Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

Week 1: Intro and Biblical Theology of Gender
Week 2: Biblical Masculinity Part 1
Week 3: Biblical Masculinity Part 2
Week 4: Biblical Femininity Part 1
Week 5: Biblical Femininity Part 2
Week 6: Manhood & Womanhood in the Home Part 1
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Week 8: Manhood & Womanhood in the Church Part 1
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Week 10: Manhood & Womanhood in the World & Workplace
Week 11: Gender Confusion
Week 12: Objections to Complementarianism
Week 13: Sex, Marriage, & Same-Sex Attraction

Biblical Manhood and Womanhood – Lesson 4

Biblical Femininity, Part 1

I. Introduction: Exalted expectations, real challenges

- Women have greater dignity than the world ascribes to them
- Women have a greater problem than the world recognizes – and a greater Savior
- Women have been given instruction by God in his Word on how to express their womanhood

II. Opening Considerations

1. To live as a godly woman, on one level, simply seek godliness
2. As a woman, you’ll always express the fruit of the Spirit as a woman
3. Whenever we study God’s creation design, we need to remember that creation is fallen
4. Scripture sometimes describes femininity in the context of marriage

Summaries:

Biblical masculinity is displayed in a sense of benevolent responsibility to work God’s creation, to provide for and protect others, and to express loving, sacrificial leadership in particular contexts prescribed by God’s Word.

Biblical femininity is displayed in a gracious disposition to cultivate life, to help others flourish, and to affirm, receive and nurture strength and leadership from worthy men in particular contexts prescribed by God’s Word.

For further study:
1. God’s Design for Man and Womanhood, Andreas & Margaret Köstenberger
2. The Accidental Feminist, Courtney Reissig
3. Women & God: Hard Questions, Beautiful Truth, Kathleen Nielson

Questions and comments are welcome!
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III. Genesis 1-3

- Gen 1:26-27: *Equal in essence as image of God*

- Gen 2: *Distinct, complementary dispositions*
  - “Have Dominion” (1:26) / “Work and keep” (2:15)
  - “Be fruitful & multiply” (1:28) / “Helper fit” (2:18)
  - Eve as Adam’s “helper”

- Matthew Henry: “The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved.”

- Gen 3: *The results of the fall*
  - Man’s “working disposition” (Gen 3:17 – the ground is cursed); Woman’s “relational disposition” (Gen 3:16 – *child-bearing* and her relationship to the man are challenged by the fall)
  - Gen 3:20: “The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.” – Nurturing life both physically and spiritually (Titus 2:3, Luke 8:3)

IV. Proverbs 31:10-31

1. She uses her talents selflessly and wisely

2. Her endeavors bless her family and community (Acts 9:36, Rom 16:1)

3. She fears the Lord (31:30)

4. Her example should be freeing, not discouraging

V. Testimony and Conclusion