

# Recovering Biblical Femininity

Sunday, May 10, 2015

Mother's Day

1 Peter 3:3-5; Genesis 1:27

## I. Introduction

To teach on this topic is not very popular right now in our culture and in some Christian circles. Many people would argue that I am teaching something that is demeaning, inferior, limiting and abusive.

## II. Femininity Defined

Femininity, by dictionary definition, means "having qualities or characteristics traditionally ascribed to women, as sensitivity, delicacy, or prettiness."

*"To me, a lady is not frilly, flouncy, flippant, frivolous and fluff-brained, but she is gentle. She is gracious. She is godly and she is giving... You and I, if we are women, have the gift of femininity. Very often it is obscured, just as the image of God is obscured in all of us... I find myself in the sometimes quite uncomfortable position of having to belabor the obvious, and hold up examples of femininity to women who almost feel apologetic for being feminine or being womanly. I would remind you that femininity is not a curse. It is not even a triviality. It is a gift, a divine gift, to be accepted with both hands, and to thank God for. Because remember, it was His idea... God's gifts are masculinity and femininity within the human race and there was never meant to be any competition between them. The Russian philosopher Bergiath made this statement: "The idea of woman's emancipation is based upon a profound enmity between the sexes, upon envy and imitation. The more womanly we are, the more manly men will be, and the more God is glorified. As I say to you women, "Be women. Be only women. Be real women in obedience to God." E. Elliott*

## III. Biblical Femininity

Women who desire to embrace biblical femininity must begin with a foundation that God has created her in His own image (Gen. 1:28) and created her to fulfill specific roles (Gen. 2:18)

*"The tendency today is to stress the equality of men and women by minimizing the unique significance of our maleness or femaleness. But this depreciation of male and female personhood is a great loss. It is taking a tremendous toll on generations of young men and women who do not know what it means to be a man or a woman. Confusion over the meaning of sexual personhood today is epidemic. The consequence of this confusion is not a free and happy harmony among gender-free persons relating on the basis of abstract competencies. The consequence rather, is more divorce, more homosexuality, more sexual abuse, more promiscuity, more emotional distress and suicide that come with the loss of God-given identity." W. Grudem and John Piper*

## IV. Qualities of Biblical Femininity

*"The holier a woman is, the more she is a woman." Leon Bloy*

## **A Feminine Woman:**

### **Is Spiritual**

- Enjoys a healthy, growing, love relationship with the Lord (Matt 22:37).
- Living in such a way that she is an example for the "younger women" (Titus 2:3-5).

### **Is Trustworthy**

- Her husband trusts her (Proverbs 31:11).
- An honorable reputation (Proverbs 31:25).

### **Is Economical**

- She understands the idea of a budget (Prov. 31:18a)
- Embraces a spiritual attitude toward money and material possessions (1 Tim 6:6-10).
- Experiences the joy of generosity (2 Cor 9:6-8).
- Perceives that her purchases are sound choices-no guilt (Pro. 31:18).
- The family benefits from her home business (Proverbs 31:24).

### **Is Unselfish**

- The joy of giving to others with the right attitude (2 Cor 9:7).
- Being pleasing to the Lord (Proverbs 19:17).
- Enjoying the fruit of giving to others (Acts 9:36-42).

### **Is Honorable**

- That her moral integrity allows her to reflect fulfillment in later life, rather than a wasted life filled with remorse and sin (2 Cor 9:6; Gal 6:7-9).
- Behaves in a way that reflects her position as a daughter in God's royal family (Gen 1:26-27).
- A confidence that her convictions are based upon biblical principles rather than cultural trends (Ps 119:11, 105).

### **Is Prudent**

- Her speech shows good judgment and discretion (Prov. 31:26).
- That people are willing to confide in her and trust her to retain their confidences (Proverbs 15:1-2).
- That people will seek and follow her advice (Col 4:6).

### **Fears God**

- She has a reverential trust in God (Prov. 31:30)
- She hungers and thirsts for God, instead of vanity (Prov. 31:30)
- Grows in grace as a faithful servant (Matt 25:21).

## **V. Conclusion**

Romans 12:1,2