

Title: Biblical Manhood

Passages: 1 Kings 2:2-4; 1 Corinthians 16: 13-14

Introduction

Booklet: "Boy to Man: Marks of Manhood" (Albert Mohler)

- Today's culture: males in perpetual "boyhood" and extended "adolescent" into adulthood - refusing to grow-up.
- Also confusion of what it means to be male and be a man.

Sermon Series

Question: What does God say about being a man and a woman?

Recap:

- God first made and designed us male and female (Genesis 1-2)
 - Male and female: equal in worth but different in roles.
- Sin has distorted this design and subverted the roles God created (Genesis 3)
 - Consequences:
 - Women want to control their husbands.
 - Men want to be passive or rule hardly over women.
 - Roles:
 - Not changed but made difficult
- Who does God hold accountable?
 - Adam, he was to be responsible for the woman.

EXPOSITION

I. Old Testament

1 Kings 2:1-4

*When David's time to die drew near, he commanded Solomon his son, saying, "I am about to go the way of all the earth. **Be strong, and show yourself a man, and keep the charge of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn, that the LORD may establish his word that he spoke concerning me, saying, If your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me in faithfulness with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.**"*

A. Biblical manhood is obeying God's Word.

Calling: Be strong, and show yourself a man

- contrast: to be weak undermines Biblical masculinity.

How Be Strong?: Obey God's commandments in His Word.

keep the charge of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses,

- Strength = Obeying God's Word.
 - Rejecting sinful weaknesses and weakness of sinfulness
- Weakness = Rejecting God's Word and failing to obey His Word
 - When we rely on our own strength, that is really when we are weak.
 - See David's example:
 - When he felt self-reliant (instead of going into war when other kings do so), then he actually fell.

B. Biblical manhood is taking action and leading with justice, wisdom, and compassion.

How Be Strong?: Take action and show compassion.

- involves obedience to protect God's people.

1 Kings 2:6-7

Act therefore according to your wisdom, but do not let his gray head go down to Sheol in peace. But deal loyally with the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be among those who eat at your table, for with such loyalty they met me when I fled from Absalom your brother.

Solomon:

- Prone to softness as he grew up in palace rather than in battlefield like David.
- Here: David called Solomon to kill one of the most dangerous people in the country.
 - Why? Establish responsibility and build confidence.

Passivity

- Patterns:
 - Waiting on the sidelines until you are asked to step-in;
 - Avoiding conflict and delaying engagement with others.
 - Routinely stepping off to the side.
 - Failing responsibility as a protector.

Biblical Masculinity: Taking action

- Run to the battle
- Have burden of awareness and asking:
 - Am I needed somewhere?
 - Does someone need protection?
- Consistently move towards action.

Biblical Obedience:

- To God's Word
- To protect God's people

"Sometimes is not good enough to do your best, you have to do what is required." (W. Churchill)

- It will not always be easy but hard
 - See Joseph's example in Potiphar's house

Genesis 39:8-9

But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"

Judges: Deborah

- Example of a woman who led. But it was because a man stepped to the side and wanted her to lead first. This was not God's design.

Judges 4:6-8

She sent and summoned Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh-naphtali and said to him, "Has not the LORD, the God of Israel, commanded you, 'Go, gather your men at Mount Tabor, taking 10,000 from the people of Naphtali and the

people of Zebulun. And I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the river Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into your hand?" Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go."

II. New Testament

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

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

A. Biblical manhood is being watchful / alert.

- Meaning = be on the alert
- Why? We have a determined enemy who is after you.

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Ephesians 6:16

In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

Be watchful over what?

- Your own life.
- Other people's lives.

Keep your guard up at all times.

- Temptation comes when we are alone, tired, or vulnerable.
- If you don't attack life, life will attack you.
- Get far away from sin. Don't expose or be near sin.

Romans 13:14

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

- Know the threat and order your life appropriately.

Keep guard and watch over others and what's happening.

- Keep the Bible always on hand, even with a newspaper in the other.

B. Biblical manhood is being strong and resolute in convictions in God's Word.

Stand firm in the faith,

- Know and study God's Word diligently.

James 1:25

But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

- Commit to diligent memorization of God's Word so able to stand firmly.

Psalms 119:11

I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

C. Biblical manhood is serious in bringing glory to God.

act like men

- Meaning = Bravery, sober-minded who think clearly about their identity and act on it.

Colossians 3:2

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

D. Biblical manhood is being strengthened by God.

be strong

- Meaning = be strengthened
- How? God's grace and mercy.

Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Application:

Biblical manhood:

- Lead. Protect. Provide.
- Reject passivity, accept responsibility, lead courageously, invest eternally

How?

- Pray and Act through God's grace and mercy.

Let all that you do be done in love.

Philippians 2:3-8

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things

Related:

Song: "Jesus, Strong and Kind"
<https://youtu.be/kYMh8Vn9JgY>