

(What does God say?)

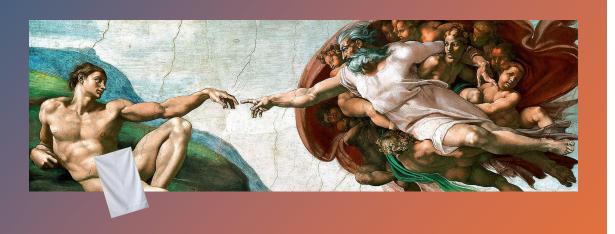


The pendulum swings of a confused culture

Gen1:26-28



So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.



Point 1 - Man and woman are the pinnacle of God's creation. They are created in God's image, to have a personal relationship with God, and they are given a purpose in God to rule over creation together.

Gen 2 - Created Distinctly Different

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.



18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a

Man being alone is not good.

helper fit for him."

נגָר כְּנֶגְדְוֹ: Ezer kenegdow

Ps 33:20 We put our hope in the LORD. He is our help and our shield.

19 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. 20 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.

21 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. 22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 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."

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.



Point 2 - Man and woman were created with distinction and different roles, the man as the head, the woman as the ezer kenegdo. But they were created to be one with a mandate to fill and subdue the earth.

The Effect of the Fall: Male/Female Strife

Gen 3:16 To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you."

Gen 4:7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it."

Work now is frustrating, ending in death

Gen 3:17 And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; 18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Point 3

- Original intent: Male headship in an interdependent oneness relationship, men and women working together to fulfill God's purposes to rule over creation.
- Result of the fall: Male and female fight over the right to rule over one another.
- **Redemption**: We are in the process of getting back to God's original intent.

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. (1 John 3:8)

How are men and women equal?

1. Equal Image Bearers

Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Gen 5:1b When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. ² He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them "man."



Galatians 3:28

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."



2. Joint heirs with Christ

Acts 2:17-18 (NIV) "'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people... Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

— Philippians 4:3 (NASB®)

How are men and women different?



James 4:7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Eph 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

> Church to Elders (Heb 13:17)



(Eph 5:21-32)

Kids to parents (Eph 5)



Wife to husband (Gen 1-3, Eph 5)