

Part 2 Mature Manhood

1 Cor 16:13-14

Recap

The original design for what is a man was disclosed right away in the book of Genesis 1:26 when God said “let Us make man in Our image(**expression**), after our likeness(**character**) and having dominion(**authority**) over everything - abundance

- So we know that by original intent Manhood and Christlikeness are one in the same

So when Adam fell, man fell out of the image and likeness of God losing his authority - he lost the character of God

- So that now everything God is doing to us and through us through Jesus Christ is to restore us back to the image, likeness and authority of Jesus which is the full expression of manhood according to Romans 8:29

“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren(Jesus as the Adam replacement).”

Romans 8:29 NKJV

- Manhood is the image of Jesus Himself
- God is not here to make you a better version of yourself but a Christ-like version reflecting His image.

Part I we learned from the law of first mention from Genesis

4 primary aspects of a man of God before Eve:

1. Responsibility - gave him a job to do - tend the garden - take dominion
2. Walks in obedience to God's Word - shows his love for God: John 14:15 & 1 John 5:3, this gave man an opportunity to choose God and be in right-standing with God - through his obedience
Obedience is better than sacrifice because you can never sacrifice enough to gain what you lost through disobedience - We need Jesus!
3. A real man is aware of his abundance and that His abundance comes from God - the Lord of every tree in the garden you may eat - except one
4. A real man focuses on God's abundance and not on lack which opens the door to sin - Adam had to walk by all his abundance to get to the middle of the garden and focus on lack to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Part 2

“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 ESV

- We are going to come back to that but first

“When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.”

1 Corinthians 13:11 NKJV

- When a man acts like a child it forces his wife to act like his mother

- Mothers basically do two things to their children:
- They make decisions for them and they correct them
- Problem: when a man acts like a child and forces his wife to act like his mother the problem is you can't make love to your mother

We have to understand the attributes of Manhood God is teaching us in His Word

“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”
I Corinthians 16:13-14 ESV

- An essential attribute of a man of God is to be watchful

Be watchful: a man of God is watchful

- Gk. Gregoreo: to watch, give strict attention to, be cautious, active - awareness
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“of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command;”

I Chronicles 12:32 NKJV

- So understand the times to know what an entire nation must do and to lead people in that direction
- God wants men to know what to do
- In your church, nation, marriage, fatherhood, relationships, life
- Understanding of the times means to have an understanding of the seasons: the seasons we have moved from, the season we are in and the season we are going into.

This is a command of God but we will never know what season we are in if we are not watchful.

Jesus gives end times instructions on being watchful

““Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.”

Matthew 25:13 NKJV

- Be watchful of the times with its signs and seasons
- A real man is vigilant of the times
- Like the sons of Issachar who were celebrated for understanding the times - necessary for every decision in battle
- That's why deception is an end time weapon of the enemy because he does not want you to understand what is going on
- So you won't know what to do, how to pray and how to exercise your authority

Understanding seasons:

“TO EVERYTHING there is a season, and a time for every matter or purpose under heaven:”
Ecclesiastes 3:1 AMPC

This scripture in Ecclesiastes 3:1, that to EVERYTHING, there is a season and that every season has a purpose under heaven. **The planet, nation, church, you**

Activate your faith in that...

- So if you are in season where you are sick - understand that it's just a season and you are about to enter a season where you are healed
- If you are in a season where you don't have a job, you're about to enter a season of employment
- If you are in a season of doubt you are about to enter a season of greater faith

We have to be watchful - eagerly awaiting the signs for the next season of your life

Also watchful over yourself

“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Matthew 26:41 NKJV

- Being Watchful is not just about understanding events and the consequences of events but also about
- Being watchful of what you let into your mind, what you watch, listen to and who your with. (marriage)

Associate with men who are watchful

Listen to what the Lord said to Gideon who had amassed an army of 32k

Judges 7:4-7 NKJV

“But the Lord said to Gideon, “The people are still too many; bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. Then it will be, that of whom I say to you, ‘This one shall go with you,’ the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ the same shall not go.” So he brought the people down to the water. And the Lord said to Gideon, “Everyone who laps from the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set apart by himself; likewise everyone who gets down on his knees to drink.” And the number of those who lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men; but all the rest of the people got down on their knees to drink water. Then the Lord said to Gideon, “By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand. Let all the other people go, every man to his place.”

Judges 7:4-7 NKJV

- The difference with the men was that those who stuck their face in the water could no longer be watchful
- But those that brought the water up to their face could remain watchful
- **God is saying I rather have 300 watchful men fighting for me than 32,000 men walking around deceived with their heads down**
- We are in a battle - do you want a man at your rearguard with his head in the mud or watchful?

A vital attribute of Manhood in these end times is Situational awareness that comes from being watchful

Rules for being watchful: situational awareness

“Be well balanced (temperate, sober of mind), be vigilant and cautious at all times; for that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring [in fierce hunger], seeking someone to seize upon and devour. Withstand him; be firm in faith [against his onset—rooted, established, strong, immovable, and determined], knowing that the same (identical) sufferings are appointed to your brotherhood (the whole body of Christians) throughout the world.

I Peter 5:8-9 AMPC

- A Man made in the image of Jesus is sober, vigilant, watchful