

## OBEY GOD-DEFY TYRANTS #24

### **“Understanding Biblical Manhood”**

#### I. Introduction

We are now living in a chaotic culture where the very identity of male and female is under attack; this is a generation being groomed toward transgenderism; this is a generation that has forgotten what a real man looks like.

#### **Tristan Emmanuel**

**Canadian, Founder of ‘Equipping Christians for the Public Square’**

**On a cultural level, we all know that the idea of a ‘real man’ has almost been beaten out of our social consciousness. Men are objects of scorn and vilification.**

#### **Tristan Emmanuel**

**Watch any TV commercial or sitcom and you’ll witness a barrage of attacks, all designed to assault the dignity of real masculinity and the historic male role model as provider and protector.**

Author Eric Metaxas believes this has been building for some time...

#### **Eric Mataxas**

**Something began to happen back in the 1960’s where we ceased teaching the things we once knew. And so, for some time now, we have ceased to raise manly men.**

(There has been a lack of teaching in the church as well as the home)

#### **Tristan Emmanuel**

**Many pastors have suppressed godly male assertiveness, opting instead to ‘be nice’. They have abdicated their calling to ‘speak the truth’ in the interest of political correctness.**

#### **Tristan Emmanuel**

**They have decided that manipulating people with emotional self-help books and anecdotal sermonizing is better for the bottom line than training and teaching**

**the men in their congregations to be leaders and warriors for Christ. As a result, the evangelical church is suffering from a shortage of real men.**

**Tristan Emmanuel**

**Ironically, with the death of genuine masculinity, an increasing number of young men are seeking to reclaim their manhood in homosexuality.**

When men have no biblical model for manhood they follow the cultural model.

**AggieCatholic.org**

**Have you seen the average man in a movie, commercial, or TV show recently? They are bumbling idiots who can't put a rational thought together, much less handle a relationship, take on responsibility, or think about anything but sex, sports, pleasure, and money.**

Voddie Baucham, who inspired my message today, agrees...

**Voddie Baucham**

**Our culture has taught us to define manhood by the 3 B's: on the ballfield, in the bedroom and by the billfold; how does he perform athletically, sexually, and how much money he has. But this is not biblical manhood.**

With all this in mind, I'm taking my text for this Father's Day message from...

**1 Corinthians 16:13 ESV**

**Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, *act like men*, be strong.**

**Theme**

**Unfortunately, the Apostle's clear command to 'act like men' carries little meaning in a culture where there is no understanding of what biblical manhood really looks like. Confusion abounds, even among Christians.**

So what is a man? What does biblical manhood look like?  
In our 2 previous messages, we identified manhood as responsibility, as did...

**Seneca, Roman Philosopher**

**Being a man is being responsible.**

**Roy L. Smith**

**“The ability to accept responsibility is the measure of a man.”**

Tonight I want to dive a little deeper by offering 3 often overlooked specific responsibilities of biblical manhood...

**Voddie Baucham**

**3 Responsibilities of Biblical Manhood**

- 1. A commitment to God-honoring labor**
- 2. A commitment to God’s law**
- 3. A commitment to the priority of the family**

## **II. The 3 Responsibilities of Biblical Manhood**

### **A. Biblical Manhood is Committed to God-honoring Labor**

1. Man’s first responsibility was to WORK.

a. The first thing God did after creating the man was to give him a job: to cultivate and keep the Garden.

**Genesis 2:8,15**

**The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.**

**Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. (NKJV)**

**The Lord God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. (HCSB)**

2. Before God gave man a wife He gave him a job; before God gave man a commandment, He gave him work to do. Man had not yet sinned; so work is not a punishment for sin—work is a blessing!

**Voddie Baucham**

**A lot of people today think of work as something evil-something bad. A result of the fall, right? But it's not work that is a product of the Fall—it's our attitude toward work.**

3. Martin Luther, the Father of the Protestant Reformation, had great revelation about the value and nobility of all work, even the most menial work.

#### **Martin Luther**

**A dairymaid can milk cows to the glory of God. God Himself will milk the cows through him whose vocation that is.**

a. This is the essence of what came to be called the 'Protestant Work Ethic', the biblical principle that man glorifies God in whatever work he does.

#### **Luther's Works, Vol. 6**

**God's people please God even in the least and most trifling matters; for He will be working all things through you. He will milk the cows through you, and perform the most servile duties through you and all the greatest and least duties alike will be pleasing to Him.**

3. God abhors the lazy man! The bible calls him a ' sluggard'.

#### **'Sluggard'**

**A habitually lazy person; one who loves sleep and hates work.**

a. In the Book of Proverbs, Solomon, has much to say about sluggards.

#### **Proverbs 6:6-8**

**Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, which, having no captain, overseer or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest.**

b. Solomon sends the sluggard to the anthill to study what work look like in a simple creature that needs no captain or commander to compel her to labor to provide her supply.

c. Solomon says the sluggard loves to sleep and comes to poverty.

**Proverbs 6:9-11**

**How long will you slumber, O sluggard? When will you rise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep—So shall your poverty come on you like a prowler, and your need like an armed man.**

d. Solomon says the sluggard will make up any excuse to stay in the house.

**Proverbs 26:13**

**The sluggard says, "There is a lion in the road! There is a lion in the streets!"**

**Proverbs 20:4**

**The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing. NKJV**

**The slacker does not plow during planting season; at harvest time he looks, and there is nothing. HCSB**

e. Solomon says the laziness of the sluggard follows him from the bed to the breakfast table...

**Proverbs 26:14-16 ESV**

**As a door turns on its hinges, so does a sluggard on his bed. The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; it wears him out to bring it back to his mouth. The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly.**

4. Forward into the New Testament, where the Apostle Paul had some harsh words for sluggards in his day; men who did not take care of their families...

**1 Timothy 5:8**

**But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.**

a. Paul says the actions of a man contradict his claim to be a Christian.

**Albert Barnes**

**It is possible to deny the faith by conduct as well as by words; a neglect of doing our duty is as real a denial of Christianity as it would be openly to renounce it.**

b. Such a man is 'worse than an unbeliever' because even the unbeliever acknowledges his duty to care for his family.

### **2 Thessalonians 3:10-12**

**For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.**

c. Here we have a clear command that a Christian who won't work he has no right to eat!

### **Voddie Baucham**

**Don't feed a man who is not willing to work. You are encouraging his laziness. Don't do it! Hunger is an incredible motivator.**

d. This is the problem with government welfare programs that pay people to stay home; 'tough love' won't enable lazy able-bodied men who won't work.

5. But the problem is not just with a man who doesn't work; it's the man who doesn't like to work; you can go to work every day and still be lazy.

6. Many men have no biblical worldview of how work ought be done.

### **Colossians 3:22-24**

**Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.**

a. We do not work for men; we do it for the glory of God; 'heartily'; with heart, with enthusiasm.

b. 'Whatever we do' literally means 'whatever we do'!

c. And we strive for excellence in whatever we do...streetsweeper, garbageman, building burgers at MacDonald's or preparing a sermon...all work is noble and God-honoring...and worth being done to His glory.

d. And here are some good questions for students who haven't yet entered the workplace:

Are you going to class to master the subject or do as little as you can to pass? What courses are you choosing? The easiest? Or the ones you need to succeed?

7. Biblical manhood makes a commitment to God-honoring labor which brings a blessing! But remember this...

**Voddie Baucham**

**If you are lazy you are actually committed to your own destruction!**

## **B. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Responsibility of Biblical Manhood: A Commitment to God's Law**

1. When God made man, He didn't give him 10 commandments; but He did give him 1!

2. Most men don't know the law of God!

a. Actually, 95% of all Americans do not know the 10 commandments!

### **The 10 Commandments**

- 1. Have no other gods**
- 2. Make no idols**
- 3. Don't take the Lord's name in vain**
- 4. Honor the Sabbath Day**
- 5. Honor your parents**
- 6. Do not murder**
- 7. Do not commit adultery**
- 8. Do not steal**
- 9. Do not lie**
- 10. Do not covet**

3. The 10 commandments are basic; a summary of all God's law on how we relate to God, (the 1<sup>st</sup> 4), and how we relate to each other, (the last 6).

4. The Bible promises special blessings of success and prosperity upon those who meditate on the Law of God.

a. When I became a Christian, I memorized 2 passages of scripture that I use to this day.

b. The first is from Psalm ONE-the 1<sup>st</sup> of the 150 for a reason!

#### **Psalm 1:1-2**

**Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.**

#### **Psalm 1:3**

**He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.**

c. Delighting and meditating in the law of Lord and prospering in whatever you do. The same principle is applied in God's commands to His man Joshua

#### **Joshua 1:8**

**This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

d. A man who meditates in the Law of God and delights to do what it says will make his way prosperous and with good success...

#### **Joshua 1:9**

**Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.**

**C. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Responsibility of Biblical Manhood: A Commitment to the Primacy of Family**



## **"Primacy"**

### **That which is preeminent or most important**

1. The first 'not good' in the Bible is...

#### **Genesis 2:18**

**And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."**

2. God Himself establishes marriage and family as man's first priority.

#### **Voddie Baucham**

**Marriage is the preferred position. Every man ought to be preparing to be a husband. Every woman ought to be preparing to be a wife.**

a. So someone says, "Jesus wasn't married"; No, but He is engaged! And the climax of history will be His marriage to His bride, which is the Church.

2. While marriage is the norm, not every man must be married; but married or not every man must be committed to the biblical model of family. For example, even if a man is not a husband, he is still a son subjected to his parents.

a. The 1<sup>st</sup> 4 commandments are our duty to God; the last 6 are our duty to others; the 1<sup>st</sup> commandment of our duty to others is to honor our parents.

#### **Ephesians 6:1-3**

**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."**

- b. Notice this is the 1<sup>st</sup> commandment with a promise! Also...

#### **The 10 Commandments**

**Notice that the commandment to honor parents is primary; it precedes the commandments about killing, committing adultery, stealing, lying and coveting**

3. Here's a good rule for the parents of young women regarding the question, "how you know a man is a committed man if he's never been married?"

a. Answer: Find out if he is obedient and respectful to his parents; does he honor his father and mother? If a man does not honor his parents he is not going to honor his marriage.

### III. Close

#### A. Review: What Have We Said?

We began with the Apostle Paul's commandment to the Corinthians...

**1 Corinthians 16:13 ESV**

**Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, *act like men*, be strong.**

The first and foremost measure of a man is his ability to accept responsibility.

We looked at 3 specific responsibilities of biblical manhood...

**Voddie Baucham**

#### **3 Responsibilities of Biblical Manhood**

**1. A commitment to God-honoring labor**

**2. A commitment to God's law**

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#### B. Why Does This Matter So Much?

**Dr. Scott Aniol, Professor of Theology**

**When men don't stand and lead—when they sit by the sidelines and shirk their God-given responsibility as leader, defender, protector, pastor, and teacher, attacks against the gospel remain undefended, the church weakens, and the serpent wins again.**

**Jeremiah G. Dys**

**Men have conceded our role in family, church and state. But we had no right to abdicate that responsibility. The solution is very simple: Men need to be men**

**again. They need to take up their responsibility the way God intended them to behave. And the church needs to re-learn how to help them do that again.**

Let me say, as a man, that I do thank God for godly women!  
But the condition of the culture will require more than 'mama bears'.

**NewBeginningsBaptist.com**

**Man is responsible to confront chaos so that he may bring order to the situation.  
Man is responsible to be godly, and that means assuming responsibility for  
imparting order and light in every darkened situation.**

Let me close with this wisdom from one of our Puritan forefathers:

**The Biblical Illustrator**

**Where lies the strength of a people? Not in its arsenals, not in its army or navy,  
but in its men. The supreme need of a people is something higher than the  
making of wealth; it is the making of men. The highest of all social necessities is  
the making of new men, possible only by the preaching and the teaching of the  
gospel of Christ.**

**Closing Prayer**

**Title**

