

Engaging the Heart

- I. Alice in Wonderland helps us to grasp our confused culture and friends.
 - A. In Wonderland nothing is what it seems to be.
 - B. In Wonderland normal is really abnormal. More accurately, abnormal is normal!
 - C. Mad hatters, angry queens! Sounds like today!
 - D. Western culture has fallen down the proverbial “rabbit-hole”!
- II. This is the umpteenth version of the Garden or the Temptation to the nth degree.
 - A. Satan’s 1st ploy was “has God ***really said?!?***”
 - B. Admittedly, this is extreme, but it is the same lie in a different form and on immoral steroids.
 - C. We are like the person pulled under in the ocean’s undertow as we are caught in the riptide of our culture’s pull.
- III. Since the Renaissance/Reformation western culture has been in a life and death struggle.
 - A. The divide between these two camps has grown wider and wider.
 - B. Most think the battle is between conservatives and progressives. No, that is just the internecine battle of conservative rationalists and progressive romantics.
 - C. The real battle is Biblical Christianity versus Biblical Creationism versus evolutionary humanism. Just listen to Limbaugh or Beck talk to a conservative homosexual.
- IV. Biblical creationism versus evolutionary monism, cf. Peter Jones’s “Oneism versus twoism.” Western Romanticism wedded to Eastern mysticism is truly the “Wonderland”!
- V. Do not miss the blatant religious issues in this battle.
 - A. The LGBTQ+ movement is a cover for Satan trying to get people to declare that they are god over their lives.
 - B. Transgenderism is a religious statement even if individuals do not nor cannot grasp its true nature.
 - C. This is the real “Screwtape Letters”
- VI. This is, surely, an identity issue.
 - A. Let’s look at this for your sake.
 - B. Let’s look at this for the sake of your family, church, country and the global culture.
 - C. Above all, let’s look at this for God’s glory.

Exposition of the Word

- I. You face certain “givens” that cannot be ignored nor changed.
 - A. You are a creature not a god. You are the image-bearer of God, Gen 1-2. God gets to define you, not you. You can run from this truth but cannot hide! Think of gravity as an example. If I think I’m a bird and try to fly I’ll fail.
 - B. You are either male or female and have no other choice, Gen 1-2. God did not make a 3rd category. Yes, there are post-Fall abnormalities but you are male or female to the cellular level! To confuse the two sexes is forbidden, Deut. 22:5. This is an abomination, not just a minor, typological faux pas. You can run from this truth but you cannot hide.

- C. You are a fallen sinner born in the 1st Adam, Gen 3; Rom 1-3, 5. Note that Paul in Romans 1-3 includes Jew and Gentiles in the 1st Adam. You can run from this truth but you cannot hide. All men in the 1st Adam-- die!
- II. You are, **therefore**, a reflection of your god.
 - A. Jaweh is the triune Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer.
 - B. Psalm 115 makes the point of what this means **functionally**.
 - C. Matthew 6:19-34 extends this functional connection between the god you serve and how you live.
 - D. God and His creation are a binary construction. The Creator/creature distinction is of the utmost importance.
 - E. The husband and wife are a reflection of this binary relationship: Jaweh/Israel; Christ and the Church.
 - F. All substitutes for the True God are satanic substitutions. Mr. Potato-head is a cute game, but that approach to God is **not funny**.
- III. Your gender is an important factor in your being an image bearer and not a god.
 - A. All humans have much in common across gender lines: both are image bearers; can have the fruits of the Spirit; live the beatitudes, etc.
 - B. But, these are reflected in gender specific complimentary ways.
 - C. The structure of human relationships is captured in the **Westminster Larger Catechism's** exposition of the 5th commandment, question and answer #s 123-133.
 - D. All orthodox theological constructs are at stake: the Trinity, God's nature, creation, Fall and redemption. Cf., **The Battle for the Biblical Family**.

Exhortation for Life

- I. This impacts your self-identity.
 - A. SELF: Ex. Satan vs. God; Cain vs God; Lamech vs God; Enoch's generation vs God, the Flood generation, Babel, etc.
 - B. Marriage: Jaweh/Israel; Christ/church
 - C. Parenting: gender modeling and instruction, Ephesians 6
 - D. Church: elders vs laymen; the proper working out of Ephesians 4 and each part contributing
 - E. City, State, Country: salt/light, cf., CC Zimmerman in **The Battle for the Biblical Family**. Remember Max weber's **The Protestant Work Ethic**.
 - F. Global missions: we cannot afford to export a gender confused gospel "knockoff"! The "insider movement" on steroids. Good and evil really do exist!
- II. You need to study.
 - A. Books:
 1. Peter Jones: **The God of Sex: How Spirituality Defines Your Sexuality** (Colorado Springs: David C Cook, 2006) and many other titles
 2. Nancy R Pearcey: **Love thy Body, Answering Hard Questions about Life and Sexuality** (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2018)
 3. Steven D Smith: **Pagans and Christians in the City: Culture Wars from the Tiber to the Potomac**, (Grand rapids: Eerdmans, 2018)
 - B. Articles by GCS:

1. ***How Did We Get Where We Are?: A Cultural and Biblical Analysis of the Sexual Revolution***, The Reformed Presbyterian Journal, 4:2 (Spring 2018), 23-37.
2. ***Gender Blending and Confusion***, *tbp*, The Reformed Presbyterian Journal, 5:2 (Spring 2019)
3. ***The Cult of Gay Christianity***, *tbp*, The Reformed Presbyterian Journal
4. ***The Biblical Ethics of Transsexual Operations***, Journal of Biblical Ethics in Medicine, Vol. 4, No. 2, 30-34.