The God of modern feminists

What the bible teaches about the relationship balance of men and women

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This message covers

• What is the bible position on women, as applicable to the modern woman?

Information notice board

- 1) About me. Before I became a devoted Christian, I spent 20 years of my life pursuing women, for their bodies. God however humbled me to turn me into his servant and I got baptized in May 2017. Since then, he has given me a message, to go and preach the gospel as a preacher and an evangelist including to his precious female servants. You can read my full testimony here:
- 2) About these series. The Lord Jesus gave me a single word "Go". This word will define a series of 12 topics he has also given me to tell his church in order to develop mountain moving faith. This message is one of those topics.





(Information notice board continued at the end).

Introduction

I am a servant of Jesus the Christ who sends me as his messenger – to his male and female servants.

Now towards the end of last year, Jesus sent me with 12 messages for his people. He told me the word for the season was "Go". It was to be about developing mountain moving faith. One of those topics he wanted me to cover was about feminism. But why does My Lord and God want me to speak to women and about feminism? It's because as a woman, if you think God somehow loves men more than women and has placed them in chains so they can serve men, you will resent him and want nothing to do with the one who supports your slave master.

You can't therefore love a God who you suspect despises you and so you can't wait to remove the shackles of old school religion, you are after all a woman, a PHENOMENAL WOMAN, AN AMAZON or perhaps a Queen Nzingha of Angolaⁱ.

The bible can indeed be a puzzling place for a woman seeking to earnestly find God. In one place it says beautiful things such as:

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Gal 3: 28, NIV.

Then in another place, you read the following, infact from the same writer, Paul:

"Let a woman learn in silence with full submission. I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she is to keep silent". 1 Timothy 2:11-12.

Problem/Dilemma

We seem to have a problem with the bible as shown! there are verses in the bible which seem to argue for both women's equality as well as subjugation, sometimes by the same writer (Paul!). Which is which?

How you choose to solve the dilemma determines whether you have faith that God is good or whether you somehow believe he is a deity created by men, to keep people, especially women enslaved.

I however have a message for you from the one who made you a woman, a phenomenal woman, an Amazon like the goddess Wonder woman ior perhaps like a Queen Nzingha of Angola.

God's original plan for women and their role

In order to have a better understanding of the role of women and therefore to address feminism, we need to present the correct picture of the God of women.

In order to get a glimpse into the role God gave women, the best place to start is to get a glimpse into the relationship between God the Faither, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Why is this critical to start with? Because both men and women were created in the image of God and the bible says this about the beginning when God created men and women:

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground. Genesis 1: 27- 28 (NIV).

So first, if both men and women were created in the image of God, they were created in equality for a perfect God creating in his perfect image cannot create one sex to be perfect and another to be less perfect! One to be superior and one to be inferior, it would be quite ridiculous!

So, the first question on feminism is simple to address, men and women are equal for God created men and women like him and this means there is equality.

The next part is tricky. What we don't often know is that even if there is equality in the Godhead of Father, Son and Spirit, there is actually a hierarchy and it's a hierarchy of submission and this has implications for our role as men and women of God.

How do I know about this mysterious equality with submission?

First, Jesus said: "for the Father is greater than I." John 14: 28, NIV

Second, the bible tells us to imitate Jesus' act of submission as an example for us in how we deal with one another, including in male and female relationships. It says:

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In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature[a] God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature[b] of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

Philippians 2: 5-9 (NIV).

The pattern from the God head is therefore clear that Jesus was equal to God, but he did not use this to his own advantage, instead, he submitted to God. In return, God exalted him.

The same pattern goes for God the Holy Spirit about whom Jesus said: "Another Helper would be with us forever" (John 14: 16). I won't go into the details of this but when someone says, Another Helper, they clearly mean that this helper is just like them. So, Jesus and the Spirit are equal, yet the Spirit is a Helper! Other bible versions use words like Advocate, Comforter but for now let's stick to this word.

It is therefore true that for example in the home, the husband is the head, with the woman akin to a helper.

In the church, it is probably a bit trickier, but the likely pattern based on the Acts of the apostles seems to indicate that the primary leadership, perhaps like the elders was men, albeit women played an instrumental role. Phoebe was for example likely to be a deaconess (Romans 16: 1-2).

The problem for many of us human beings is we think that submission or even helping equals inferiority and that the one who is above is to subdue the one below but Jesus also addressed this problem when he showed that the Christian way is different from the way of this world, including any wrong teaching about who is above another. He said to his disciples thus:

But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. 26But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, 27and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20: 25-28 (NLT).

As for this supposed "weakness" of women, God has given us another powerful example to use. The human body. The so called "weaker parts" such as the brain and the heart are protected by the "stronger parts" – the skull and the rib cage but we all know the importance of these two organs, don't we?

God explains this issue of the weaker parts as follows:

"On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable" (1 Cor 12:22 (NIV).

If indeed the woman is weaker, it's all the more to protect her because the "weaker parts" are some of the most critical. The brain is encased in a skull. The heart encased in a rib cage. God in his mysteriousness has thus designed men as physically stronger but physical strength doesn't translate into domination for only a fool would say because the skull is stronger than the brain, it is the dominant force and it's only when you start grasping these spiritual revelations that your appreciation and lifting of your wife, sister, mother, friend takes place. The more you see the revelation in scripture the more you lift her up until the point you get to where you find that the most radical feminists, are men, because knowing Jesus, they desire that their sisters be equal to them, as it was in the beginning!

This is therefore the picture that God wants modern women and the men around them to know.

Women might seem weaker or in submission – but this doesn't not mean inequality!

The modern feminist's problem bible verses for women

We now have the ideal picture but this doesn't remove certain problem verses for the modern woman.

U.S. News asked a dozen biblical scholars, all female, to identify passages they consider to be the most problematic for modern American women.ⁱⁱⁱ

Some of the problem verses they mentioned included:

- Women's punishment for eating the forbidden fruit: In pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you. "Genesis 3: 16.
- The wife as property: "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's." (Exodus 20: 17).
- Women's conduct in Church: "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak... And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home." 1 Cor 14: 34-35.

The modern woman, a feminist therefore inevitably asks, "If we were created equal with men, why are we being ruled by men, are their property, and we can't even speak in Church?".

It is true that at face value these verses are problematic, but this is not any more difficult than the other problems both men and women face about the bible, for example I often struggled to understand if God is cruel.

The woman or man who finds God truly, is the one who in reverence seeks for the truth and they will indeed find it, if they search with all their heart. For example, many scholars including prominent "Christian feminists" have studied these exact "problem verses" and have solutions. As an example:

About Paul saying women keep silence in Church, one writer explains that it is important to understand the context in which he wrote. He didn't write with the 20th century in mind, it was different in their times as follows:^{iv}

- The church was new and church worship was often chaotic, unlike our meticulously planned services.
- The church was operating under Roman control akin to an illegal sect and in Rome, homes
 were ruled by pater familias the oldest living male in the family where there was absolute
 authority, no questioning.

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 A new church coming along saying Caesar isn't God and also believed everyone including women and slaves were equal, then to Rome these ideas would be revolutionary and Rome would begin to close its fists on these "atheists" who didn't worship the emperor or submit to the Roman way of life.

Why does this sound plausible? Because Paul modelled after Jesus and is the same one who wrote that men and women are equal and it's this same Paul who depended on women and praised women. For example, Phoebe was a deaconess, he also valued Priscilla and Aquila. How could this same Paul who relied on them, then demean them?

The solution to this dilemma is therefore, don't read the bible out of context.

As for this idea of women in the bible and subservience, another writer 'shows that perhaps we don't know as much as we think we do. The cultures and traditions of the bible times might be more nuanced and we read into them our own biases. For example, a woman being in the home primarily wasn't always a bad thing because until the industrial revolution of the 19th century, when husbands left home to go work in factories, the home was the primary economic unit and for example baking bread was a lot more important than today, baking bread might have contributed the bulk of a home's income!

We might likewise think bible women were shy and never initiated relationships but this is not necessarily true, they just did it differently, understanding the nuances of their culture.

As an example, in the bible there is a story of Ruth and Naomi. Chapter 3 of Ruth shows two women planning on getting Boaz to marry Ruth. There is a very intricate plot where the older woman Naomi tells the younger Ruth to wear perfume and go lie at the feet of the man.

"When he lies down, note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do." Ruth 3: 4 (NIV).

When this happened, Boaz was startled that Ruth chose him over a younger man, yet he understood what she had done and he eventually married her, but think about it, who really chatted who up? Was it Ruth or Boaz?

Comfort for the faithful but oppressed modern woman

Despite what you might know about God of equality, the world we live in is broken and often times, the good side of feminism- which advocates for the equal rights of women doesn't get to you soon enough. You remember that injustices against women have been there forever, even when the history books celebrate progress, they really meant the progress of men. For example:

- We think of ancient Greece as the cradle of democracy although the female half of the population were excluded from voting.
- We class the 14th 17th centuries as 'Renaissance' even though it wasn't a renaissance for women, who were still largely excluded from intellectual and artistic life.

If you are such a woman: oppressed, angry, seeking hope, remember that often God came to women where they were and there are many encounters of God with women.

For example, many of us forget that if the fall of humanity came by a woman Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, the salvation of humanity also came by a woman, with no man involved when the virgin Mary believed God's message of salvation for everyone (Luke 1: 26-38). This is the God of women and all true feminists. The **same God** who for example:

- a. Came to Haggar **the mistreated woman** (Genesis 16). She eventually said, "You are the God who sees me" (Genesis 16: 13).
- b. Delivered Mary Magdalene **the demon possessed woman**. This was the Mary who was the first witness of the risen Lord. Even before his 12 male disciples (John 20:11-18).
- **c.** Showed Anna the **widow and prophetess** the child Jesus who was to be the Messiah (Luke 2: 36-38).

The Same God whose Holy Spirit rest on you, just like it rests on your brothers – infact on all his servants, both male and female (Acts 2: 18) seems to give comfort to you women, who are especially oppressed.

In fact the first 4 beatitudes especially seem to speak to women.

"God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him,[a] for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.

God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice,[b] for they will be satisfied.

Matthew 5: 3-6 (NLT)

God sees you woman, all you his servants:

- Those who are poor and realise their need for him, heaven belongs to women.
- Those women who mourn For being oppressed, they will be comforted
- Those women who are submissive, who are humble will be leaders, they will inherit the whole earth
- Those women who hunger and thirst for justice you will be satisfied; Vengeance is God's but he counts all your tears.

Conclusion

One Christian site viexplains the matter of modern feminism and God well. It shows that while feminism was originally a positive movement, focused on giving women the basic rights God intends for every human being to have. Tragically, a lot of feminism now focuses on destroying all distinctions in the roles of men and women and a lot of modern Feminism is based in arrogance, and it is the opposite of the call to the born-again believer – men and women to be a servant. The modern, militant feminists call women to rise up and rebel against the order that God has given to humanity.

What then should be a Christian's view of feminism? A believing woman, who is seeking to obey God and walk in peace and grace, should remember that she has equal access to all spiritual blessings in Christ.

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So now, get your faith up, phenomenal woman. Walk in confidence for the Lord sees you.

If you do not get your justice in this life time, sister, aunt, mother, friend, take heart, you are on the journey of faith like your brothers in the faith, who are persecuted for their faith, who do not receive the justice they hope for. And they are just like our ancestors in the faith, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and those other heroes of faith, for the bible records this about their faith:

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. Hebrews 11: 13-16 (NLT)

Let us pray.

How can I pray for you?

- You are a female believer but the wrong brand of feminism has snared you. You are angry at
 God, calling him a chauvinist who encourages men to dominate over oppressed women. God,
 your father and my father sends me to you, to woo you back to his love. Come back home
 sister.
- You are a male believer who has a leadership role but the wrong version of leadership has a hold over you. You use the bible to oppress others. The Lord Jesus says, repent, before I come to you and remove that which I entrusted to you, care for his female sheep.
- You have never received the gift of Christ, being eternal life and neither have you received Jesus' Holy Spirit, Another Helper who will reveal both Jesus and God the father to you, teaching you about your true role and purpose as a daughter of the King.

Write to me so I can pray further for you: dwasake@shaweleroad.com

Next steps

- Visit our website which shows the steps it takes to get to know Jesus and be saved from this wicked generation. https://www.shaweleroad.com/what-must-i-do-to-get-saved
- Our work is freely given for we received freely from the Lord. If you however like what we are doing: Then you can partner with us by giving to our work.

Information notice board (continued)

Pray for us! Without the Lord, our effort is in vain. Pray that we remain faithful, humble servants.

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel and keep up with our videos which support the website.

Looking for a ministry to partner with (pray, volunteer, give, subscribe to)?

https://www.one.online/about

We are a global movement led by Pastors Touré Roberts and Sarah Jakes Roberts.

Whoever, wherever... **ONE** thing's for sure -- you are **FAMILY** here.

Notes

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwi7wqaqv67y AhUW7J4KHcluDiwQFnoECAQQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fbrill.com%2Fdownloadpdf%2Fjournals%2 Frpbi%2F2%2Farticle-p1 1.xml&usg=AOvVaw2Qg7EhrT5unC16jvi21OG

ⁱ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nzinga_of_Ndongo_and_Matamba

[&]quot;https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wonder_Woman

iii https://www.usnews.com/news/religion/articles/2008/01/25/ten-biblical-teachings-women-love-to-hate

 $^{^{\}text{iv}}\ \text{https://www.crossroads.net/media/articles/what-the-bible-actually-says-about-women}$

vi https://www.gotquestions.org/feminism-Christian-feminist.html