

Lesson: Finding Our Manhood Genesis 1:26-28

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I. Introduction

- A. The push by some to legalize same sex marriage is a satanic attack on the family in general and manhood in specific.
- B. If the Christian male role model that society has embraced for almost 2,000 years is destroyed, then who will lead our families, churches and communities?

II. Our Design

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our own image, according to Our likeness..." (Gen. 1:26a)

- A. Man was created (designed) by God.
 - 1. The "Us" is plural and means the entire Godhead was part of the process.
 - 2. Evolution does not have any part in the design of man.
- B. A design cannot exceed the abilities of the designer.
 - 1. Unless God intervenes, success is limited to the abilities of a person.
- C. God designed man in His image and likeness.
 - 1. In God's image means we have intelligence, emotions and free will like God.
 - 2. Also, it means that we are God's representatives here on earth.

Application: When men realize they have been designed by God, low self esteem, self pity, and sexuality conflicts should disappear.

III. Our Dominion

"Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (Gen. 1:26b)

- A. God gave man dominion over all of creation.
 - 1. God exercises His authority over the earth through man.
 - 2. Can there really be such a thing as "animal rights"?
- B. When we become addicted to drugs, drink and food we give up our dominion of the earth.
- C. Notice that God did not give dominion of man over man.
 - 1. Whenever man tries to exercise dominion over man a struggle ensues.

D. God cursed creation in Genesis 3:17 (also see Romans 8:20-22) for man's sake. Why? Because man in his fallen state could not exercise dominion over an unfallen creation.

Application: When men exercise their dominion over creation he does not become addicted to the things of creation such as tobacco or marijuana plants.

IV. Our Destiny

So God created man in His own image: in the image of God He created him: male and female He created them. (Gen. 1:27)

A. Adam's destiny was to meet and marry an Eve.

1. Adam was totally unaware of God's destiny for him to have a helpmate.

2. Woman was not an afterthought but always in the mind of God. He just waited until the right time to present her to Adam.

B. Adam was complete but could not fulfill his destiny until Eve was birthed from him.

1. God had to take what was inside of Adam and fashion it into form (called Eve) that would be useful to him.

Application: Until men allow God to take what is inside of us and fashion/shape it we cannot fulfill our true destiny.

V. Our Duty

Then God blessed them and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it..." (Gen. 1:28)

A. Man cannot accomplish his destiny without fulfilling his duty.

B. Man was commanded to "subdue" or master the earth. To master anything takes a lot of hard work and effort.

C. Also man was to multiply and fill the earth. God's desire was to see millions of men in His image on this earth.