

## Seeing Ourselves and Others from God's Perspective

Big Picture thinking

Develop a biblical worldview -

Satan's counterfeits-

Ephesians 6:12 comes to life

***“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”***

Romans 1:18-32 – In context- all men are unrighteous (Jew and Gentile) and need the righteousness of God

Jew – has light of Scripture Gentile – did not – BUT Both were idolatrous

Both redeemed and unredeemed man shares the same nature and apart from the truth of God's Word will walk in finite understanding

Application: Do not neglect truth – it is your freedom (John 8:32,,2 Corinthians 3:17)

When truth is forsaken, errors multiply

Application: Examine yourself – 2 Corinthians 13:5

Application: John 15 – Abide in Christ

People who neglect the truth of God – of what He has revealed of Himself that should cause us to pursue an understanding of Him – are given over to their folly. Romans 1:18-32 teaches us that.

“It is the greatest honour God did to man that he made man in the image of God; but it is the greatest dishonor man has done to God that he has made God in the image of man.” Matthew Henry commentary, Romans 1:19-32).

Pray for God's restraining grace

## References for understanding terms in the culture war around homosexuality-

*Sexuality* relates to the biological differences between males and females. Genetics determine the 'sex' of an individual, the differences being anatomical as well as physiological and are present at birth.

*Gender* is more aptly described as *gender role* because particular cultures and societies influence gender through the way they define gender roles. These are expressed in norms and stereotypes for males and females that include behavior and interests (Balswick & Balswick, 2008). These roles include expectations of behavior in which males are masculine, rough and tumble, strong and aggressive, while females are expected to be gentle, feminine, and submissive.

Both sexuality and gender roles are up for debate in the culture – Reveals vain imaginations and foolish hearts that are darkened.

### Words to Ponder

"Thou hast made us for Thyself O God, and the heart of man is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Aurelius Augustine, 385 AD

"There is within every man a God-shaped vacuum, an emptiness that only He can fill."  
(attributed to Pascal, source uncertain)

How wonderful to know that when Jesus Christ speaks to you and to me, he enables you to understand yourself, to die to that self because of the cross, and brings the real you to birth. Ravi Zacharias

I say to you with emphasis that the *older you get, the more it takes to fill your heart with wonder, and only God is big enough to do that.*

Ravi Zacharias, Can Man Live Without God?, p 89

Worship is the submission of all of our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness, nourishment of mind by His truth, purifying of imagination by His beauty, opening of the heart to His love, and submission of will to His purpose. All this gathered up in adoration is the greatest of all expressions of which we are capable.

Ravi Zacharias, Can Man Live Without God, p. 151