59 options for a user’s “gender”! In Kentucky, our legislature took up valuable time this month to discuss whether or not certain boys can use the girls’ bathroom in public schools, and vice versa. “Political correctness” has run amok!

Though men suggest gender is a “spectrum,” God does not. The distinction between genders is

what God established at the beginning (Gen. 1:26-28). God made Adam, a male (Gen. 2:7; I Tim. 2:13), and then created Eve, a female, as his companion (Gen. 2:18-24; I Tim. 2:13). From this union has sprung all future generations of boys and girls, who then became men and women (Gen. 5:4, 7, 10, 13, 19, 22, 26, 30; etc.), and the cycle continues today. Male and female is a beautiful distinction that God established.

Why this push for “gender inclusion” and the like? Could I suggest such indoctrination is an outgrowth of the evolutionary theory. Speaking of God’s creation as “neither,” “two-spirit,” and the like is to say that we are not created beings. Such an attitude is very much like the people who are described in Romans 1:28. Just as the theory of evolution strikes at the heart of Bible inspiration and of the existence of God Himself, so also does playing havoc with God’s creation by using “gender inclusive terms.” This is a strike against God who made His creation male and female! Friend, God made us, and He created the DNA, the genes, and all aspects of us. People who have the “XY” chromosome are male, and those who have the “XX” chromosome are female. Think about it, even among the plant and animal life there is such a thing as “male” and “female.” We recognize this in other parts of God’s creation. Why are we trying to take it away in God’s humans?

God’s order of male and female cannot be denied (Gen. 1:26-28). Instead of fighting against God and His order in this world, let us learn from the book of God about His plan for saving all His creation (male and female) from sin (Mk. 16:16). Obey His word, and be a blessed people for doing so!

You Will Never Be Sorry ...

Selected and Adapted

- For thinking before acting.
- For hearing before judging.
- For forgiving your enemies.
- For being candid and frank.
- For helping a fallen brother.
- For being honest in business.
- For thinking before speaking.
- For being loyal to the Lord’s church.
- For standing by your principles.
- For stopping your ears to gossip.
- For bridling a slanderous tongue.
- For harboring only pure thoughts.
- For sympathizing with the afflicted.
- For being kind and courteous to all.

GOING FOR THE GOLD

Aric Russell

In Revelation 21:18 and 21, we find that Heaven is described as a city of pure gold. Think about this, we as Christians are striving for the gold. Just as athletes who compete on the Olympic stage are striving for the gold medal, we as Christians are also striving for the gold medal. If we want to win the gold medal, that is the crown of life. Then what is required of us?

The first thing that is required of us is a desire to go to Heaven. The athletes of the Olympic Games have a strong desire to win the gold medal. For us as Christians, our burning desire must be that of Heaven. We cannot go to Heaven unless we have a strong desire to do so. In Philipians 1:23, we find that Paul has his heart tugged two ways. Paul said his desire is to depart from this earth and go to Heaven, where Christ is. In fact, he said it is much better there. On the other hand, in verse 24, Paul knows that staying on this earth was of more profit for those in Philippi. The point, however, is that Paul desired to go to Heaven. We must have the same desire.

The next thing that is required is commitment. Commitment is essential to the athletes of the Olympic Games. If they were not committed, there would be no chance of winning the gold. The same is true for Christians. We must be committed if we want to go to Heaven. Think back to the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37. When we read these verses, we find that a cer-

tain lawyer asked Jesus, *“What shall I do to inherit eternal life?”* Jesus responded by asking what is written in the law. Notice the response in verse 27. The lawyer said, *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”* This passage shows us that we must be completely committed to the cause of Christ. If we want to inherit eternal life, that is, if we want the gold. Then we must love God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all of our mind.

Another thing that is required is sacrifice. Certainly Olympic Athletes know what sacrifice is all about. They have to stay on a certain work out plan and diet. They must sacrifice things that others might enjoy in order to be able to compete at the highest level. The same is true for Christians. If we want the gold we must make sacrifices in our lives. In fact, Romans 12:1-2 tells us we are to be a living sacrifice for God. We are to be holy and acceptable to Him. Are you living your life as sacrifice to God?

Finally, we must have endurance. Olympic athletes certainly train for endurance. They train in

order to complete their event as fast as they can. They do not want to tire out half way through their event, so they work to build up endurance. That should be the same for us as well. We as Christians must endure till the end. Hebrews 12:1 says, *“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”* Are we running our race with endurance? Are we pushing to the end? If we run with endurance, and finish our race being faithful to the Lord, we will indeed gain the crown of life. Revelation 2:10 tells us to be faithful unto death and we will receive the crown of life.

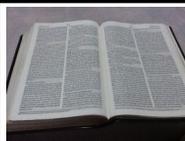
Just as athletes train hard in order for a chance to win the gold, we Christians, must train each day in order to receive the crown of life. Won't we all strive to train ourselves to run the race that is set before us?

A Thought Worth Thinking

“No man is too wicked to go to church!
No man is too righteous to stay away!”

- Claude Davis, 1965

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