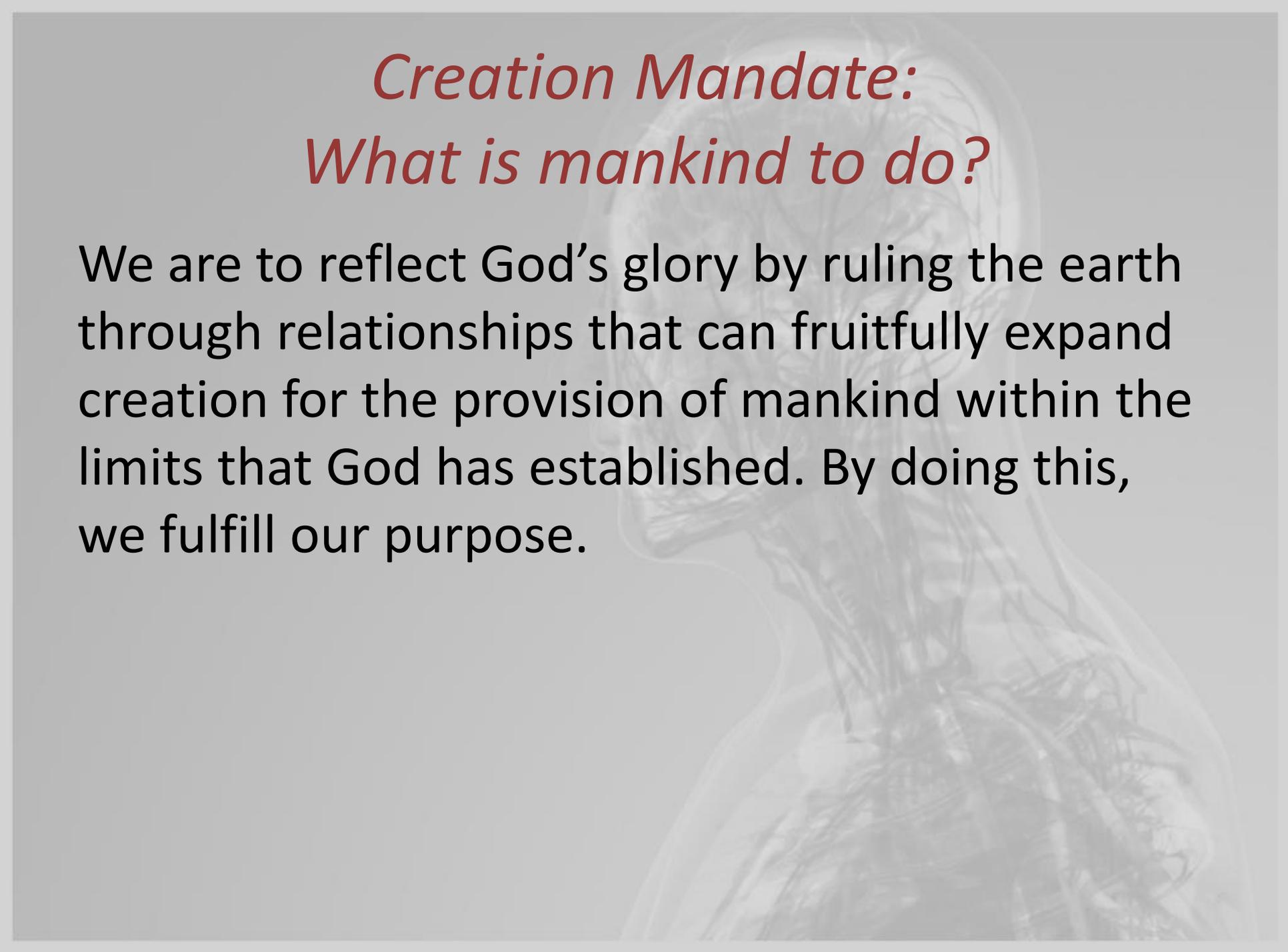


WHAT IS A HUMAN?



WHAT IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM?



*Creation Mandate:
What is mankind to do?*

We are to reflect God's glory by ruling the earth through relationships that can fruitfully expand creation for the provision of mankind within the limits that God has established. By doing this, we fulfill our purpose.

Are there Biblical Guidelines for Gender?

1. Why is this an issue?
 - Contemporary Challenge
 - Fall of Man and the Curse
2. How do the Scriptures provide guidance?
 - Gospel, Grace, and Glory
 - Jesus Christ, the Perfect Man
3. How do we help people?

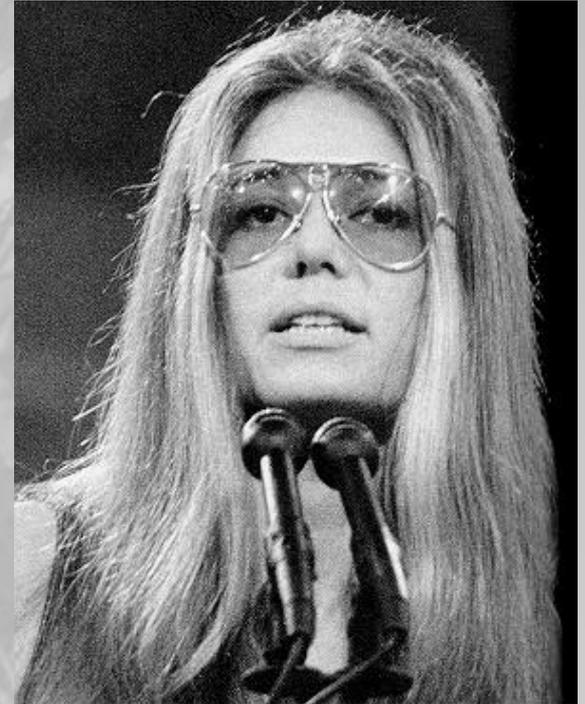
God's Pattern for Manhood

Sex vs. Gender

- "Sex" refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that define men and women.
- "Gender" refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women (World Health Org.)

The Contemporary Problem Defined

- Feminism: The rejection of gender distinctions and roles.
- Egalitarianism: The inclusion of women in all church leadership roles.



The Contemporary Problem Defined

- Chauvinism: The belief that men are superior to women in every way.
- Patriarchalism: The absolute rule of the father/males in a home over all females.



The Contemporary Problem Defined

- Prolonged Adolescence: The rejection of adult roles and responsibilities.
- Sexual Promiscuity: The cultural celebration of sexual freedom and the rise of homosexuality and bisexuality (Prov 31:3)

The Priority of Man at Creation

1. Man was created first (Gen 2:7).
2. Man was given moral leadership (Gen 2:15-17).
3. Man was given responsibility to manage all of God's creation (Gen 2:15).
4. Woman was created as a helper for man (Gen 2:18-23).
5. Man names the animals and the woman (Gen 2:23).

The Extent of the Fall

Adam abandoned his role as the moral leader of creation. The first Adam failed. The curse created two permanent barriers between man and woman.

- The abdication of God-given dominion and leadership responsibility. – “your desire will be for your husband”
- The abuse of power over women. – “and he will rule over you.”

God's Intent in Creation

- Man was to actively take the responsibility as the functional manager for all of creation. He was to lead it for good so all could see God's glory.
- Man was to actively take the responsibility as the moral instructor for all of humanity. He was to teach others the works, words, and ways of God.

God's Intent in Creation

- As a steward of God's creation, man was to protect and preserve the glory of God within creation including women.
- As a steward, man was aware that his authority/headship came as a gift from God, thus he ruled with humility. He understood submission to His Maker is the root of biblical leadership.

Satan's Victory at the Fall

- Man failed to fulfill his creation mandate to protect the glory of creation. His companion now rejected his leadership because of his failure.
- Man embraced pride and personal choice. His leadership became rooted in self-centered and not humility. Man failed in his leadership and his responsibility.

Implications from Gen 1-3

1. Man was created in God's image. He was given leadership and responsibility over creation was established pre-fall.
2. Man was created different than woman.
3. Man was created as a worshipper.
4. Since the fall, man is by nature a sinner.
5. The restoration of the creation order is the goal of God.
6. Man is in need of God's saving grace.

The Restoration of the Gospel

- Spiritual Identity: The gospel restores man to a grace-empowered son of God.
- Responsible Worker: The gospel restores man's purpose as a steward of God's glory.
- Headship: The gospel restores man's ability to protect and provide as a servant-leader.

Practical Outworking

- Mature masculinity expresses itself not in the demand to be served, but in the strength to serve and to sacrifice for the good of woman.
- Mature masculinity does not presume superiority, but mobilizes the strengths of others.

Practical Outworking

- Mature masculinity does not have to initiate every action, but feels the responsibility to provide a general pattern of initiative.
- Mature masculinity accepts the burden of the final say in disagreements between husband and wife, but does not presume to use it in every instance.

Practical Outworking

- Mature masculinity expresses its leadership in romantic sexual relations [in marriage] by communicating an aura of strong and tender pursuit.
- Mature masculinity expresses itself in a family by taking the initiative in disciplining the children when both parents are present and a family standard has been broken.

Practical Outworking

- Mature masculinity is sensitive to cultural expressions of masculinity and adapts to them (where no sin is involved) in order to communicate to a woman that a man would like to relate not in any aggressive or perverted way, but with maturity and dignity as a man.
- Mature masculinity recognizes that the call to leadership is a call to repentance and humility and risk-taking.

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