

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

God's Grand Design

The Beauty of Biblical Complementarity (pt. 18)

Summary:

1. The benevolent "headship" of the man
2. The essential "helper-ship" of the woman

1 Timothy 5:1-2

Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but *rather* appeal to *him* as a father, *to* the younger men as brothers, ²the older women as mothers, *and* the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

1 Timothy 5:1-2

1. The church is a spiritual family – corresponds to roles/relationships of a biological family
2. Paul assumes sexual differentiation in his interactions with the family of God

Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

➤ Biblical pointers to a natural law of gender

¹⁴ Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him, ¹⁵ but if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her? For her hair is given to her for a covering. (1 Corinthians 11:14-15)

Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

➤ Biblical pointers to a natural law of gender

²⁶ For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, ²⁷ and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. (Romans 1:26-27)

Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

➤ Biblical pointers to a natural law of gender

⁷ But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children... ¹¹ just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children... (1 Thessalonians 2:7,11)

Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

➤ Biblical pointers to a natural law of gender

¹³ Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. ¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love.

(1 Corinthians 16:13-14)

Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

➤ Toward a definition:

“The fundamental meaning of masculinity is *sonship*, *brotherly love*, and potentiality toward paternity.”

“The fundamental meaning of femininity is *daughterhood*, *sisterly love*, and potentiality toward maternity.”

(Patrick Schreiner, “Man and Woman: Toward an Ontology”
adapted from J. Budziszewski, *On the Meaning of Sex*)

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

⁸ The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous
altogether.

¹⁰ They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

(Psalm 19:7-10)