

God's Design For Men and Women

God's Design For Men and Women Message

God designed man to serve as leader, protector and provider. God designed woman to serve as giver of life, nurturer and helper.

Complement or Compliment?



Complement = that which completes another



Compliment = saying something in admiration



Danvers Statement

1) Both Adam and Eve were created in God's image, equal before God as persons and distinct in their manhood and womanhood

Danvers Statement

2) Distinctions in masculine and feminine roles are ordained by God as part of the created order

Danvers Statement

3) Adam's headship in marriage was established by God before the Fall, and was not a result of sin

Danvers Statement

5) The Old Testament, as well as the New Testament, manifests the equally high value and dignity which God attached to the roles of both men and women. Both Old and New Testaments also affirm the principle of male headship in the family and in the covenant community.

Mere (core) complementarianism

“Mere complementarianism teaches that God has designed male and female as equal and different. They are equal bearers of the divine image, equal partakers in the grace of life, and equal partners in the creation mandate. None of this precious equality diminishes at all the biological and social differences that God has woven into His design of male and female. These beautiful differences are not contradictions but complements. They are a part of God’s magnificent plan to make His glory cover the earth as the waters cover the sea”

Denny Burk, “Mere Complementarianism”, www.cbmw.org

Where do we draw the line? Some examples:

Patriarchy - Variety of Beliefs

Broad
Complementarianism

Here? Women may not be in protective roles (combat, police)
—————→
Women should not have authority over men (job, politics)

Here? Women should not hold outside employment (full-time)
—————→
Women should not hold outside employment (part-time)
No age-based classes (Sunday School, WVK, Youth)
No women's Bible studies
Women should not be allowed to vote
Men are mentally superior to women

Patriarchy - Contribution

“patriarchy, rightly conceived, is not about the subjugation of women as much as it is about the subjugation of the male aggression and male irresponsibility that runs wild when women are forced to be in charge because the men are nowhere to be found”

Kevin DeYoung, “Death to the Patriarchy?”, www.desiringgod.org