

# Ephesians Series

Lesson #250

October 27, 2024

Dean Bible Ministries

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Is God Misogynistic?  
Ephesians 5:21



# EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK  
& WARFARE  
OF THE BELIEVER

**Eph. 5:18, “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled by means of the Spirit,**”**

*πληρόω plēroō*  
2 plur pres  
pass impera  
to fill; fulfill

*ἐν πνεύματι, en  
pneumati, dative,  
means, “by means  
of the Spirit”*

**Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you along with all wisdom, **with the results** that you are teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” [RD]**

## Results:

**Eph. 5:19, “with the result that you are speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,**

**Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**Eph. 5:21, “with the result that you are submitting to one another in the fear of God.”**

# **What the Bible Teaches About**

## **Fear of the Lord**



**Eph. 5:22, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.”**

**Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,”**

**Eph. 6:1, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”**

**Eph. 6:4, “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”**

# **Divine Institutions**

## **Before Sin**

- 1. Individual Responsibility to God**
- 2. Marriage**
- 3. Family**

## **After the Flood**

- 4. Human Government**
- 5. Tribal Diversity**

## **Blessing**

- 6. Israel, Worldwide Blessing**

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**What the Bible Teaches  
About**

**Spheres of Authority**



## Human viewpoint leadership: dominate, control

**Matt. 20:25, “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.’ ” [NKJV]**

**κατεξουσιάζω *katexousiazō***

**3 plur pres act indic  
to rule over in the sense  
of misusing authority, or  
to tyrannize**

**κατακυριεύω *katakyrieuō*,**

**rule over, subjugate,  
conquer, be master of,  
lord it over**

**Divine viewpoint (DVP) leadership: Submit to the Lord, serve one another**

**Matt. 20:26, “Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.**

**Matt. 20:27, “And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—**

**δοῦλος *doulos* slave; servant**

**Matt. 20:28, “just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” [NKJV]**

**διακονέω *diakoneō*, serve, support**

## **DVP leadership: Christlike humility**

**Php. 2:7, “Instead He emptied Himself by taking on the form of a slave [servant], by taking on the likeness of men. [And when He had come as a man, human in His external form (true humanity)], [RD]**

**Php. 2:8, “And by [or when?] being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” [RD]**

## **Conclusion:**

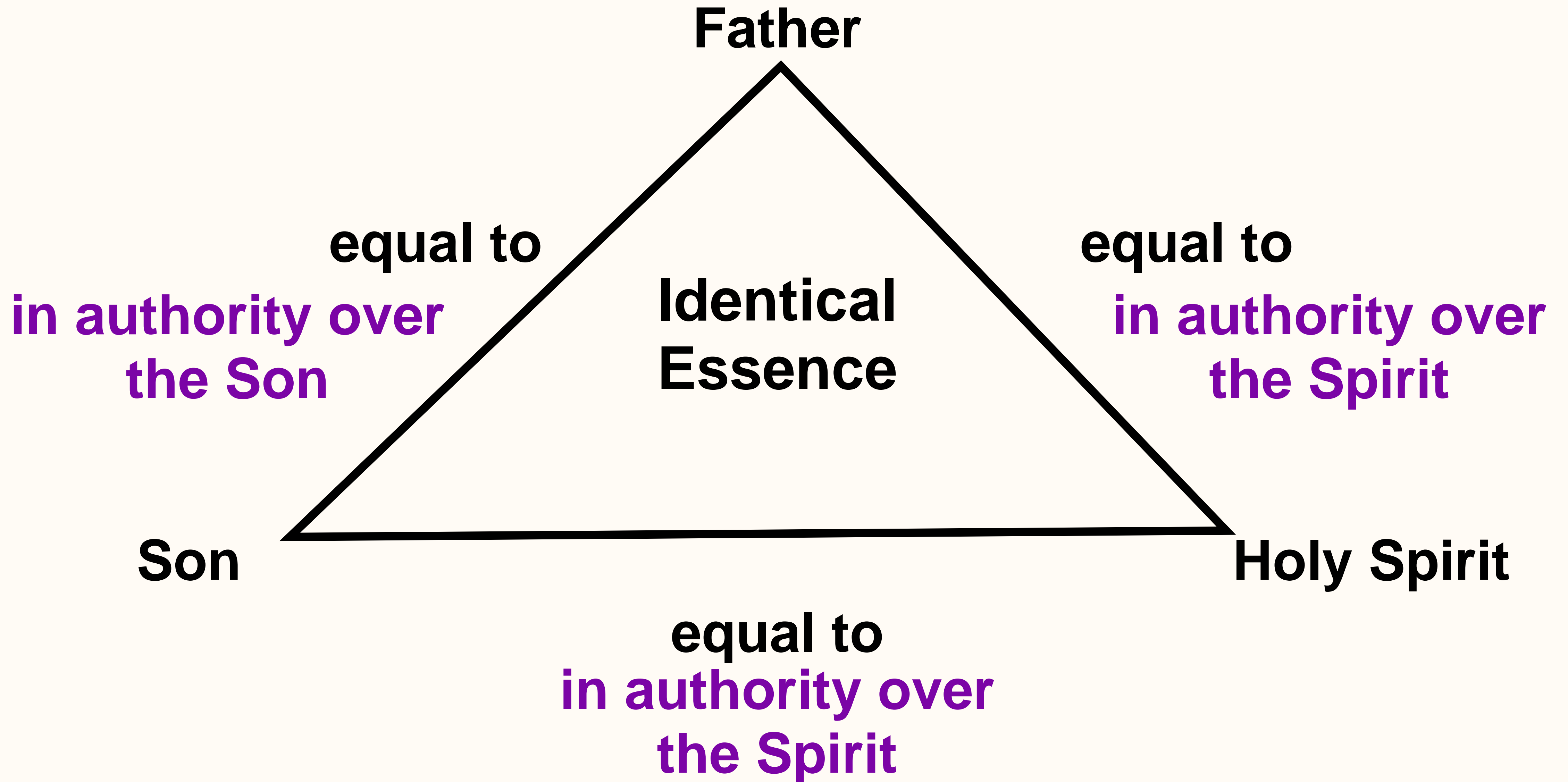
- 1. God institutes spheres of authority within the creation.**
- 2. Because of sin, legitimate authorities frequently misuse and abuse that authority, they exercise their authority in an illegitimate manner.**
- 3. Does this mean that those who are under those authorities have the right to disobey those authorities?**

# **What the Bible Teaches About**

**Authority:  
Authority is Eternal  
in the Trinity**



# Authority in the Triune Relationships



**Why Does the Bible Place Such an Emphasis on:**

**Authority  
Leadership**

**Obedience  
Disobedience  
Rebellion?**

**This was the original sin when Satan sinned, he rebelled against God the Creator.**



# Creator-Creature Distinction

1<sup>st</sup> level  
CREATOR  
(*Yahweh*)

INFINITE SOVEREIGN *YAHWEH*

2<sup>nd</sup> level  
creature  
(man)

- finite  
limited  
man

Rebellion against *legitimate* authority then is asserting that we, the finite creature, know more about what is best than God.

**When it comes to the spheres of authority God has established, rebellion against them is ultimately a rejection of God who established those authorities.**

**Eph. 5:22, “Wives, *submit* to your own husbands, as to the Lord.”**

**Eph. 5:24, “Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.”**

**ὑποτάσσω *hupotassō***

**basic meaning is: to submit to one’s control; to yield to one’s admonition or advice: absolutely.**

**BDAG: “Of submission in the sense of voluntary yielding in love”**

**Gen. 1:26, “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’**

**Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.**

**Gen. 1:28, “Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ ”**

**Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”**

**אָדָם *ʾadom-1***

**comm masc sing abs  
man**

- a. collective: mankind, people, human [HALOT]**
- b. An individual man**
- c. In Gen. 1:26–30  
collective, mankind**

**זָכָר *zakhar***

**comm masc sing abs  
male, as distinct from female**

**נְקֵבָה *neqevah***

**comm fem sing abs  
female**

## **Conclusions:**

- 1. The creation of human beings is not an accidental development over millennia, but a planned, intentional creation by God designed to fulfill His intended purpose for human beings.**
- 2. God created the human race in His image. This distinguishes humans from all other creatures.**

## **Conclusions:**

- 3. As full image bearers, human males and human females are equal in their nature as divine image bearers.**
- 4. Definitions of humanity that have a starting place other than revelation, i.e., start with human reason or experience without accepting the divine revelation, will distort, confuse, disrupt, corrupt, and fall far short of their understanding of what makes us human, and what makes men and women equal.**

## Conclusions:

5. The five-fold commands related to humanity's mission apply equally to male and female as image bearers.

**Gen. 1:28, “Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ ” [NKJV]**



**Deut. 6:4, “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!” [NKJV]**

**אֶחָד *’echad***

**masc sing abs**

**one (m)**

**Deut. 6:4, “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!” [NKJV]**

**אֶחָד *ʾechad* masc sing abs**

**one (m)**

**Not an absolute singularity, but a singular unity among multiples**

**Gen. 2:24, “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”**

**Gen. 2:18, “And the LORD God said, ‘It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.’ ”**

**Gen. 2:20, “So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. [NKJV]**

1-עֵזֶר *ezer-1*  
comm masc  
sing abs help

**Gen. 2:21, “And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.**

**Gen. 2:22, “Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.”**

- 1. God created both male and female humans equal in their being, their essence, as image bearers to reflect in a finite way the Creator-God.**
- 2. Male and female humans were together given the five-fold mission of Gen. 1:28.**
- 3. Though both male and female humans were equal in their nature, being, essence, God designed them to fulfill distinct roles.**
- 4. These distinct roles do not imply inferiority, just as the distinct roles of the Triune Persons of the Godhead do not imply inferiority.**

- 5. The entry of sin did not destroy the image of God in them, neither did it totally destroy the mission. But it brought a level of corruption and self-centeredness and self-absorption that made it difficult for the man and woman to fulfill that mission, but not impossible.**
  
- 6. The only hope will be found in a spiritual restoration: regeneration followed by spiritual growth and submission to the authority of God.**

**Gen. 3:1**, “Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden”?’”

**Gen. 3:2**, “And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

**Gen. 3:3**, “ ‘but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, “You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.” ’ ”

**Gen. 3:4, “Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die.**

**Gen. 3:5, “ ‘For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’**

**Gen. 3:6, “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”**



## **Consequences of Sin**

**Instantly rebellion brought spiritual death, fear, distortion.**

**Impacts and corrupts the entire universe.**

**Impacts and corrupts the biology of physiology of the animals.**

**Impacts and corrupts the relationship between human beings.**

**Gen. 3:16, “To the woman He said: ‘I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.’ ”**

**Gen. 3:16, “To the woman He said: ‘I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your **desire** shall be for your husband, and he shall **rule** over you.’ ”**

**Question: What does trunk mean?**

**“Gather your things together and put them in the trunk!”**

**Question: What does trunk mean?**

**“Gather your things together and put them in the trunk!”**

**The hollowed out main stem of a tree?**

**A strong box used to store clothes and personal effects?**

**The storage area at the rear of a vehicle?**

**What key is that?**

**Is this a metal instrument used to open a lock?**

**A metal instrument used to operate a valve or wind up a clock?**

**A part of a board used to type different letters or symbols?**

**A musical tone?**

**A list of explanations of symbols, codes, etc.?**

**A text that explains or gives information about a work of art, literature, or music?**

**The dominant tonal value and color intensity of a picture?**

**A hand-operated switch used to transmit coded signals?**

**Gen. 3:16, “To the woman He said: ‘I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your **desire** shall be for your husband, and he shall **rule** over you.’ ”**

**תְּשׁוּקָה *teshuqah***

**comm fem sing constr  
desire, desire to control,  
a favorable desire;  
which is it?**

**Gen. 3:16, “To the woman He said: ‘I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your **desire** shall be for your husband, and he shall **rule** over you.’ ”**

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**comm fem sing constr  
desire, desire to control,  
a favorable desire;  
which is it?**

**מִשַּׁל-2 *mashal-2***

**qal imperf 3 masc sing  
to rule, to rule in a  
domineering way;  
to rule in a favorable way;  
which is it?**



**Gen. 3:16, “To the woman He said: ‘I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your **desire** shall be for your husband, and he shall **rule** over you.’ ”**

**תִּשְׁוָקָה *teshuqah***

**comm fem sing constr  
desire, desire to control,  
a favorable desire;  
which is it?**

**Used 3× in the OT; 2× in  
Gen. 3 & 4; 1× in Song of  
Solomon**

**מָשַׁל-2 *mashal-2***

**qal imperf 3 masc sing  
to rule,**

**a. to rule in a domineering  
way;**

**b. to rule in a favorable way;  
which is it?**

**Used 80× in the OT**

**Gen. 4:7, “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its **desire** is for you, but you should **rule** over it.”**

**Gen. 4:7, “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its **desire** is for you, but you should **rule** over it.”**

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**qal imperf 3 masc sing  
to rule, to rule in a  
domineering way;  
to rule in a favorable way;  
which is it?**

**The Hebrew word “desire” (*tešûqâ*) has some of the same uses that the English word has. In this passage it is commonly explained to mean that the woman would be drawn to her husband, probably so explained on the basis of the usage in Song of Solomon. But the word also occurs in this context of Genesis with quite another meaning. According to its use in Genesis 4:7, “desire” probably should be interpreted to describe prompting to evil. The idea of the verse would then be that, because the woman prompted the man to sin in giving him something to eat, that is, taking the lead rather than maintaining a partnership, the man would have dominion over her. I would thus translate, “Your desire was to your husband, but he shall have the mastery over you.” The punishment, then, would also be talionic for the woman. This view also finds support in verse 17 (“because you obeyed your wife”).**

**~Allen P. Ross, *Genesis:***

**[... Yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you] Measure for measure: you influenced your husband and caused him to do what you wished; henceforth, you and your female descendants will be subservient to your husbands. You will yearn for them, but they will be the heads of the families, and will rule over you.**

**~Umberto Cassuto, *Commentary on the Book of Genesis*,  
Part 1, From Adam to Noah**

**Although sexual “desire” conforms to v. 15, better is the explanation suggested by Gen. 4:7b, where “desire” and “rule” [*māša/*] are found again in tandem: “It desires to have you, but you must master [*māša/*] it.” In chap. 4 “sin” is like an animal that when stirred up will assault Cain; it “desires” to overcome Cain, but the challenge God puts to Cain is to exercise “rule” or “mastery” over that unruly desire.**

**~Kenneth Matthews, *Genesis*, Vol 1A, NAC series.**

**If we are to take the lexical and structural similarities as intentional, we must read the verses in concert. ...**

**The “desire” of the woman is her attempt to control her husband, but she will fail because God has ordained that the man exercise his leadership function ...**

**Thus the Lord affirms in the oracles of judgment the creation order: the serpent is subjected to the woman, the woman to the man, and all to the Lord. “In those moments of life’s greatest blessing—marriage and children—the woman would serve most clearly the painful consequences of her rebellion from God.”  
[quoting Sailhammer, *Genesis*]**

**~Kenneth Matthews, *Genesis*, Vol 1A, NAC series.**

## **Conclusion:**

- 1. In the sinless original creation there was an authority relationship within the marriage, but there was perfect harmony in the marriage team in serving God.**
- 2. Sin fragmented and corrupted everything including the souls of the male and female, especially in ways distinctive to their original roles.**
- 3. The New Testament reveals the only way to reverse and recover is through regeneration and spiritual growth, submission to the headship, “authority,” of Christ.**



**Gen. 3:17, “Then to Adam He said, ‘Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it”: ‘Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.**

**Gen. 3:18, “ ‘Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field.**

**Gen. 3:19, “ ‘In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.’ ”**

**Do these New Testament verses teach:**

**1. That God intended to establish male authority in the relationship between Adam and Eve in the Garden before sin (the complementarian view);**

**or**

**2. That the authority within marriage is something that entered into human marriage only as a result of sin (the egalitarian view)?**

**The Challenge From the World (kosmic thinking, human viewpoint, Satanic thought).**

**Egalitarianism (from the Fr. *egal*, meaning equal, or level)**

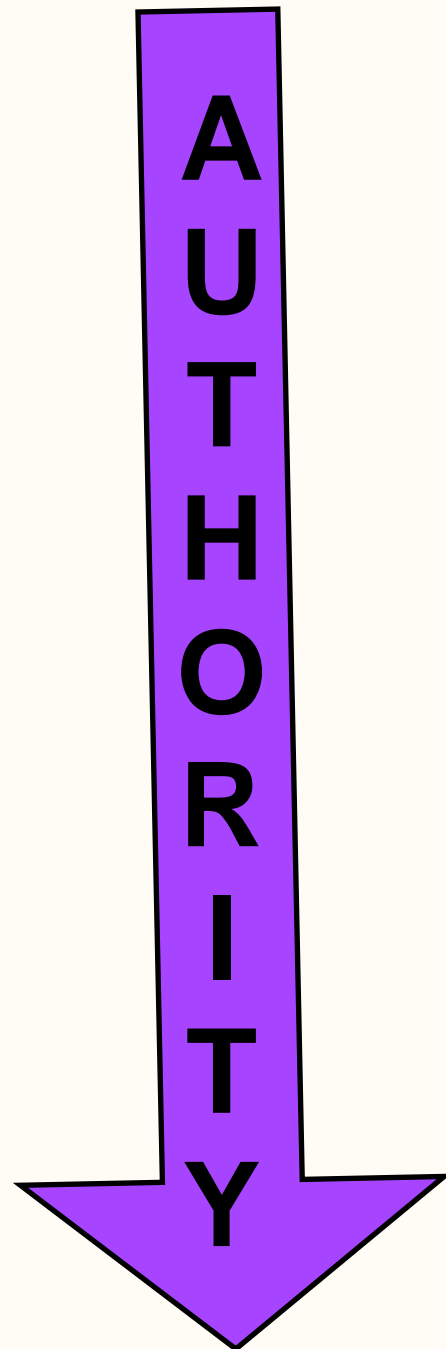
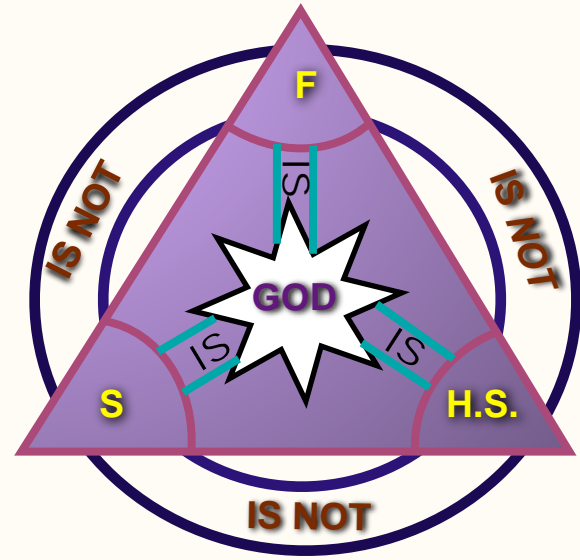
**The view that God created males and females as equals in both nature and function.**

**The interchangeability of roles.**

# **The Biblical View**

## **Complementarian**

**The view that God created males and females as intrinsic equals in nature and humanity, but with different roles which complete, complement, or enhance/improve the other.**

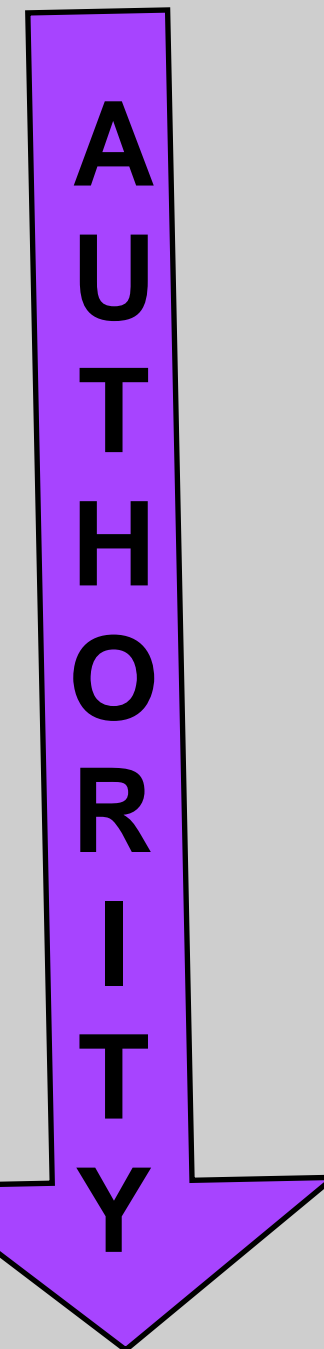
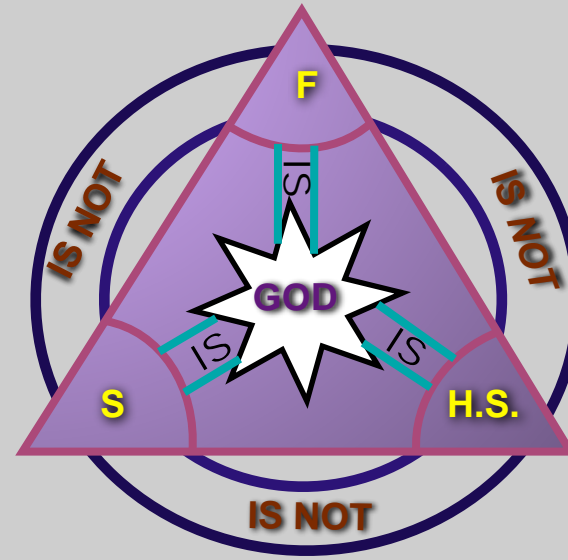


**MANKIND**  
**Male-Female**

**S**

**I**

**N**



**MANKIND**  
**Male-Female**

**Post-Fall**

**Sin-corrupted**

**Spiritually dead**  
**world**

**All Human**  
**Authority**  
**Relationships**  
**Corrupted**

**1. The order of creation with the male created first indicates God's design and intention for male headship in the marriage relationship.**