

Seldom do voters get to vote on a topic that so directly honors, not just the law of God, but His very image.

This vote is about nothing less. And we have no choice but to make our voice heard.

Would you think I was overstating the case a bit?

Let me show you why that is exactly what this issue is about...

Imagine the angels watching with bated breath as God spoke the world into existence: "Let there be light" – and heat and radiance flooded the universe.

God creates all of physical creation and it is magnificent. But then, on the sixth day, His pattern changed. God declares, *Let us make man in Our image.*

The angels know that what is coming next in this marvelous show will be a picture of the invisible God, it will show His image. What will it be? All of creation holds its breath!

In an instance, we see what it is: *a man and a woman.*

Man uniquely represents the image of God in creation
Woman uniquely represents the image of God in creation.

They are the only parts of creation that do this.

Man and women are one nature – human – represented in two different ways.

There is something about male that represents the image of God that woman does not.

There is something about female that represents the image of God that man does not.

What are we saying when we say that either man or woman is not essential for the family? Think about what is being challenged here.

We Satan originally attacked God, what did he do? He got us to doubt the word of God: "Indeed, has God said...?"

But in today he is not only attacking the Word of God, but the very Image of God and he is doing by the lie of same-sex marriage.

He is saying one fundamental part of the image of God – represented beautifully and uniquely in His creation of either male or female – is not necessary for the family.

If you think this issue of a state marriage amendment – an effort to protect the idea of natural marriage in our state's Constitution and law – is simply the latest skirmish in the culture war, you need to get a better grasp on your theology, the nature of God and the nature of man.

Any why a website run by some lesbian mothers sells little t-shirts and bibs for their babies that help the baby proclaim to the world, My Daddies Name is “Donor”

See:<http://familyevolutions.com/shopping/?linkpage=indexf2.cfm?Cat=%3Cfont%20color%3DF4F4F7%3E2%3C%2Ffont%3Ebaubles>

Under same-sex marriage, gender becomes meaningless.

How many of you – as husbands or wives, mothers or fathers – are uncomfortable with our state law saying you are merely optional for the family?

How many of you want your own children learning that about themselves as boys or girls?

Gender matters. Husbands and wives are essential for the family and mothers and fathers are important for children.

A loving and compassionate society always comes to the aid of motherless and fatherless families. A loving and compassionate society never intentionally creates them.

But that is exactly what every same-sex home does, but design.

And no society anywhere has ever raised a generation of children in same-sex homes. These are experimental homes.

In fact, a book written by two lesbian doctors, entitled “The Lesbian Parenting Book, which offers advice on raising kids in lesbian homes says,

“It will be interesting to see over time whether lesbians’ sons have an easier or harder time developing their gender identity than do boys who live with live-in fathers.”

Do you hear that? “It will be interesting to see...”

They admit this is an experiment. How many of you think it will be interesting to see?

VI. Understanding the Image of God in creation

But as important as husbands and wives are for a marriage and mothers and fathers are for children, the same-sex marriage issue is about so much more than that.

What would you think if I told you it was about the very image of God Himself? That same-sex marriage is a heretical proclamation about who God is?

Is it because the political opportunists on either side of the aisle keep it alive merely to galvanize their bases?

Voters are not always the brightest, but they are brighter than that.

Abortion remains a “hot-point” issue because it questions whether humans are really made in the image of God or are we only valuable when we are wanted by someone else?

IV. Same-Sex Marriage is another “hot-button” issue

The issue of same-sex marriage is a similar “hot-button” issue that many accuse the pro-family people of drumming up this issue simply to bring their base to the poles.

Think about the reasoning of this. For this to be true, pro-family activists would have had to manipulate the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court as well San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsome into favoring same-sex marriage. There might be a vast right-wing conspiracy, but it is not this vast!!!

Pro-family are reacting to dangerous changes in the family that have been forced upon us by radical courts and politicians.

But just as abortion is a major issue because it questions the fundamental question of whether humans at all stages of life are made in the image of God, same-sex marriage questions something even more fundamental.

V. Male and Female Matter

Same-sex marriage is a question of whether men and women, husband and wife, mother and father, are merely optional for the family.

If the same-sex family – two men or two women – are the functional equivalent of a mother/father family, then reason dictates that the thing that makes these two family forms different – either the man or the woman -- become like vanilla or chocolate ice cream: merely preferential, but certainly not necessary.

This deconstruction of gender is...

Why marriage licenses in Massachusetts, the only state in the union to legally accept same-sex marriage, now read: Party A and Party B.

See: <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/pre/prepdf/nonresclergyapp.pdf>

And why birth certificates in Spain, where same-sex marriage is legal, were just recently changed to “Progenitor A and Progenitor B” (Remember the Fifth Commandment: “Honor your Progenitor A and B!!!”)

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

WHAT DOES OUR STATE MARRIAGE AMENDMENT DEFEND?

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all^[b] the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

27 So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed *it was* very good.

I. Culture War is Nothing New

Seems like SSM is the latest chapter in this ongoing book called "the culture war" which many of us stopped reading some time ago.

Not all social issues are equal.

Some issues are more important than others because they challenge more fundamental questions; they attack more fundamental truths...

These issues require more of our attention and effort.

II. One of the biggest "culture war" issues: Abortion

Abortion is not about "right to choose" or "woman's control over her body"

Abortion is about how we define a "person" and at what age do we start protecting the youngest among us.

Abortion asks the question: "At what stage of development does a human being bear the image of God?"

The fact that God entered humanity in the incarnation at the earliest point of human development in Mary's womb leaves little doubt about how God feels about life in the womb.

There was not stage of God's incarnation where he was not both fully God and fully human.

III. Why is abortion such a "hot-button" issue?