



# God, Creation, and Gender

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An Introduction

# Gender 20 Years Ago

- Webster's New World Dictionary, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (2001)
  - Gender - the fact or condition of being a **male** or a **female** human being
  - Gender specific - of or limited to either **males** or **females**
- Webster's Dictionary for Students (2003)
  - Gender - **sex**

# Gender Today

- [www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com)
  - Gender - sex (as in) the feminine gender
  - Gender - the behavioral, cultural, or psychological traits typically associated with one's sex
  - Gender identity - a person's internal sense of being male, female, some combination of male and female, or neither male nor female

# The Current Confusion

- Society wants to erase the boundaries of gender
- Men, women, and children are encouraged to cross the boundaries of gender
- It is claimed that gender is fluid, flexible
- Society says that mixing or rejecting gender will result in harmony. But that is wrong.
- The unexpected consequences for women

# God, Creation, Gender, and Genesis 1

- God formed then filled creation, with the climax being the creation of humanity - Gen. 1:26-28
- As males and females, we are all made in God's image. This means:
  - God did not begin with our differences, but equality - Acts 17:27-29
  - We are different from animals
  - We gain our identity from God
  - We have a purpose
  - We have a function - Gen. 1:28

# God, Creation, Gender and Genesis 2

- Genesis 2 gives specifics of our creation
- Man was created first and put in the garden to work and keep it, but was alone - Gen. 2:15, 18-20
- Woman was created to be a helper suitable for the man - Gen. 2:15, 21-22
- Man and woman (male and female):
  - Are to be joined together in marriage
  - Must work together to fulfill their God-given function of subduing and filling the earth
  - Need a redeemer which would come through the woman - Gen. 3:15

# Why the Confusion?

- Satan and sin
  - Pushing rejection of anything connected to God
  - Sinful views of men toward women
- The fall of mankind - Gen. 3
  - Adam and Eve disobeyed God bring a curse
  - **Men** who are to work the land face challenges of weeds and much toil - 3:17-19
  - **Women** have multiplied pain in childbirth and strife with their husbands - 3:16; Eph. 5:22-27
  - Gender and relationship problems began with sin, but answered in Jesus - Gal. 3:28