



Resolution on Biblical Sexuality Tennessee Baptist Convention Cordova, 2022

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches that God created men and women in His own image, “Male and female, He created them” (Gen. 1:27); and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches the goodness of the human body and calls us to glorify God with our bodies (Gen. 1:31, John 1:14, 1 Cor. 6:12-20); and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches the inherent honor, dignity, value, and equality of the two sexes as created in God’s image, male and female, each bringing unique and complementary qualities to sexuality and relationships; and

WHEREAS, Jesus affirmed God’s order, design, and continuing work of creating His image bearers “male and female” (Matt. 19:4); and

WHEREAS, God opposes any rejection of His purpose and design, including the confusion of man as woman and woman as man (Gen. 1:27); and

WHEREAS, Many in today’s culture consider gender a social and mental construct, severed from biological and physical reality created by God, allowing for one’s sex to be solely determined by one’s own self-identification and not by biological reality; and

WHEREAS, Actions seeking to normalize and legally enshrine confusion about sexual identity and promote hormonal and surgical procedures in order to externally modify one’s anatomy from male to female and from female to male are outside God’s original design; and

WHEREAS, Evangelical Christian churches are not without guilt in failing to reach out and minister the gospel of Christ with compassion and respect to those who struggle with same-sex attraction and gender dysphoria while at the same time often failing to address the sexual sins of heterosexual congregants; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptist institutions, churches, and their leaders face continuing pressure to compromise biblical teaching on sexuality; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Tennessee Baptist Convention, meeting at Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tennessee on November 15-16, 2022, call on Tennessee Baptist churches to faithfully and unapologetically confess the biblical sexual ethic in all of its fullness, including the fact God created humanity male and female; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we resist the spirit of the age that would pressure us to ignore sin and to call evil good and good evil on all matters, including sexual ethics (Isa. 5:20, 2 Tim. 3:1-5), and that resistance of the spirit of the age also includes any who suggest we must abandon a display of Christian love, kindness, and gentleness in order to stand boldly for and proclaim Christian truth and clarify sin (1 Pet. 3:15); and be it further



RESOLVED, That all of our image-bearing neighbors who struggle with sexual identity, sexual confusion, and gender dysphoria will be met with love, compassion, prayer, truth, and gospel witness in our churches, and be it further

RESOLVED, That we oppose all efforts to legally enshrine the notion that one's sex can be self-determined rather than by biological reality as ordained by God; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we oppose the use of cross-sex hormones, puberty blockers, or elective sex-altering surgeries in children; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a failure to speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15) in our churches and to the culture on these fundamental matters of God's design and purpose would be both a failure to love God and our neighbor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we will minister compassionately to families, friends, and others impacted by a loved one's decision to live contrary to their biological sex; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That, because of our undying commitment to love God's image bearers by preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all without exception (Matt. 28:19–20; Acts 20:27; Rom. 11:36), we will be able to echo the words of the apostle Paul about those trapped in sin, including sexual sin, "And such were some of you. 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" (1 Cor. 6:11).

RESOLVED, That we believe it is parents' responsibility to teach their children about God's gift of sexuality at an appropriate age and that no gender-altering surgeries should be performed on children.

RESOLVED, That we are against schools teaching our children pornographic material under label of "sex education" and encouraging them to change their birth sex by indoctrinating them with gender confusion.

RESOLVED, That the messengers of the TBC firmly believe in the sanctity of life and that parents have full rights and control of their children's education and the responsibility to protect them from sexual perversions such as and not limited to LGBTQ+, homosexuality, Lesbianism, same-sex marriage, drag-queens, gender dysphoria, etc.