

# Recovering Biblical Masculinity

Sunday, June 21, 2015

## Romans 12:1,2

### I. Where Are We?

When it comes to issues of biblical masculinity and femininity we must “transform our minds” from the thinking of this culture. Why? Because sin affects the way we view these two areas.

When God created Adam, he was the epitome of masculinity, but unfortunately Adam brought sin in the world and that brought distortion to masculinity and femininity. Genesis 3:16

One must, in submission and obedience, align his thinking and actions with Scripture in order to understand and live out masculinity for the right reason (God's glory). Judges 21:25

### II. Two Distorted Views

**Effeminacy** – passive, fearful,

**Dominate/Machoism** – abusive, harsh

### III. Defining Biblical Masculinity

*“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*

There are three aspects from this definition that I want to focus on tonight.

#### 1. Leader

Adam in the garden – given leadership role, naming the animals, naming Eve. This is a sign of authority.

According to the Scriptures, husbands are to lead in the marriage relationship and in the home as well. God simply chose to give this role to the man. In any endeavor, there must be an ultimate leader. God chose and equipped Adam for this role. If leadership is a God-given role for men, then each man needs to find the way to lead.

*“Our boys need to learn humility, and they also need to learn boldness and courage. The only way to accomplish this balance is through the grasp of who God is. Because we have ceased teaching that God is our Father, with the attributes of divine Father, we have lost an understanding of imitative masculinity. Because of this, our boys veer into one of two ditches. Either they embrace humility without boldness which in boys is effeminate, or they embrace boldness without humility which is destructive.” D. Wilson*

The qualities that one must strongly possess in order to carry out a leadership role are wisdom (by a full knowledge of the Word of God, facts, and persons, and then thoughtful application of biblical principles), initiative, decisiveness, humility, boldness, and personal involvement.

## **2. Provider**

The man is to be the main provider for the home. It doesn't mean that women can't work, but 'that when there is no food on the table the man should feel the main pressure to do something to get it there.'

In order to fulfill this role, a truly masculine man will abound in the characteristics of diligence (hard work), personal involvement, and servanthood. He will also do all that he can to acquire a good job that allows him to care well for those he must love and lead.

Work is not part of the curse, but was given so that he could provide. When sin came into the world it brought sloth and laziness for us to battle.

## **3. Protector**

This is not to say that women are weak, but this needs to make sure as men we protect women. If there is danger they know that we will protect them and not run from them.

*"A mature man senses instinctively that as a man he is called to take the lead in guarding the woman he is with." John Piper*

Being manly involves protecting. The qualities a man must clearly possess before he will be a good protector are courage, boldness, strength (both physical and spiritual) and watchfulness.

## **IV. Conclusion**

So what does it mean to be a real man? It means not to trust in one's own judgment about masculinity but instead to cling to the fact there are absolutes outlined in the Word of God. It means striving to emulate the qualities that God outlines for godly men in the church. It means to capitalize on the specific qualities that are needed to fulfill our God-given roles.