

Clothing – Gender Distinction

Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; **male and female** created he them."

Matthew 19:4 "And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them **male and female**,"

Mark 10:6 "But from the beginning of the creation God made them **male and female**."

Deuteronomy 22:5 "The **woman** shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a **man**, neither shall a **man** put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are **abomination** unto the LORD thy God."

I am distinctly, unapologetically, and joyfully a female. I was created that way by God at the moment of my conception. As God fashioned and wrote down my members, He purposefully inscribed my gender in every cell of my body. Psalm 139:16 declares, "Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."

As a lady by design, I have chosen to recognize and celebrate God's design for me by my choice of what I "put on" and "wear." No matter what weather, no matter what social setting, no matter what activity, my goal is to dress in such a way that anyone can tell I'm a lady. My hairstyle is unmistakably feminine. My shoes are unmistakably feminine. Any accessories are unmistakably feminine. My casual wear is unmistakably feminine. My dress clothes are unmistakably feminine. When I work around the house, I am unmistakably feminine. When I step out of the house, I am unmistakably feminine. I was created a female, and I rejoice in God's choice for me. I celebrate it. I get to be a girl.

When our infinitely creative God created mankind, He chose to create exactly two genders. No more, no less, and no middle. He makes each of us either **male** or **female**. And yet there are those who disregard His 'either/or' creation of **man** and **woman**. You've seen that couple walking ahead of you. Two ballcaps. Two scraggly little ponytails. Two baggy T-shirts. His and hers jeans. Two sets of scuffed-up tennis shoes. You can't tell what you're looking at, unless his jeans are baggy and her jeans are 'jeggings.' It's confusing, isn't it?

Our Creator hates when we take His binary design of **male** and **female** and we blur and shade it into so many shades of grey. Ladies' neckties, mens' nail polish (after all, it's such a masculine shade!), feminine prints on masculine cuts, and little boys with long curls (they're too 'cute' to cut). And 'hate' is not too strong of a word to use. God declares such confusion to be an **abomination**! (Deuteronomy 22:5) Remember, "God is not the author of confusion." (I Corinthians 14:33a) If God did not author such confusing fashion designs, then who is it that is rejoicing in this 'genderless clothing'? Is that really the side you want to side with?

It is abominable to say to God, 'I don't think you knew what You were doing when You made me this way.' It is abhorrent to, by your clothing, second guess your Designer. Isaiah 29:16 declares, "Surely your **turning of things upside down** shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?" And while you would never say with your mouth that God is unwise or does not know what He is doing, yet **your clothing says it for you** when you dress in a way that is indistinct or that imitates the opposite gender. "Woe unto **him that striveth with his Maker!** ...Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?" (Isaiah 45:9)

The question is not so much, "Are pants just for guys, or can I get away with them, too?" It ought to be a question of "Is this the most distinct proclamation of my God-given gender?" It's less "What's wrong with this?" and more "What's right with this?" We as Christians are not pursuing the edge of the moral cliff. We are not looking for how far we can blur the distinction created by God. We are pursuing excellence.

We loudly oppose the gender confusion occurring in our culture today, and rightly so. But

have you ever considered your personal part in the fight for the faith? You can today and every day have a bold part in the culture war by declaring with your clothing choices that you recognize God's wise design of male and female and that you celebrate His choice for you.