

WHO'S THE MAN?

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Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.
— 1 Corinthians 16:13

What is it to “be strong,” to “quit ourselves like men?” This exhortation is given to us by Paul the Apostle and it applies to men and women, calling us to be strong and not give up.

I quote this scripture because we need to understand it and apply it to our lives today. The world loves to talk about fighting “the Man.” Popular culture loves to complain about “masculine aggression” in its overly dramatic, mostly made-up news casts.

So why is “the Man” bad, and why is masculinity a crime? Could it be because people think they want independence and that by condemning “the Man,” it makes them feel strong and in charge? The truth is that the Biblical vision of manhood, and ultimately men, can provide a model of masculinity.

Enter feminism!

Feminism began in 1848 with the first women’s conference, followed by marches demanding equal rights, and now to today’s marches with women dressed as reproductive organs.

The face of modern feminism misses the pivotal point that women are not inferior and neither are men. The feminists contend that men are all evil, sexist, and sex predators. No one should buy into feminism, which seeks to reorder human nature. We are becoming a de-masculinized nation of wimps and babies who need to be coddled our entire lives.

The better response is to appreciate and even accentuate the differences between men and women. It is my personal experience that my fiancé thinks about things that I miss or

things she knows that I don’t know or understand. Complimentarily, there are things she says that make me rethink a decision for the better.

The Biblical roles for men and women are equal in the sight of God, but different in function. Men are to lead, protect, and provide. If men neglect these ordained roles, then they render not just themselves, but our nation weak and vulnerable — to become a soft target for crime, war, and terrorism. However, in a culture where women are seen as inferior, such as in China, we witness horrible things like limiting families to one baby and subsequently killing baby girls in favor of a son. These insensitive and horrible laws would never have been passed if Chinese women could have voted.

This article is not about Chinese policy, but about the effect of feminism on our culture and especially on our men. The problem in America today is that men are not being men. We are wearing jeans that are tighter than our girlfriend’s, we are coloring with crayons, and playing with play dough and puppies because life might be too hard and offensive. Is life that hard with your cell phone and lap top, your McDonald’s and Starbucks?

Have you lived in a hole in the ground for days with nothing to eat but processed cheese and biscuits, with dead bodies and body parts of friends lying around you? No, you have not! The real men of World War II did. Life used to be hard; life is so

much easier and softer today.

Today’s feminists think the military and the police are too masculine. Rather, they are the real men. They are the ones who have it hard, the ones whose lives are sometimes miserable. Approximately 150 police officers commit suicide each year while suffering from stress, fear, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Roughly 500 U.S. military personnel commit suicide each year for the same reasons. And we are funding social groups for college students who feel suicidal over grades or a break up? We should instead prioritize the true needs.

Time for men to man up! Life is hard, so push through it and keep going. It’s not cool to flip your hair

or act like your hands are dead fish attached to your wrists. It’s cool to protect, to serve, to lead, and to be the Man. It is our job, our duty, our obligation to society. God created us to lead and protect,

not to be lead and to need protection! Look to pastors, soldiers, police officers as role models; they are men. Follow them — be a man. Be a protector. Be a leader. Be a provider.

Men, we have one more phenomenally important job I have not mentioned yet. Be a father following God’s model. Our Father God lovingly and tenderly protected and provided for His people, even through difficult trials. I’m not saying that to be a man is to be the Terminator. I’m saying that in addition to being kind, gentle, and loving, we must also be firm and strong. We must be able to weather the storms life will throw at us, rather than someone who hides at the first cloud in the sky. Men, be strong, steadfast, hold your ground, “quit you like men.” You are the man.

BE THE MAN!

