

What is a Man? A survey of Scripture

1 Corinthian 16:13 (ESV)

Author Nancy Pearcey says the problem with our view of manhood today is that “There are two competing scripts for masculinity.” They are the God-Man vs the Real Man. The Bible says men are made in God’s image, as are women. And that men’s unique masculine strengths are not given to them just to get whatever they want, but to provide, protect and take care of the people they love. So where did the idea infiltrate culture that masculinity is toxic?

The irony is that the secular view of masculinity created the image of toxicity, or “The Real Man” image. Pearcey says, “Culture imposes this ‘real man’ script on men that contains a lot of the traits that, of course, we consider toxic: entitlement, dominance, control, and so on. When these traits are disconnected from the moral vision of the God man, it can slide into being toxic.”

What is a man physically, spiritually, sexually, maternally, missionally, and relationally?

6 Statements

1. A man Physically is an adult male made in the image of God. (Genesis 1:27, Mark 10:6)
2. A man Spiritually is a sinner in need of salvation which is fully available to him through faith in Christ. (Romans 5:12, 15-17)
3. A man Sexually is uniquely made to either live a life of singleness and celibacy or commit his life to one woman in covenant marriage. (Genesis 2:24, Hebrews 13:4, Ephesians 5:23-25)
4. A man Paternally is uniquely designed to lead, provide, and protect as a father.
5. A man Missionally in Christ is expected and equipped to strengthen the church and make the gospel known.
6. A man Relationally is to encourage and hold accountable other men and protect the vulnerable. (Proverbs 27:17, 2 Timothy 2:2, 1 Timothy 5:1-2)
 1. Be with your Savior
 2. Be with one or a few brothers
 3. Zero secrets (no porn, no filthy language, no shady relationships, no dishonesty)
 4. Chase your wife and children
 5. Think, pray, and speak of the gospel