Identity Futures: The Cultural Undermining of Personal Identity

The Gospel carries big implications for our concept of self and identity. Yet we live in a hyper-connected social-media world that offers a constantly shifting smorgasbord of different identities and self-understandings. What impact is this having on society? And what are the opportunities for the Gospel?

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I.	Concept: what is identity and why should we care?						
II.	Journey: from natural law to designer selves: a (very) brief history of the Self						
III.	Babel: the marketing and modern media of self-invention						

IV.	Confusion:	the risks to	human	flourishing	and the	failure of	of self-esteem
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V. Opportunity: how then shall we live?

Suggested Readings:

Gergen, K (2000) The Saturated Self. Basic Books

Kuehne, Dale.S (1999) Sex and the i-World. Baker Academic

Harrison, G (2013) The Big Ego Trip (IVP)

Laitinen, A: Charles Taylor and Paul Ricoeur on Self-Interpretations and Narrative Identity http://www.jyu.fi/yhtfil/fil/armala/texts/2002a.pdf

Keyes, D (1984) Beyond Identity: finding yourself in the image and character of God. Servant Books

Jensen, M (2010) Martyrdom and Identity. T & T Clark Theology