

## **Manhood and Womanhood in the Home and the Church - Part 1**

Genesis 1

### **Genesis 1:1**

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

### **Genesis 1:26-27**

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

### **Genesis 1:28**

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

### **Genesis 1:29-30**

And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

### **Genesis 1:31**

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

### **Psalms 119:14-18**

In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. <sup>15</sup> I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. <sup>16</sup> I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word. <sup>17</sup> Deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and keep your word. <sup>18</sup> Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

**Beauty: the power of attraction that comes from that which is morally pure and compositionally pleasant**

### **Philippians 4:8**

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

### **Psalms 27:4**

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

### **Isaiah 63:7**

I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD, the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

**God's character is holy, righteous, loving, merciful, truthful, and wise.**

**(Ex 34:6-7; Ps 36:5-6; 48:10; Dan 9:14; John 3:33; Rom 11:33-36; 1 Cor 1:9; 2 Cor 1:18; Heb 11:6; 1 John 1:5-10; 4:7-16)**

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**“Philosophers and art historians seem generally agreed that although symmetry is indeed attractive, there is also a somewhat sterile rigidity about it, which can make it less attractive than the more dynamic, less predictable beauty associated with asymmetry. Although a little asymmetry can be beautiful, an excess merely results in chaos. As Adorno suggested, asymmetry probably results most effectively in beauty when the underlying symmetry upon which it is built is still apparent.” - European Review**

### **John 4:34**

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.”

### **John 14:16-17**

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

### **John 16:7**

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

### **Symmetry and Asymmetry in Genesis 1:**

**Day 1 - Creation of light and separation of light from darkness.**

**Day 4 - Creation of the heavenly bodies.**

### **Symmetry and Asymmetry in Genesis 1:**

**Day 2 - Separation of the waters--sea and sky.**

**Day 5 - Creation of birds and fish.**

### **Symmetry and Asymmetry in Genesis 1:**

**Day 3 - Separation of waters from land and creation of vegetation.**

**Day 6 - Creation of land animals and mankind.**

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#### **Symmetry between men and women:**

- 1. Both are of equal worth because both are created in God's image.**
- 2. Both are to have dominion over the rest of creation.**
- 3. Both have human bodies.**
- 4. Both are blessed by God.**

#### **Asymmetry between men and women:**

- 1. Their maleness and femaleness is vital to God's design.**
- 2. Their bodies are different in a number of significant ways.**
- 3. Their roles in fulfilling the creation mandate must necessarily be different.**

**Biblical Complementarianism: Men and women are co-equals in the sight of God because both are made in God's image, and they have distinct roles in God's design (though often overlapping) that are intended to work together in beautiful harmony for God's glory.**

**Are you drawn to Genesis 1 and 2 because of the attractational power of its beauty?**

**Do you see the importance of your home and our church having the right balance of symmetry and asymmetry with regard to God's intention for manhood and womanhood?**