

# Colossians Series

## Lesson #73

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Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbible.org](http://www.deanbible.org)

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A landscape photograph showing a field of bare trees in the foreground, a dark hill in the middle ground, and a range of mountains in the background under a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

**COLOSSIANS:**  
**Jesus Christ is All-Sufficient**

**The Redemption Solution  
for Marriage and the Family**  
**Colossians 3:18–21**

**Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, [with the result that you are] teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom [wisely] in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, [by] singing with grace [gratitude] in your hearts to the Lord.**

**Col. 3:17, “And whatever [all that] you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”**

**Col. 3:18, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.**

**Col. 3:19, “Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.**

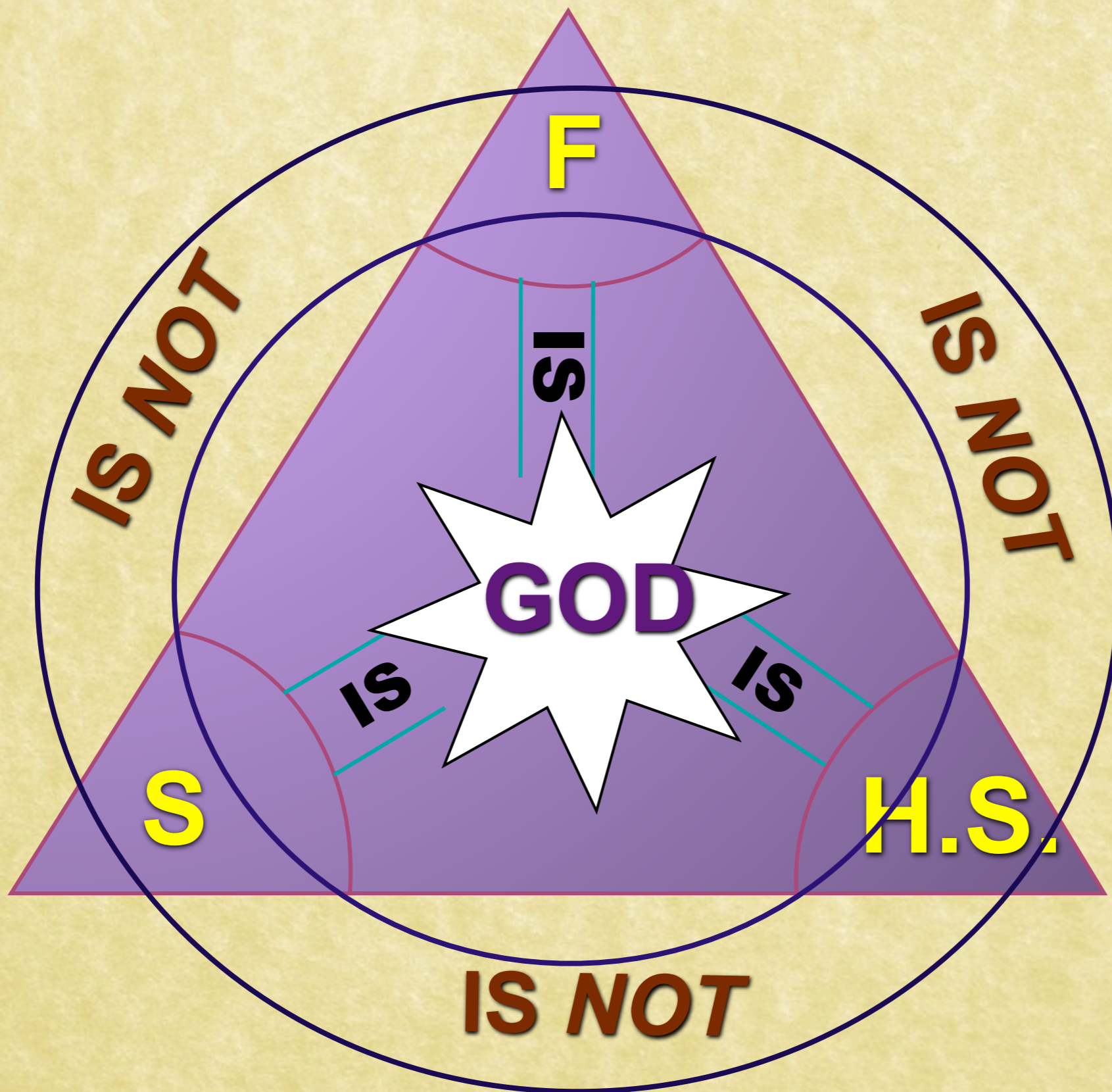
**Col. 3:20, “Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.**

**Col. 3:21, “Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.”**

**Gen. 1:26, “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.’**

**Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.**

**Gen. 1:28, “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.’ ”**



**Gen. 3:16, “To the woman He said: ‘I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.’ ”**

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**תְּשׁוּקָה**     *teshuqa*

**Noun comm fem sing constr  
desire to control**



**Gen. 4:7, “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”**

**תִּשְׁוָקָה *teshuqa***

**Noun comm fem sing constr  
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**Gen. 3:17, “Then to Adam He said, ‘Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it”: Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.**

**Gen. 3:18, “ ‘Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field.**

**Gen. 3:19, “ ‘In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return.’ ”**

**Do these verses teach:**

**1. That God intended to establish male authority in the relationship between Adam and Eve in the Garden before sin (the complementarian view);**

**or**

**2. That the authority within marriage is something that entered into human marriage only as a result of sin (the egalitarian view)?**

**The Challenge From the World (kosmic thinking, human viewpoint, Satanic thought).**

**Egalitarianism (from the Fr. *egal*, meaning equal, or level)**

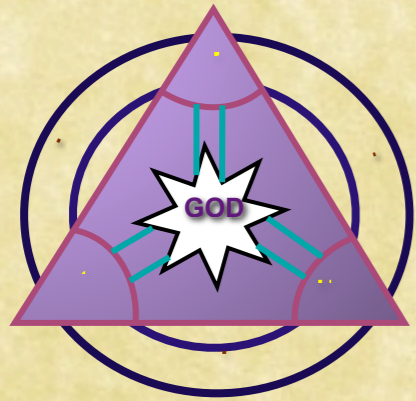
**The view that God created males and females as equals in both nature and function.**

**The interchangeability of roles.**

# **The Biblical View**

## **Complementarian**

**The view that God created males and females as intrinsic equals in nature and humanity, but with different roles which complete, complement, or enhance/improve the other.**

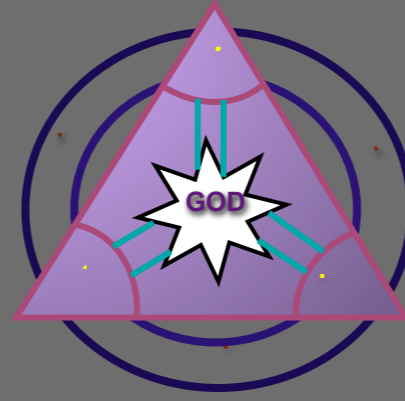


**MANKIND**  
**Male–Female**

**S**

**I**

**N**



**MANKIND**  
**Male–Female**

**Post-fall**

**Sin-corrupted**

**Spiritually-dead**  
**world**

**All Human**  
**Authority**  
**Relationships**  
**Corrupted**

- 1. The order of creation with the male created first indicates God's design and intention for male headship in the marriage relationship.**

**1 Tim. 2:12, “And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.**

**1 Tim. 2:13, “For Adam was formed first, then Eve.**

**1 Tim. 2:14, “And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.”**



**2. How the woman was created also showed this authority relationship.**

**1 Cor. 11:8, “For man is not from woman, but woman from man.”**

**1 Cor. 11:9, “Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man.”**

**1 Cor. 11:10, “For this reason the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.”**

**1 Cor. 11:11, “Nevertheless, neither is man independent of woman, nor woman independent of man, in the Lord.”**

**1 Cor. 11:12, “For as woman came from man, even so man also comes through woman; but all things are from God.”**

**3. The woman was created from Adam to show her absolute unity with Adam in terms of being fully in the Image and Likeness of God.**

**Gen. 5:1, “This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.**

**Gen. 5:2, “He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created.**

**Gen. 5:3, “And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.”**

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**Gen. 5:3, “And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.”**

**Gen. 9:6, “Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man.”**

**4. The Woman was created for the man, as Adam's helper, assistant.**

**Gen. 2:18, "And the LORD God said, 'It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.' "**

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עֵזֶר ezer

**helper, assistant**

**1 Cor. 11:9, “Nor was man created for the woman,  
but woman for the man.”**



**5. Man, not woman, was given the spiritual commandment in the garden.**

**Gen. 2:16, “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;**

**Gen. 2:17, “ ‘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.’ ”**

**6. Man named the woman both before and after the entrance of sin.**

***Ishah:* from the man (*Ish*); emphasizes an identity of nature, with distinctions (Gen. 2:23).**

***Chavah:* Gen. 3:20, mother of the living.**

**7. Satan approached the woman, not the man,  
usurping male headship.**

**1 Tim. 2:13, “For Adam was formed first, then Eve.**

**1 Tim. 2:14, “And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.”**

**8. Although the woman sinned first, but it is the male that is held responsible. God came to the man, and addressed the man, not the woman in Gen. 3 (cf., Rom. 5:12–19; 1 Cor. 15:22).**

**Rom. 5:19, “For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.”**

**9. The judgments God pronounced on each one involved in the original sin, addresses the role and responsibility of each one.**

**The woman was to be the assistant and the child-bearer.**

**Her judgment is directed at her God-designed identity because it was at that fundamental level that she fell.**

**10. The Trinity's equality and role distinction is reflected in the equality and role distinction in the marriage.**

# Divine Purpose, Judgment, Redemption Solution

## Purpose

- To co-rule;
- To assist, help Adam;
- To multiply & fill the earth

*Ishah*

## Judgment

- Desire to rule over her husband
- Increased pain, sorrow in relation to birth

## Redemption

- Submit to your husband as is fitting to the Lord (Col, 3:18, Eph. 5:22, 23)

**PERFECT ENVIRONMENT**

**SINFUL, WORLDLY ENVIRONMENT**

**SPIRITUAL RECOVERY**

- To co-rule, lead;
- To guard, keep the garden;
- To multiply & fill the earth

*Ish*

- In toil you will eat
- Opposition from creation (thorns, thistles)
- Sweat of your brow

- Love your wife as Christ loved the church, and do not be embittered against them. (Col. 3:19; Eph. 5:24–33)



# Conclusions

- 1. Authority as a principle is intrinsically good.**
- 2. Authority was never designed as a solution to the chaos of sin.**
- 3. Subordination is not intrinsically bad, but reflects the need for order and mutual dependence.**
- 4. The belief that submission implies inferiority is an assault on the Trinity, the Incarnation, the cross, and therefore on the foundation of all biblical teaching.**
- 5. Authority and submission are corrupted by sin, sinful creatures and cultures.**

## **Conclusions**

- 6. The only solution begins at the cross, which removes the judgment of sin, and provides the foundation for understanding and restoring our God-designed purposes and roles.**
- 7. Only through the filling of the Holy Spirit and the rich indwelling of the Word of Christ can the corruption of sin in our thinking, our marriages, our families, be reversed so we can truly pursue God's plan for our lives.**

**Col. 3:9, “Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,**

**Col. 3:10, “and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,**

**Col. 3:11, “where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.”**

**Col. 3:12, “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, **put on** tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;**

**Col. 3:13, “[with the result that you are] bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.**

**Col. 3:14, “But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of maturity.”**