

1. Is God Male or Female

- A. Male and female is of this creation – Matthew 22:30 – “For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.”
- B. Male and female are created in God’s image – Genesis 1:27 – “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”
- C. God does not exist as male or female since God is Spirit and not physical, material or created – John 4:24 – “God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”
- D. God most often refers to himself as male:
 - i. 1 Corinthians 8:6 – “yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.”
 - ii. His bride –
 - 1. Israel – Isaiah 54:5 – “For your husband is your Maker, Whose name is the LORD of hosts; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, Who is called the God of all the earth.”
 - 2. Ephesians 5:25-27 – “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.”
- E. God’s character and nature are presented with feminine characteristics and illustrated with female examples:
 - i. Matthew 23:37 – “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”
 - ii. Hosea 13:8 – Like a bear robbed of her cubs, I will attack them and tear them asunder.”
 - iii. Deuteronomy 32:18 – “You forget the God who gave you birth.”
 - iv. Isaiah 66:13 – “As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem..”
 - v. Isaiah 49:15 – ““Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.”
 - vi. Isaiah 42:14 – “For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.”

2. Is God Sexist

- A. Reasons this idea is considered:
 - i. God made Adam first; Eve created for Adam – Genesis 2:18 – “Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”
 - ii. After the fall in the garden – Genesis 3:16 – “Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.”
 - iii. Under the law women lived under the authority of a male (father, husband, relative) –

1. Numbers 30:3-5 – ““When a young woman still living in her father’s household makes a vow to the Lord or obligates herself by a pledge and her father hears about her vow or pledge but says nothing to her, then all her vows and every pledge by which she obligated herself will stand. But if her father forbids her when he hears about it, none of her vows or the pledges by which she obligated herself will stand; the Lord will release her because her father has forbidden her.”
 2. Numbers 30:6-8 – “If she marries after she makes a vow or after her lips utter a rash promise by which she obligates herself and her husband hears about it but says nothing to her, then her vows or the pledges by which she obligated herself will stand. But if her husband forbids her when he hears about it, he nullifies the vow that obligates her or the rash promise by which she obligates herself, and the Lord will release her.”
 3. Numbers 30:16 – “These are the regulations the Lord gave Moses concerning relationships between a man and his wife, and between a father and his young daughter still living at home.”
- iv. Under the law a man could divorce his wife; but the wife could not divorce her husband. – Deuteronomy 24:1-4 – “When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of his house, and if she goes and becomes another man's wife, and the latter man hates her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter man dies, who took her to be his wife, then her former husband, who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she has been defiled, for that is an abomination before the Lord. And you shall not bring sin upon the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance.”
 - v. Under the law a woman could only inherit her father’s land if there were no men in the family – Numbers 27:8 – “And you shall speak to the people of Israel, saying, ‘If a man dies and has no son, then you shall transfer his inheritance to his daughter.’”
 - vi. Other examples available...
- B. God is not sexist and women are not second rate people in creation
- i. Men and women are created in God’s image – Gen. 1:26-27
 1. Men do not have a superior image
 2. Women were not created as an afterthought
 - ii. Women were created, or actually taken, out of man (Gen. 2:22 – “And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.”) who had been made from the dust.
 - iii. Women were to created to be a “helper” which is translation of Hebrew word *ezer*
 1. “ezer” is used to refer to someone who surrounds, protects or aids
 2. God was Jacob’s “ezer in Genesis 49:25 – “by the God of your father who will help you, by the Almighty who will bless you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that crouches beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb.”

3. Moses said God was the “ezer” who helped him and named his son with the word “ezer”– Exodus 18:4 – “the name of the other, Eliezer (for he said, “The God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh”)
4. David wrote Psalm 33:20 – “Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.”
5. Ezer does not sound like the role of a second class person or a servant.

C. The Law and Sin

- i. The Law was temporary and was making progress toward salvation the fullness of restoration
 1. Hebrews 10:1 – “For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things”
 2. John 1:17 – “For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.”
 3. Galatians 3:24 – “So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came.”
- ii. Sin caused the fall, but it is not the way it is suppose to be.

D. Women in the Bible:

- i. Genesis is the only creation account that mentions women. And, the creation of woman was one of the key events that resolved the incompleteness of creation.
- ii. Women were present when Scripture was read - Deut. 31:9-13
- iii. Miriam was a prophet beside her brother Moses Ex. 15:20-21
- iv. Deborah was a prophet and a judge
- v. Huldah was a prophet of God equal to Jeremiah and spoke directly to the king (2 Kings 22:14-20)
- vi. Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman, contrary to culture
- vii. Women understood his coming death and he recognized them
- viii. Women were the first ones that testified to the resurrection and the first ones Jesus appeared to and the first ones sent

E. Muhammad

- i. “Wives are fields to seed as you please”
- ii. “Wives are prisoners with you, having no control of their person”
- iii. “Put women in a inferior position since God has done so.

- F. Galatians 3:26-28 – “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.