

# Of Authority, Leadership, And The PC Police

A sermon series by Pr. David Johnson (Week 2)

Last week we began our “*You’ve Got To Be Kidding Me*” sermons series discussing, ***The Foundations of Roles, Authority, and Leadership***. We started at the beginning, where all leadership was established...in the *Triune* nature of God. We explained how every culture on earth got its patterns and standards for proper authority from God. Really, all societies from the beginning of time share the common foundation of Genesis. (*Since all humanity starts there*). **Genesis 1:1-3** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

The Father determined, He spoke the Word, and the power of the Holy Spirit put the Father’s thoughts and the Word into action. This was always the proper form and function of the 3-person nature of the triune God. We see this three-fold arrangement of roles, authority, and delegation expressed all the way through Scripture:

- The Father creates and directs
- The Son enacts and redeems
- The Holy Spirit moves and empowers

Neither person of the Trinity is more or less important...all share the same nature and character...all flow from the direction and leadership of the other...with the Father being the greater among equals. You will never find any coercion or abuse, no usurping or abdication. All are content and supportive of the role and authority of the other. It is this example that should be followed and applied to all God’s creation, and was, at least at the start.

## Man and woman were: Created Equal (*in value*)...

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

- \* God created... “*ādām*” (*mankind*) neither evolved nor self-determined
- \* Both male & female are image-bearers of God
- \* Both male & female display attributes of God’s character

## ...Not Identical (*in nature or authority*)

**Genesis 2:7, 15-17** Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being... **15** The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. **16** And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, **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.”

- \* “*Life*” comes from God...the material comes from dust
- \* “*Management*” and labor is man’s delegated assignment
- \* The rules of life were given to Adam, prior to Eve

## ...But Compatible (*In form, role, and purpose*)

**Genesis 2:18-24** Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.”...<sup>21</sup> So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed

up the flesh at that place. <sup>22</sup> The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> The man 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.” <sup>24</sup> For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

- \* *In the creation of “iṣhâ” (woman or wife), God answered Adam’s need for both companionship and a helpmeet (suitable helper). (also 1 Cor. 11:8ff)*
- \* *God created woman from Adam (out of), not from dust; independent of man.*
- \* *Man praises Woman as he had no other creature or aspect of creation.*
- \* *It is the man’s job to “leave & Cleave” to the woman*

It was this very “*order of creation*” and the authority structure God imbedded in it, which Satan so subtly assaulted. We often forget that Satan wasn’t just attacking God’s creation, he was waging an offensive on the very nature and Image of God Himself. (*see also Job 1-2*)

**Genesis 3:1-7** Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?’” <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; <sup>3</sup> but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’” <sup>4</sup> The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die! <sup>5</sup> For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.

- \* *It was not by accident that Satan addresses the woman*
- \* *Satan not only attacked the weakest link (she wasn’t present for God’s instruction), but attacked God’s order of authority*
- \* *The woman misquoted God, playing into Satan’s advance (“Never talk to a snake!” Never open the door to doubt.)*
- \* *The woman usurped God’s order (gave man the fruit), but man ultimately bore the burden of God’s guilt, not woman*

And it is this disobedience to God and Satan’s upheaval of God’s design for proper roles and authority that was at the root of mankind’s fall into sin.

**Genesis 3:17** Then to Adam He said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat from it’; Cursed is the ground because of you...

**Romans 5:12** Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

**1 Timothy 2:13-14** For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve. <sup>14</sup> And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.