

## Image of God: Male and Female

Sunday, January 12/20 --- Genesis 1:18 – 25

*So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them... therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.*  
- Genesis 1:27 and 2:24

*Right from the beginning, God made both male and female. Thus, both sexes bear the divine image and likeness equally... This is the foundational basis for proper treatment of women and girls, which explains the high view of women in Christian culture and the low view in so many other cultures... (yet) despite the pro-women statements in the Bible, many critics accuse the Bible of being anti-woman.*  
- Jonathan D. Sarfati, *The Genesis Account*

### 1. The Genius of God's Design for Marriage

- To Reflect ...
- To Solve ...
- To Create ...
- To Provide ...
- To Model ...
- To Offer ...
- To Form ...
- To Comfort ...

### 2. The Glue of God's Design for Marriage

- Leave and cleave ...
- Becoming one flesh ...
- Naked and Unashamed ...

### 3. The Genocide of God's Design for Marriage

- Broken Marriages ...
- Gender Confusion ...
- Single and Sexual ...

#### 4. The Goal of God's Design for Marriage

- Intimacy with no Shame ...
- Learning to Walk with Each Other ...
- Testimony of Healing Grace ...

#### Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- i. What are your impressions of the genius of God's design? What feature stood out to you most in its description? Why?
- ii. What is the glue of a marriage relationship that helps it stay the course of fidelity, weather the storms of adversity, and enjoy the fruits of intimacy?
- iii. Is the word 'genocide' justifiable when used in this context? Why? Why not? How do you see the attack of evil on the design of God for marriage and society? How should we respond to the swelling tide created by the social and sexual agenda of our culture?
- iv. How is the grace of God in Christ the healing answer to the shame that destroys us and our relationships? What are steps that you might take to lean into that grace?