

Words of Truth

Is That A Dude Or A Girl?

By: Brian A. Yeager

I live near Eldorado High School here in El Paso. The students at this high school often leave the school campus for their lunch breaks. There has been numerous times when Katrina and I have commented on the apparel and conduct of both the boys and girls we see out during the school days near Eldorado. One day we were driving and noticed a group of individuals walking. I asked if they were a group of boys or girls. They had long hair, were wearing tight jeans (what we've since learned are called "skinny jeans" and ought not be worn by boys or girls), and earrings. Upon closer examination we concluded these kids were likely boys. Sadly however, I have to say that I could be wrong in my conclusion. To say the least, there are a lot of dudes that look like girls and girls that look like dudes.

Another similar occasion occurred when I was a teenage boy. Some friends and I were headed to a basketball court. I did not have my corrective lenses on and could not see very far. Up ahead of us, there was a girl (or so I thought) with long blonde hair. I whistled and yelled ahead (like an idiot for many reasons). When the girl turned around, it was a DUDE that looked like a girl. I was horrified.

Enough with the illustrations, let's get to the point of this article. The haircut of a man and a woman are to be distinctive in showing one's sex (I Corinthians 11:14-15). Likewise, men and women ought not to cross dress (Deuteronomy 22:5). Now, while it may appear at this point in the article that we are going to address the physical appearance of males and females, we are not. What we are going to address is how the conduct of a man of our time often resembles more of the role of a woman. Folks, dudes are not only looking like the girls in our time, they are also acting like them. Since we know an individual by their fruits (Matthew 7:16-20), we have a lot of dudes walking around appearing more to be female than male. Sadly, this is not a new issue either since it is biblically addressed. So, men it is time we "man up"!

Dudes Need To Act Like Men!

Father's often tell their boys "act like a man". Paul had to tell this same thing to the males in Corinth. Notice: "*Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men* [to show one's self a man, be brave; Thayer's Lexicon], *be strong*" (I Corinthians 16:13). Men are expected to be strong and brave (I Samuel 4:9, Acts 15:26, II Timothy 2:3-5, and I John 2:14). It is a shameful time when men fail in their roles and women step up to fill those roles (Isaiah 3:12).

When you study the Bible what do you find about leadership in every area of life? In the church, men are to be the elders (I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9). Deacons are males as well (I Timothy 3:8-13). Gospel preachers are supposed to be males (Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 15:22; 25, and II Timothy 2:2). In fact, it is explicitly stated that women are not to teach in mixed assemblies (I Corinthians 14:34-35). Paul, through inspiration, clearly pointed out that it was not only wrong for a woman to teach over a man, but

also wrong for a woman to assume a role of authority over a man (I Timothy 2:11-15). When you examine God's design for leadership in the family, you find that man is to take the role of leadership (Ephesians 5:22-24, Colossians 3:18, and I Peter 3:1-7). In all things, the Scriptures plainly declare that men are to take the lead. Notice: *"But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God"* (I Corinthians 11:3). God has been clear, so how have things gotten so far away from His will?

Man Is To Be Blamed!

God had a masterful design when woman came from man. Please take careful notice of God's plan for men and women: *"And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; **I will make him an help meet for him.** And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed... Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee"* (Genesis 2:18-25 and Genesis 3:16).

Did God's design, as you read above, involve God finding a being to reign over a man? Did God's design, as you read above, involve God finding a being to take the place of a man? The obvious answer to both of these questions is NO! God had the perfect design, it is man that decided to allow God's plan to fail in many areas of our world today (Ecclesiastes 7:29). The role reversals we find in the church, the home, government, the workplace, etc.; have taken place because dudes are looking and acting like a bunch of little girls. Men have failed to "man up".

I knew a couple where the man of the home just simply refused to "man up". His wife would suggest to him often that there were things he was having her do that he should have been doing. This woman was perceived by others to be out of line in her home. In reality, she didn't want to take the roles that her husband forced on her. Had she not done the responsibilities he simply neglected, they would not have been accomplished. This true story is such a clear illustration as to what is going on all around us. At some point, a man refused to "man up". A woman then had to step in his place because things were failing. Now, women are used to stepping up where men have sat down. It's time the men get off the bench and get into the starting roles God has designed them to fulfill.

Conclusion

Brothers in Christ, let's man up! Sisters in Christ, teach the younger ladies that the role reversals that we see today are not what God wants (Titus 2:3-5). There are too many men wearing the skirt while too many women have put on the pants of a man. Let's all work together to see that men act like men so that we are all pleasing to God.