

Heterosexual Hypocrisy

Introduction. Rachel Leland Levine is an American pediatrician, and a four-star admiral in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, who has been the United States assistant secretary for health since March 26, 2021. She is the highest-ranking openly transgender official in the Biden administration.

Lia Catherine Thomas is an American swimmer and student at the University of Pennsylvania. In March 2022, she became the first known transgender athlete to win a Division I national championship in any sport. Her athletic achievements as a trans woman sparked a furious public debate about transgender women in sports.

This past Thursday (March 24, 2022), Supreme Court nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson was asked to define the word “woman” and she refused to do so. Such exchanges reflect the current state of gender politics in the U.S.

These three may seem like egregious examples of what’s going on in our culture, but my guess is they’ll become more mainstream. There’s several ways we can react to the rising LGBTQ+ acceptance. We could be incensed and disgusted. We could ridicule and post inappropriate and hurtful memes on social media. Today, I want you to consider another reaction.

Christians often bristle or are dismissive of the charge of “hypocrisy” without really considering that it might actually be true. To be sure, the charge is frequently falsely levied as the last (or first) resort for those who have no other legitimate defense for their sinful practices. And let’s be clear, there is no scriptural defense for homosexuality, as 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 clearly indicates.

Today’s lesson is not one that provides joy either in the writing or preaching of it, but perhaps it will provide opportunity for thoughtful consideration of three areas where Christians can be hypocritical regarding these current LGBTQ+ issues in society.

I. Failing To Control Heterosexual Thoughts

- A. Porn websites account for the #9 and #10 most visited websites in the world, with about seven billion combined monthly visits.
 1. The use of pornography is just as wrong for heterosexuals as it is for homosexuals. It is just as wrong to “look on a woman to lust for her” heterosexually as it is for one to look on another person of the same sex to lust after them (Matthew 5:28).
 2. When there is no lawful avenue of expression of the sexual desires, celibacy is the only right choice (1 Corinthians 6:12-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8).
- B. Also, if we’re going to be offended at the displays of homosexual affection in gay pride parades, then we need to be just as offended at immodest dress.
 1. We should be just as disturbed at seeing a women in a bikini, or men and women in clothing that doesn’t cover their body as we are at seeing a kiss between two people of the same sex.
 2. God expects women to clothe themselves modestly (1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Peter 3:3-6; cp. Proverbs 11:22; Isaiah 20:4; Nahum 3:5-6). God expects men to control their eyes and hearts (Galatians 5:22; 2 Peter 1:6).

II. Making Allowances For Premarital And Extramarital Sin

- A. Let's face it: Homosexuality isn't the cause of illegitimate births. And we don't need statistics to tell us that sexual diseases are contracted more often by premarital heterosexual promiscuity than by the homosexual version of the same. Trumpeting 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 to condemn homosexuality while ignoring or minimizing what it says about fornication (sex with someone to whom one is not married) is hypocritical.
 - 1. Many who call themselves "Christians" no longer teach or even expect their adolescent children to keep themselves pure for their future spouses, and they even make allowances and provisions for them to commit fornication.
 - 2. "Boys will be boys" or "men will be men" — or their female equivalents, are nothing more than excuses for sin. Please hear and heed the Word of God (Romans 13:13-14). We can't ignore, minimize, or excuse unrighteousness premarital expressions of sexuality.
- B. God placed the rightful expression of human sexual desires within heterosexual marriage (1 Corinthians 7:1-5). This means that we have the ability to control our desires until they can be lawfully expressed within heterosexual marriage.
 - 1. But, while many "Christians" correctly condemn the expression of homosexual desires in or out of marriage, they give little attention (let alone condemnation) to the unlawful gratification of heterosexual desires either in or out of marriage.
 - 2. This is hypocritical. If we're going to require celibacy of homosexuals because there is no lawful way for them to indulge their desires, then we must also be willing to practice heterosexual celibacy when we are not in a position to gratify them scripturally (Hebrews 13:4).

III. Advocating Divorce For Unscriptural Causes

- A. It is hypocritical to decry "the desecration of the sanctity of marriage the way God intended it" relative to homosexual marriages while disregarding His laws for heterosexual marriage by divorcing "for any cause at all" (Matthew 19:3).
- B. God instituted marriage for one man and one woman for life (Genesis 2:24) — not until we "grow apart" or "fall out of love." God hates divorce (Malachi 2:16), and there are only two righteous ways for a marriage to end: death (Romans 7:2-3) and adultery (Matthew 5:32; 19:9).
- C. However, there have been so many Christians and churches who have compromised the truth on divorce and remarriage. The following are several doctrines that have been developed and believed among brethren:
 - 1. The teaching of Jesus was Old Testament doctrine.
 - 2. The alien sinner is not amenable to the laws of Christ.
 - 3. Baptism changes an adulterous relationship.
 - 4. Couples in adultery don't have to separate.
 - 5. Couples can put away after adultery is committed post-divorce.
 - 6. Remarriage is acceptable when the unbeliever departs.
 - 7. Divorce for the "kingdom of heaven's sake."
 - 8. A couple divorced for fornication can't remarry.

- D. Disregarding God's laws for heterosexual marriage by divorce for any cause has done far more damage to the "moral fabric of our society" than homosexual marriage ever has or will. This doesn't make same-sex marriage right, but it does make "Christians" hypocritical when they condemn it while unscripturally divorcing their spouses and living in adultery (through unlawful remarriage) as a result themselves.

IV. We're Going To End With One Word: Hope

- A. While we have talked plainly about sin today, we need to also provide a path for people to overcome the incredibly strong temptation of sexual impurity.
 - 1. These are difficult subjects to talk about. They seem taboo and off limits. But lots of people struggle with them.
 - a) When we preach about behavior, we need to preach with hope. If we don't, we create frustrated, disillusioned strugglers.
 - b) They need to know that what they're searching for will never fill the void that Jesus can fill with His genuine love and purpose for a righteous life.
 - 2. We direct people to the Word of God (Psalm 119:9-11). We want it to become implanted in the heart (James 1:21) and show its power to overcome the evil one (Romans 1:16; 1 John 2:13-14). Many good resources that are based off godly principles are available for overcoming temptation.
- B. Repentance is necessary in every aspect of sexual impurity (cp. Acts 19:16-20). We invite people to confess and change rather than continuing to succumb to temptation and sinking deeper into guilt and shame (James 1:13-15). So providing helpful resources to overcome it frees people to real change and incredible potential in life.

Conclusion. The practice of homosexuality is biblically wrong whether it is in or out of marriage (Romans 1:24-27). But Christians who rail against it while refusing to abide by God's laws pertaining to heterosexual expression and marriage themselves are just as wrong, and will suffer the same eternal fate (Revelation 21:8). Truth spoken from hypocrisy is rarely heard. Truth spoken in love and with sincerity has a much better chance.

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