"male and female He created them." (Gen. 1:27)

God's Grand Design

The Beauty of Biblical Complementarity

Complementarity?

- God created men and women equal in their essential dignity and human personhood, but different and complementary in their nature and function

- this complementarity applies to life in general, and especially to functions in the family and the church

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Foundations of Biblical Complementarity (pt. 1)

Genesis 1:26-28

Genesis 1:26-28

[26] Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." [27] God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. [28] God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 1:26-28

1. Humanity ('adam) is made in God's image

   - a unique connection to and reflection of God – an inherent dignity and value of every person

   - as God's image-bearers, man is to rule over the rest of creation

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Genesis 1:26-28

2. Humanity ('adam) is created male and female

   - God designed only two sexual kinds (male and female) as part of His good creation

   - As God's representative rulers, they are blessed to multiply and fill the earth with image-bearers – the first *complementary* function

29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; (Rom. 8:29)

10 and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him— 11 *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all. (Colossian 3:10-11)