Identity Matters – We’re Under Attack

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[www.comingoutministries.org](http://www.comingoutministries.org) [www.knowhislove.org](http://www.knowhislove.org)

Have we doubted God’s Word and accepted the language of others?

A “Sexual Identity” didn’t define Jesus. Why have we put such an emphasis on it?

Alfred Kinsey largely responsible for spearheading the introduction of “sex education” inside the school system. He was often referred to as the “Father of the sexual revolution.” He coined the phrase: “Children are sexual from birth.”

His sexual research included more than 10,000 interviews. He engaged in homosexual behavior with his fellow researchers as well as sexual manipulation of infants to the point of orgasm.

Kinsey is quoted as saying “The only unnatural sex act is that which you cannot perform.”

Mary Calderone – Director of Family Planning, initiated an organization called SIECUS, (Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S.) This organization implemented “sex education” into the school system and was funded by “Playboy’s” founder, Hugh Hefner.

Shortly after the introduction of “Sex Education” in the public school system, private and Christians schools also developed “Sex Education” in their curriculum.   
  
Sex Education was taught in classrooms that didn’t separate the boys from the girls.

The term “Sexual Orientation” isn’t derived from God’s Word. In fact we don’t hear the term until the “Sexual Revolution” is under way in the 1960’s. As the American Psychiatric Association removes “homosexuality” from a list of mental conditions, “Sexual Orientation” takes its place.

The statement on “homosexuality” from the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference, describes “homosexuality” as a “disturbance.” Wouldn’t all sin temptations be described as a “disturbance?”

“But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.” Ephesians 3:5

Child psychologist Miriam Calderone discovers that her profession is being hijacked.

“Once kids believe that sexuality is “who they are,” “their entire selves” from womb to tomb, the idea that it’s an appetite in need of restraint makes little sense. And the notion of waiting years for the right time and person sounds irrational. Why restrain “who you are”? Why wait for “your entire self”? Couldn’t that be unhealthy”? – Miriam Calderone

Ms. Calderone discovers that after the introduction of “sex education,” the rates of abortion, bi-sexual sex, premarital sex, pedophilia, euthanasia and homosexual sex rapidly increases.

From her book, “The Failure of Sex Education in the Church: Mistaken Identity, Compromised Purity,” Linda D Barlettt writes:

“The gradual slide toward paganism starts when a person still committed to the Bible entertains dissatisfaction with something God says about sex, and a single logic connects a series of steps that extend from sliding ever so slightly from biblical teaching at one end to full-scale attack on biblical morality on the other.”

Are we interested in “sexual purity” any longer? Are we gradually adopting “pagan thinking?”

Do we consider or even desire what God says is possible through Him? What’s your identity in Jesus?

1 Corinthians 6: 9-11 Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with mennor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God…and now you are a non-practicing homosexual. Is that what it says? NO!!! Praise God… It says… “such ***were*** some of you***.”***

‘Coming Out’ Ministries has been accused by many inside Adventism of being a “change” ministry. “Change” ministries have often been advocating to change a “gay” person to a “straight” person. ‘Coming Out’ Ministries has never adopted this as a goal. We advocate for the “change” that the Holy Spirit brings upon someone’s heart to live in agreement with God, rather than allowing behavior to be dictated by the flesh. Abstaining from behavior that God does not condone.

“Let the people of God arouse out of sleep and begin in earnest the work of repentance and reformation; let them search the Scriptures to learn the truth as it is in Jesus; let them make an entire consecration to God, and evidence will not be wanting that Satan is still active and vigilant. With all possible deception he will manifest his power, calling to his aid all the fallen angels of his realm.” The Great Controversy – page 398

What’s my identity in Christ?

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.”

Isaiah 43:18 & 19 “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.”

On October 9, 2015, Andrews University voted on a position paper, “An Understanding of the Biblical View On Homosexual Practice and Pastoral Care.”

The entire 21 page document can be located at: <https://www.andrews.edu/sem/statements/seminary-statement-on-homosexuality-edited-10-8-15-jm-final.pdf>

“On page 3 of the document, the ethics committee says “…we do not enter the debate over whether or how much of the orientation is inherited or acquired, since no Scripture passages directly address this point.”

I’m well aware of what the document does and does not say. I’m simply asking from the perspective of someone who lived openly as a gay man for forty years; “Doesn’t God promise me more than what this document reflects?”

“Also, after condemning homosexual practices in Romans1:26–27, Paul states in Romans 2:1: “Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things.” Thomas Schmidt has provided wise admonition for us today: “We must express our disapproval of homosexual practice in the context of our own sexual fallenness.” 41 Pg. 16

Is this suggesting that no one lives according to God’s percepts in relation to God’s plan of intimacy between one man and one woman?

“Most, if not all, have heard sermons that condemn homosexuals as persons, failing to distinguish between homosexual attraction or orientation and the practice of homosexuality. All persons, including practicing homosexuals, should be made to feel welcome to attend our churches while non-practicing gay persons should be welcomed into membership and church office.”

When we looked at 1 Corinthians 6:11 … did we discover that God describes us as “non-practicing gay persons?” 2 Corinthians 5:17 “New Creatures” in Christ.

“Recent literature denies the possibility that gay and lesbian persons can be changed, and even claims that change attempts are harmful. Other important studies show that there are occasional reliable testimonies of such change among those that seek for faith-based counseling.” Pg. 17

Does this statement deny the “change” that is possible through Jesus Christ? That hearts can be given to Him and we can decide to live for Him? The document doesn’t elaborate on what the “change” is that takes place when a gay person chooses Jesus. Might there have been some benefit in interviewing those who have experienced “change” of the heart and choose to abide in Christ today? Are we taking God at His Word?

Philippians 4:13 which was a life changing verse when I considered living in agreement with God, says that “All things are possible” that please… honor and glorify God.

Instead of choosing “gay pride” today, I pray that God takes away pride and humbles me to live in agreement with Him. I gave the rainbow back to Him. It belongs to Him and it’s His promise to me.

I have great love and passion for gay men and women today. Why? Because living with a “gay” identity consumed my most of my life. I wanted something more. I want all that God promises. I don’t want someone, especially believers in Chris to accept me as “gay.” I want them to point me to the identity that is possible in Jesus Christ. Today I want to help anyone struggling with any sin temptation… to claim life as a “New Creation,” living in agreement with Jesus.

My prayer is that pastorally, congregationally and personally … we will seek God together. Praying for each other and the healing that is promised. James 5:16