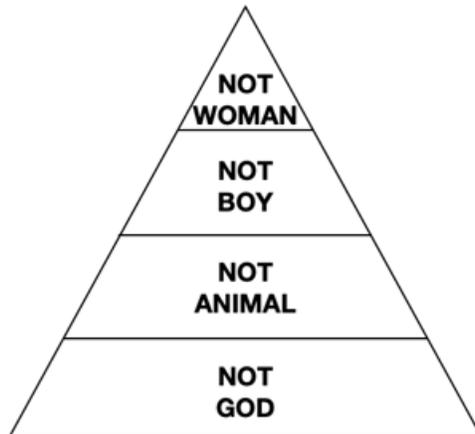


Sunday School – Week #3: Man, Disciplined Wisdom



Man is different from God -Humility is the virtue provoked by the recognition of this difference

Man is different from Animal -Discipline, also self-control, is the virtue provoked by this difference.

Responsibility is the virtue provoked by this difference.

To this point we can say the same thing about women.

The virtue of strength is provoked by this difference.



All men should long to mature according to the pattern of Proverbs 31:1-9, and married men need to do so in order to grow as husbands: unmarried men need to do so both to inhabit God's design and if it be his will to be husband material.

Proverbs 31 The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him:

²What are you doing, my son? What are you doing, son of my womb?

What are you doing, son of my vows?

³Do not give your strength to women,
your ways to those who destroy kings.

⁴It is not for kings, O Lemuel,
it is not for kings to drink wine,
or for rulers to take strong drink,

⁵lest they drink and forget what has been decreed
and pervert the rights of all the afflicted.

⁶Give strong drink to the one who is perishing,
and wine to those in bitter distress;

⁷let them drink and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.

⁸Open your mouth for the mute,
for the rights of all who are destitute.

⁹Open your mouth, judge righteously,
defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Consider three points this passage is making in regard to Godly men

- 1) Strength for Service not self-gratification (vs 3-5)
- 2) Strength for Compassion not apathy or exploitation (vs 6-7)
- 3) Strength for the Common Good (vs 8-9)

Extension Activity: Begin a shared Prayer list and set aside 5 minutes each day to pray together.