

The Changing of America

The ERA and the Changing of Gender Roles

Questions to Answer

1. Are men and women equal in value?
2. Are men and women equal in authority?
3. Are men and women equal in abilities?

Are Men and Women Equal in Value?

Gen 1:26-27 *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. NKJV*

Men and women were _____ created in the image of God.

Gal 3:26-29 *For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. NKJV*

Every person's soul is of _____ value to God.

Acts 10:34-35 *Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.*

_____ who fears God and works righteousness is accepted by Him. It doesn't matter what nation you are from or what gender God assigned to you at birth.

The soul of a slave is equal in value to his _____ (Eph 6:5-9; Col 3:22-25).

A poor person's soul is just as valuable as a rich person's soul (James 2:1-13).

Acts 16:11-15 *Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, 12 and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. 13 And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. 14 Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. 15 And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." So she persuaded us. NKJV*

Salvation is offered to men and women equally. The _____ of their salvation are the same.

Rom 14:8-13 *For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living. 10 But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God." 12 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God. NKJV*

Men and women must equally give _____ for him or herself to God.
I think the answer is yes. Men and women's soul are equally valuable to God.

Are Men and Women Equal in Authority?

Neither men nor women have any inherent authority! All authority has to be given to them.

From the Beginning

Gen 2:18-20 *And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.*

Verse 18 says that it was not good for man to be _____. God was going to make a _____ suitable for him.

1 Cor 11:3, 8-9 *But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.... 8 For man is not from woman, but woman from man. 9 Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man. NKJV*

The head of woman is man. The head of Christ is _____.
The woman was made from man. The man was not made for the woman.

Gen 2:15-17 *Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." NKJV*

Gen 1:27-28 *So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." NKJV*

Adam needed Eve to help him _____ the garden.
Adam needed Eve to help him fill and _____ the earth.
Eve was to help Adam achieve a _____ goal. When you serve someone you are helping them accomplish their goal.

1 Cor 11:11-12 *Nevertheless, neither is man independent of woman, nor woman independent of man, in the Lord. 12 For as woman came from man, even so man also comes through woman; but all things are from God. NKJV*

God's plan includes men and women who are _____ not independent of one another.

1 Peter 3:1-7 *Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. 3 Do not let your adornment be merely outward — arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel — 4 rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 5 For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. 7 Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered. NKJV*

Men and women are heirs _____ of the grace of life.

Men have authority from God to _____ the family.

Men have the responsibility to honor their wives.

Eph 5:22-24 *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. ... 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. NKJV*

A man is instructed to **love** his wife as himself. A woman is instructed to _____ her husband.

Submission is not about one person being more important. It is about both people working together to accomplish a goal given to them by God.

Women have authority in a family, it is just different from a man's authority. Remember Proverbs 31.

The church

1 Tim 5:17-20 *Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. 18 For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages." 19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. 20 Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear. NKJV*

Elders are given authority in the _____.

_____ one of us submits to the authority of the eldership at Lakeview.

Titus 1:5-9 *For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you — 6 if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to*

wine, not violent, not greedy for money, 8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict. NKJV

The _____ determined that men are to lead His church. That was His choice not ours.

That doesn't mean that men are more important or more valuable. It does not mean that men are smarter or more talented.

We are to work together to accomplish _____ goals.

When _____ agendas enter a family or a church it is destined to be destroyed.

Acts 18:24-28 *Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John. 26 So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. 27 And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; 28 for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ. NKJV*

Aquila and Priscilla worked together to _____ Apollos the truth.

Men and women have different _____ of authority in the family and in the church.

Are Men and Women Equal in Abilities?

Rom 12:3-8 *For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. NKJV*

All people have different abilities of _____ importance.

The _____ starts when we start elevating one person's abilities as more important than another person's abilities.

Generally speaking men and women have _____ abilities.

This should be _____ by all of us!

Be careful that we don't use the 1950's in America as our standard. The standard is God's word.

Questions to Answer

1. Are men and women equal in value? Absolutely!
2. Are men and women equal in authority? No.
3. Are men and women equal in abilities? Men and women generally have equal but not the same abilities.

The problem with the equal rights movement is that it equates equality with sameness.