

# The Biblical Roles of Men and Women in the Home and in the Church

(1 Cor. 11:3-16 and Titus 2:3-5)

Mother's Day (mindful) that it is such a happy day for most; some not so much. Can't have children, have lost a child, have lost their mother. = We love you and SEE you!

-The greatest way we can honor every women in our church today is to preach God's Word and remind them what God says about them (their Value to God) and what God says to them = remind them of their beautiful, God-given roles within the home and church – especially in a radically feministic, God-hating culture where the world denigrates both marriage, the home with a nuclear family, and a woman's glory to support godly men as a calling.

**MAIN POINT: God has ordered the Home & Church to function *best* within divine roles for men & women.**

- **When we obey God's design for the home and the Church:**
- God is most **honored** ..these are His instructions b/c He is the Creator of the Family (marriage/home) & Church
- We best display God's **value** on His creation **who are we to think we can improve on His "outdated" instructions**
- The home and Church function more **effectively** accomplishing God's purposes to the world. =watching us
- *Each* of these roles assume spiritual **submission**.

Those who would protest that submissiveness and equality are mutually exclusive or contradictory – consider Jesus: **1 Cor. 11:3** "But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ." = Divine design of submission (roles)

- Christ is to submit to the Father. **The Father is the spiritual leader of Jesus.** Jesus is equal to God. He is God.
- Men are to submit to Jesus Christ. **Christ is the spiritual leader of men.** Men are not equal to Jesus. He is God.
- Women are to submit to men. **Men are the spiritual leaders of women.** Women ARE equal to men. = Creations.

In reflection of the Trinity and Christ's humble submission to the Father – even though Jesus is equal to the Father in essence – the Bible gives a clear mandate that men are to take the principle leadership role in the home and in the church – as men will give an account spiritually for the stewardship of the lives entrusted to them in this life.

## WHY?

**READ 1 Cor. 11:3-16 – Context:** one of the most confusing and controversial texts in N.T. (covering/symb. **Bapt.** )

"But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. <sup>4</sup> Every man who has *something* on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head. <sup>5</sup> But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for it is one and the same as the woman <sup>Ⓛ</sup>whose head is shaved. <sup>6</sup> For if a woman does not cover <sup>Ⓛ</sup>her head, have her also <sup>Ⓛ</sup>cut her hair off; however, if it is disgraceful for a woman to <sup>Ⓛ</sup>have her hair cut off or <sup>Ⓛ</sup>her head shaved, have her cover <sup>Ⓛ</sup>her head. <sup>7</sup> For a man should not have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. <sup>8</sup> For man <sup>Ⓛ</sup>does not originate from woman, but woman from man; <sup>9</sup> for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake. <sup>10</sup> Therefore the woman should have a *symbol of authority* on her head, because of the angels. <sup>11</sup> However, in the Lord, neither is woman <sup>Ⓛ</sup>independent of man, nor is man <sup>Ⓛ</sup>independent of woman. <sup>12</sup> For as the woman *originated* from the man, so also the man *has his birth* through the woman; and all things *originate* from God. <sup>13</sup> Judge <sup>Ⓛ</sup>for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God *with her head uncovered*? <sup>14</sup> Does even nature itself not teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him,<sup>15</sup> but if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her? For her hair is given to her as a covering. <sup>16</sup> But if anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no <sup>Ⓛ</sup>such [other] practice, nor have the churches of God." –Text: Divine Order. Design. Biblical Roles. Spiritual Submission

**We live in a very interesting time.** The world seems to be turned up on its end: We no longer celebrate masculinity or femininity as divine, as godly, as beautiful, or as good. Rather, in this modern culture, the value has shifted to the disintegration of the sexes. Today, the very biblical, physiological essential created nature of human sexuality is under attack because plain nature, physiology, and the Bible stand in the way of hardline feminism and the militant homosexual and transgender agendas – otherwise known as moral deconstructionism. We are living in a war! We are in a culture war, a philosophical war for the hearts and minds of our children.

- **I am not sure I even need to say this, but because of the confusing dialogue in our culture – let me iterate:**
- Sexual *identity* is Basic to human nature as part of God's **good** creation (Gen. 5:2) -**manhood/womanhood**
- Our very DNA (each cell in our bodies) give away whether we are XY or XX chromosomes = male or female

- The Bible declares there is a fixed, unchangeable, absolute, binary and beautiful difference between male and female humans. = this is God's design. The design has a function and a blessing with each difference.
- God has created man and woman as distinct moral beings, each with a special identity as male and female separately, created to glorify God, unite for the procreation of humanity, and the subjugation of the earth in complementary roles. Since the Garden of Eden, this is God's design and the way of all created nature.
- Binary distinctions & differences in this life are real and **serve a purpose**. A divine purpose. They are not sinful or bad or to be hidden/minimized. Men should not have to apologize for being men. Or women – as women.

**Though different, the Bible is also clear that men and women are EQUAL (equivalent; identical) in worth, personhood, dignity, significance, endowment, and in their calling to subjugate the earth in making it fruitful (Gen. 1:27-28).**

- Galatians 3:28 “There is neither Jew **nor** Greek, there is neither slave **nor** free man, there is neither **male nor female**; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” = emphasis is spiritual equality in salvation
- Cf. 1 Cor. 12:13 “For <sup>by</sup> one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.” Jesus is the great equalizer in the Church.”

Scripture is clear that men and women have equal worth and **equal need of each other**:

**VS. 11:** “However, in the Lord, neither is woman <sup>independent</sup> of man, nor is man <sup>independent</sup> of woman. <sup>12</sup> For as the woman <sup>originates</sup> from the man, so also the man *has his birth* through the woman; and all things <sup>originate</sup> from God.” Neither male nor female is superior to the other. We are equal before God in Christ.

**Yet the equality of men and women does not negate the unique distinctions of men and women physically, nor their God-given roles and responsibilities (stewardship) of their lives in the home and in the church. This is God's Heart in His Design and Function for males and females in the home and in the Church:**

**1) Men are called to represent Christ in his headship, servant leadership and love toward his wife.** God has called men to love their wives; to cherish them, protect them, and spiritually lead them -Eph. 5:28-30  
**\*Biblical headship** – divine calling for the man to take primary responsibility for Christ-like servant-leadership, provision, and protection in the home.

**VS. 3:** “But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.” *Why? Why is the Man the Head?*

**Vs. 7:** “For a man should not have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God”

- When God created the first human, God made a male human. A visible form of the invisible God that was made in God's image. (Gen. 1:27). Adam, as a male, was made lord over the earth – to name the animals and subdue and conquer the earth.
- The man displays the Headship over the earth as Jesus displays a Headship over the Church. This is distinctly male in creation and represents God's design of functional authority.
- To be made in the image of God and display the glory of God as maleness means: men display God's glory in their natural strength and prowess; Men's voices are deeper, the physiques more broad, strong, and bold than women's. The masculine being is characterized by self-possession, decisiveness, initiative, and leadership (headship).
- Men are called to reflect God's glory and image as husbands, fathers, sons, bridegrooms, **warriors, priests, and Kings** – all masculine roles and all roles which reflect God's actions toward humanity.
- Last, men reflect the glory of God in that they are tasked to lead the church as Elders, respecting the order of divine creation as worship.

**2) Women are to represent the Bride of Christ in her free and glad support in honor of his leadership**

Whereas man is the image and glory of God...

**Vs. 7:** *but the woman is the glory of man. <sup>8</sup> For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man; <sup>9</sup> for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.* (Gen. 2:21-22)

God's design was for man to have biblical headship over his wife, and over his leadership in the Church and for woman to accept Biblical Submission of his Christ-like, servant leadership of her life and heart.

**Biblical Submission** is to honor and affirm his leadership and help him carry it through according to her gifts.

*Submission = "To line up underneath" = an act of the will. YIELD sign (you have a choice to yield OR NOT) - Intestate car vs. Semi-truck*

## What is God's design for women? What are her divine, God-anointed Roles in the Home & the Church?

The role of a woman is to delight in God through her femininity. How is that defined? Biblically? Culturally? Pragmatically? The woman, in God's design, is to be a lover of God- to use her intellect, wisdom, intuition, and emotion to glorify God with all that she is. She is created beautifully different than man, distinct in her physique, her flare, her countenance, and in her reproductive maternal wonder – the carrier of life, the nurturer of the living, the cherisher of love, the cultivator of relationship, the encourager of growth, and lover of family.

**Titus 2:3-5** “ Older women likewise *are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good,* <sup>4</sup> *so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,* <sup>5</sup> *to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.*”

**Proverbs 31** adds that as a wife, she is to be diligent, a provider, industrious, a leader, decisive, strategic, profitable, wise, hard-working, generous, prepared, and a faithful worshiper of God.

“<sup>28</sup> Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband *also*, and he praises her, *saying:* <sup>29</sup> “Many daughters have done nobly, But you excel them all.” <sup>30</sup> Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. <sup>31</sup> Give her the product of her hands, And let her works praise her in the gates.”

If we understand the biblical essence of manhood and womanhood, and accept the roles of men and women in the home and regard them as beautiful and worshipful, then we will strive more faithfully to have harmony, unity, and fruitful ministry in the home and in our churches: We will be honoring God and HIS design for our lives, marriage, and

### APPLICATION:

**\*Man's primary role is to lead his own life spiritually and lead his wife/family as Prophet, Priest, & King.**

=Representing Jesus to his family: (Prophet=lead in Biblical Truth; Priest=mediate spiritually for his family; King=servant leader).

- If He is married, is to be a **Lover, Learner, and Leader** of his wife.

-Husbands are to love their wives as Jesus loves the Church

-Husbands are to sacrifice for his wife as Jesus gave Himself for the Church

-Husbands are to lead their wives in holiness, leading her in God's Word, Presenting her to the Lord as a beloved, radiant, pure, blameless, and beautiful wife

-Husbands are to care for their wives as they care for their bodies (nourish, cherish, support, & honor them)

His **secondary role** is to lead the church to spiritual maturity and the community to know and love Christ.

**\*Woman's primary role is to lead her own life spiritually, and support her husband** (if she is called to be married) – She is to be an **Encourager, Respector, and Partner** with her husband in his God-given calling.

**-If she is called to be a mother**, then her **secondary role is to raise Godly children** – since she has the privilege of leading the human race out of sin and unto Christ through childbearing & rearing Christ-honoring children.

- **If a woman is called to singleness**, has been divorced or is widowed – her role is to support her family, her church family, and those in need of spiritual mentorship. Singleness is a gift that God can use to multiply Kingdom efforts whose hearts and minds are focused on pleasing Christ first and foremost.

- **Every woman's secondary** role is to spiritually lead and disciple other children and other women in the church and in their community to spiritual maturity.

**MAIN POINT: God has ordered the Home & Church to function best within divine roles for men & women.**

- We want to celebrate biblical manhood and womanhood as God's beautiful and perfect design for humanity. We celebrate it in the family and in the church. Our society is watching to see if we get this right.