

August 7, 2016

“the erasure of distinctions between the sexes is not only the most striking issue of our time, it may be the most profound issue our race has ever confronted.” — Willian Manchester.

Complementarianism — Men and women are equal in personhood, value and worth but they are given different gender-based roles in life.

Egalitarianism — Men and women are equal in personhood, value and worth but gender-based roles came from sin and were eliminated by Jesus.

What does the Bible teach about men and women?

Genesis 1

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:26–27 (ESV)

This is the book of the generations of Adam (Adam). When God created man (Adam), he made him in the likeness of God. Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man (Adam) when they were created. Genesis 5:1–2 (ESV)

Genesis 2

Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” Genesis 2:18–23 (ESV)

Adam was created first. Woman was created to be the proper helper for Adam for procreating and subduing the world.

I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; 1 Timothy 2:12–13 (ESV)

God formed the woman out of the man, not as a separate piece of creation from the dust of the earth.

For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man. For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. 1 Corinthians 11:7–9 (ESV)

Woman was created not just from Adam’s side but for Adam’s side.

Genesis 3

Satan tempted Eve to subvert Adam’s leadership in the family.

Satan knew a woman's natural disposition as a helpmate would make her more inclined to be deceived.

For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. 1 Timothy 2:13–14 (ESV)

Eve led the way to sin but Adam bore the responsibility of the sin.

Sin brought difficulty to core roles men and women play in life.

Sin didn't create gender roles, it caused rebellion against God-assigned gender roles.

Old Testament

All the prominent leaders of God's people in the Old Testament were men.

All priests in the Old Testament were male.

All kings of Israel, with rare exceptions, were male.

All the prophets in the Old Testament, with rare exceptions, were male.

The Old Testament prophets didn't look forward to a time of no gender roles but to a time of Godly male leadership.

New Testament

Could Jesus have been the daughter of God instead of the Son of God?

Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. Romans 5:14 (ESV)

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God. 1 Corinthians 11:3 (ESV)

While Jesus valued women, he chose 12 men to be the leaders of the early church.

Peter - 1 Peter 3:1-6

Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, when they see your respectful and pure conduct. Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening. 1 Peter 3:1–6 (ESV)

A wife's submission to her husband is the way she honors God.

Paul - 1 Timothy 2:8-15

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I

do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control. 1 Timothy 2:8–15 (ESV)

1. Men should give themselves to prayer, worship and unity.
2. Women should be known for inner beauty before outer beauty.
3. A woman must receive spiritual instruction submissively.
4. In congregational meetings, a woman is not to teach or exercise authority over a man.
5. Paul supported his male-only claim for leadership in the church from Genesis, not from culture.
6. A woman's best spiritual position is found in devoting herself to her core roles of wife and mother.

July 14 — CrossWinds Family Reunion in Florence Park
July 21 — Biblical Manhood and Womanhood - Part 2



Biblical Manhood and Womanhood - Part 1



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