

Neither Male nor Female in Christ  
Galatians 3:26-29

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

## God's Grand Design

The Beauty of Biblical Complementarity

### Galatians 3:26-29

<sup>26</sup> For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.  
<sup>27</sup> For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

### Galatians 3:26-29

#### ➤ Broader Context:

- Paul is arguing against Jewish false teachers who taught that circumcision and law-keeping were necessary for salvation
- *theme*: justification is by faith alone in Christ (not law-keeping) for both Jews and Gentiles (see Gal. 2:16)

### Galatians 3:26-29

#### ➤ Immediate Context:

- those who are of faith (not law) are sons of Abraham through Christ – heirs of salvation-blessing (includes Gentiles!)
- the law imprisoned all under sin's condemnation
- the law was a "slave-guardian" until the unrestricted enjoyment of sonship brought by faith in Christ

### Galatians 3:26-29

#### 1. Equal spiritual status – "all sons of God"

- through faith in Christ, all—regardless of race, class or gender—are heirs of the salvation-blessing promised to Abraham
- the believer's new, fundamental identity, as seen in baptism, is union with Christ

## Galatians 3:26-29

2. Profound spiritual unity – “all one in Christ”
  - there is a spiritual unity in Christ that transcends racial, socioeconomic and gender distinctions
  - these distinctions are irrelevant as a basis for and full enjoyment of the inheritance as “sons of God”

## Galatians 3:26-29

- Implications
  1. This passage does not address gender roles in ministry or marriage, but deals with our spiritual status and unity in Christ

## Galatians 3:26-29

- Implications
  2. Unity in Christ does not remove all racial, social or gender distinctions; the social implications of our unity must be interpreted by the rest of Scripture

## Galatians 3:26-29

- Implications
  3. Women should not be viewed or treated as inferior in value to men in the church, but as “fellow heirs of the grace of life” (cf. 1 Peter 3:7)