



MASCULINE VIRTUE

LEADERSHIP FOR THE HOME, CHURCH, AND WORLD

Many men feel as if they are involved in a night battle in a jungle against an unseen foe. Voices from the surrounding darkness shout hostile challenges: “Men are too aggressive. Too soft. Too insensitive. Too macho. Too power-mad. Too much like little boys. Too wimpy. Too violent. Too obsessed with sex. Too detached to care. Too busy. Too rational. Too lost to lead. Too dead to feel.” Exactly what we are supposed to become is not clear.

Sam Keen, Fire in the Belly



1. Biblical Vision of Masculinity



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2. Current Threats



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2. Current Threats

3. Exhortations & Response



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- 2. I'm assuming that everyone here is on a masculine journey.**
- 3. I'm assuming that identity is given.**
- 4. I'm assuming that addressing the right question is of greatest importance.**



At the heart of mature masculinity is a sense of benevolent responsibility to lead, provide for and protect women in ways appropriate to a man's differing relationships.

John Piper



At the heart of mature femininity is a freeing disposition to affirm, receive, and nurture strength and leadership from worthy men in ways appropriate to a woman's differing relationships.

John Piper



Five Aspects of Man



Five Aspects of Man

1. Lord of Creation



Five Aspects of Man

1. Lord of Creation

2. Husbandman



Five Aspects of Man

- 1. Lord of Creation**
- 2. Husbandman**
- 3. Savior**



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Five Aspects of Man

- 1. Lord of Creation**
- 2. Husbandman**
- 3. Savior**
- 4. Sage**
- 5. Glory of God**



1. Lord of Creation



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." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them.

Genesis 1:26-28



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 1:26-28



2. Husbandman



When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up--for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground-- then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Genesis 2:5-8, 15



And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.... The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Genesis 2:5-8, 15



3. Savior



Cowardice is a peculiarly masculine failure, not because a man might be afraid (even Jesus prayed that 'this cup' might pass by Him), but because a coward's fear makes him shrink from what is right to do. Cowardice is found far more often within the confines of a family home than on a battlefield. Fear of a fight will even confound a fallen savior's understanding of what is good and bad. A man who fears to fight easily rationalizes away the menace of an enemy.



“It’s not really that bad,” he will think. “There are two side (or more) to everything,” he believes.



“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Genesis 3:15



For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your

Ephesians 6:12-17



feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God...

Ephesians 6:12-17



4. Sage



Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight, for I give you good precepts; do not forsake my teaching. When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother, he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live. Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth.

Proverbs 4:1-5



5. Glory to God



When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

Psalms 8:3-5



For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man.

1 Corinthians 11:7



A fallen man can not only abandon his masculinity, he can abuse it. In this mode, he does not turn away from being the glory of God; rather, he seizes on various features of his masculinity — usually some form of power or strength — and deploys it for his own further glory.

William Mouser





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