

*How should we live in a world where
sexual expression is ultimate?*

PASTOR MIKE YODER • JOHN 4



Human life and sexuality have become *the* watershed moral issues of our day.

Nancy Pearcey

God's Design for Sexuality (Genesis 1–2)



So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them.

Genesis 1:27

God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib He had taken out of the man, and He brought her to the man.

Genesis 2:22

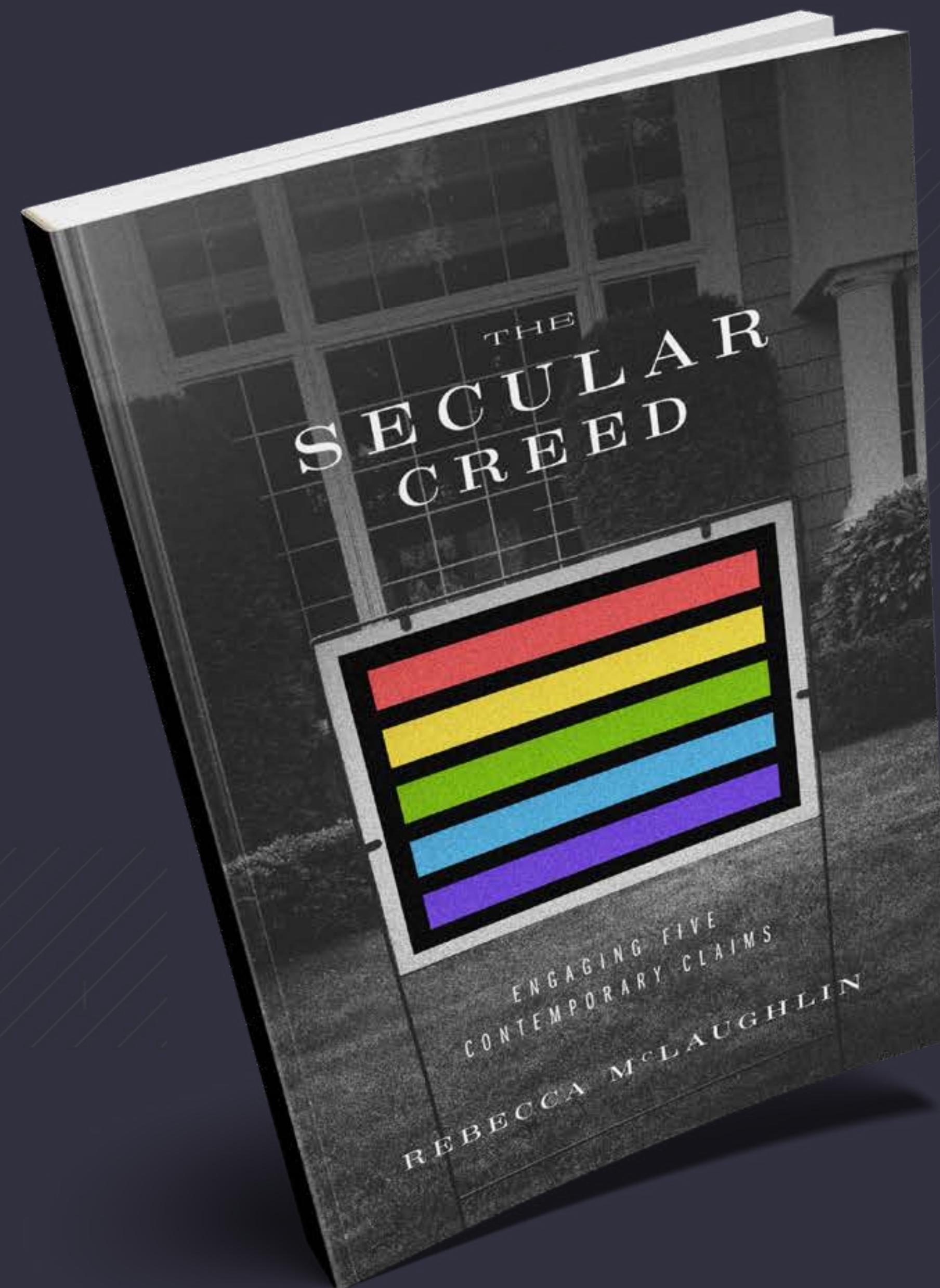
The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.”

Genesis 2:23

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24

Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.



Marriage isn't the goal of human existence. It's not the mountaintop. It's not the destination. It's a signpost.

Rebecca McLaughlin

Sin's Distortion of Sexuality

(Romans 1; 1 Corinthians 5–7)



Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.

They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator — who is forever praised. Amen.

Most Christians struggle at times with attractions that, if followed, would lead them into sexual sin. In this respect, we're all in the same boat.

Rebecca McLaughlin

But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.

1 Corinthians 5:11

Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men

1 Corinthians 6:9

nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the Kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:10

“I have the right to do anything,” you say — but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything” — but I will not be mastered by anything.

1 Corinthians 6:12

You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.” The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

1 Corinthians 6:13

By His power God raised the Lord from the dead, and He will raise us also.

1 Corinthians 6:14

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never!

1 Corinthians 6:15

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

1 Corinthians 6:18

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

1 Corinthians 6:19

you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

1 Corinthians 6:20

Now for the matters you wrote about: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.”

1 Corinthians 7:1

But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband.

1 Corinthians 7:2

Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

1 Corinthians 7:5

If the body is separate from the person, then what you do with your body sexually need not have any connection to who you are as a whole person. Sex can be purely physical, separate from love.

Nancy Pearcey

Current Issues in Sexual Distortions



The Christian and the Materialist hold different beliefs about the universe. They can't both be right. The one who is wrong will act in a way which simply doesn't fit the real universe.

C.S. Lewis

1. PROMISCUITY

The sexual revolution, if we're right about the universe, cannot keep its promises. Unhinged sexual utopianism can only go so far before it leaves the ground around it burned over, like every other utopianism.

Russell Moore

2. PORNOGRAPHY

3. HOMOSEXUALITY

While we may not be able to choose our sexual attractions, we are able to choose our sexual actions.

Rebecca McLaughlin

Today, when people see Christian opposition to gay marriage, they think it's just the same song, second verse. The reasoning runs like this...

Russell Moore

just as Christians have oppressed and terrorized African Americans, so Christians have oppressed and terrorized gay and lesbian people...

Russell Moore

[But] it takes as much careful editing to make the Bible seem like it supports segregation as to make it seem like it affirms gay marriage.

Russell Moore

4. TRANSGENDERISM

Whatever our beliefs, these young people's lives matter. Mocking or dismissing those struggling with their gender identity is never the right approach...

Rebecca McLaughlin

But encouraging emotionally vulnerable [people] to undergo medical treatments that will distort their still-developing bodies and affect their still-developing minds is also not an act of love.

Rebecca McLaughlin

Sexuality & the Gospel

(John 4, 8)



The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

John 4:15

He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.”

John 4:16

“I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband.”

John 4:17

“The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

John 4:18

If we could read the Gospels through first-century eyes, Jesus' treatment of women would knock us to our knees. Given the way Jesus treated women, it's no surprise that women flocked to Him. And they're flocking still.

Rebecca McLaughlin

When they kept on questioning Him, He straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.”

Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”

John 8:10

*“No one, Sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,”
Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”*

John 8:11

Redeeming Sexuality Through the Church



In Our Lives



The world's mantra is individual authenticity: "Be true to yourself." Christ's command is pervasive holiness: "Be transformed by Me."

I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I want to be, I am not what I hope to be in another world; but still I am not what I once used to be, and by the grace of God I am what I am.

John Newton

As a Community



In Christ we are one Body together, brothers and sisters,
comrades in arms, knit together in love...

Rebecca McLaughlin

If Christians lived like this, the plague of loneliness would be over, and all of us — single and married, same-sex attracted or straight, old or young, widowed or newlywed — would be embraced into a family.

Rebecca McLaughlin

To rail against the culture is to say to God that we are entitled to a better mission field than the one He has given us...

Russell Moore

At the same time, if we simply dissolve into the culture around us, or refuse to leave untroubled the questions the culture deems too sensitive to ask, we are not on mission at all.

Russell Moore

Yes. We face difficult times, every generation of the Church does. But we also face unprecedented opportunities, as cultural Christianity falls all around us...

Russell Moore

Many of our neighbors around us will be burned over by the unkept, and unkeepable, promises of the sexual revolution and of Faustian individualism. Short term, these things will ravage communities and families and churches...

Russell Moore

But long-term, they will leave people wanting. And so we need to be ready for those who — like the woman at the well in Samaria — need to hear of living water that can alone satisfy.

Russell Moore

To know Christ is to submit
our bodies to His plan...no
matter what our culture says.

