

# Men In The Image of God

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It is only through being transformed into Christ's image that men become distinctly Christian in their headship



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Men distinctly reflect God's image through  
headship

Man's name  
(Adam) also name  
for mankind  
(*adam*)

God created  
Adam first (1 Tim  
2:13)

Adam responsible  
for giving God's  
instructions to  
Eve

Headship  
emphasizes  
responsibility to  
lead

Woman was made  
"for" the man

Woman was made  
"from" the man

The man named  
the woman

Her name  
("ishah") was  
built from his  
name ("ish")

Evidences of male headship in  
Gen 1-2

1

**Leading** - Adam to teach Eve God's instructions, to lead her away from the serpent back to God

2

**Providing** - God put Adam in the garden to cultivate it

3

**Protecting** - Adam should have protected Eve from the serpent and his lies

Aspects of headship

# Men In The Image of God Message

Maleness is the unique giftedness from God that enables a man to serve God by leading, providing for and protecting those under his care

## A married man's role

“In the partnership of two spiritually equal human beings, man and woman, the man bears the primary responsibility to lead the partnership in a God-glorifying direction”

Ray Ortlund, *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood*, p. 99

## Conservative beliefs and abuse?

“For instance, one recent study that received attention in *Christianity Today* argued that Calvinist beliefs perpetuate “Domestic Violence Myths” because of their correlation with “binary views of gender,” lower levels of acceptance of social justice theory, and emphasis on hierarchical relationships.”

(Caleb Morell, “Nominal Christianity—  
Not Complementarianism—Leads to Abuse”, [www.9Marks.org](http://www.9Marks.org))



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Biblical teaching about male headship does not  
lead to abuse

# Biblical teaching about male headship does not lead to abuse

“churches must make it abundantly clear that complementarianism is not grounded in male superiority. Indeed, holding to male superiority directly contradicts the clear teaching of the Bible and demeans the glory of the image of God, equally displayed by men and women...Complementarian theology, rightly articulated and exemplified, celebrates the glory of manhood and womanhood”

## Conservative beliefs and abuse?

W. Bradford Wilcox's more recent study is "the only one that factors in the distinctive effect of church attendance on conservative Protestants"

"Wilcox finds that, when coupled with church attendance, theologically conservative views about marriage and gender actually correlate with the lowest rates of domestic violence"

(Caleb Morell, "Nominal Christianity—  
Not Complementarianism—Leads to Abuse", [www.9Marks.org](http://www.9Marks.org))

## Conservative beliefs and abuse?

“Wilcox found that churchgoing conservative Protestant men “spend more time with their children; they are more likely to hug and praise their children; their wives report higher levels of satisfaction with the appreciation, affection, and understanding they receive from their husbands; and they spend more time socializing with their wives”

(Caleb Morell, “Nominal Christianity—  
Not Complementarianism—Leads to Abuse”, [www.9Marks.org](http://www.9Marks.org))

# Attack on “Servant Leadership”

“Servant leadership is a dirty little phrase that has slipped into evangelical culture like a silk pillow over the face”

“Evangelicals know that leaders are responsible for those under their care; but a servant leader, being subservient, cannot exercise power over them. What form does his responsibility then take? It must be the responsibility to make their lives easier, to carry their burdens, to make them happy, to suffer in their place”

(Bnonn Tennant, “Servant leadership transforms leadership into subservience”, [www.itsgoodtobeaman.com](http://www.itsgoodtobeaman.com))

# Attack on “Servant Leadership”

- If leadership is defined by servanthood, “authority and power become defined by *subservience*”
- The servant leader won’t be “rightly wielding the power delegated to him by God”
- He prefers the term “servant lordship”

(Bnonn Tennant, “Servant leadership transforms leadership into subservience”, [www.itsgoodtobeaman.com](http://www.itsgoodtobeaman.com))

# Men In The Image of God

Servant leadership is real leadership with a servant's heart

**Real = not devoid of authority**

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Only a man with real strength of character  
can lead lovingly, sacrificially and with a  
servant's heart