

Is the Bible Sexist?

ETR Apologetics Conference 2021
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Prerequisites

1. What does it mean to be “sexist”

- a. Understand where we are today and how we got here (institutional sexism & feminism history)
- b. When sexism gets personal
- c. So...can we agree on what it means to be “sexist”?

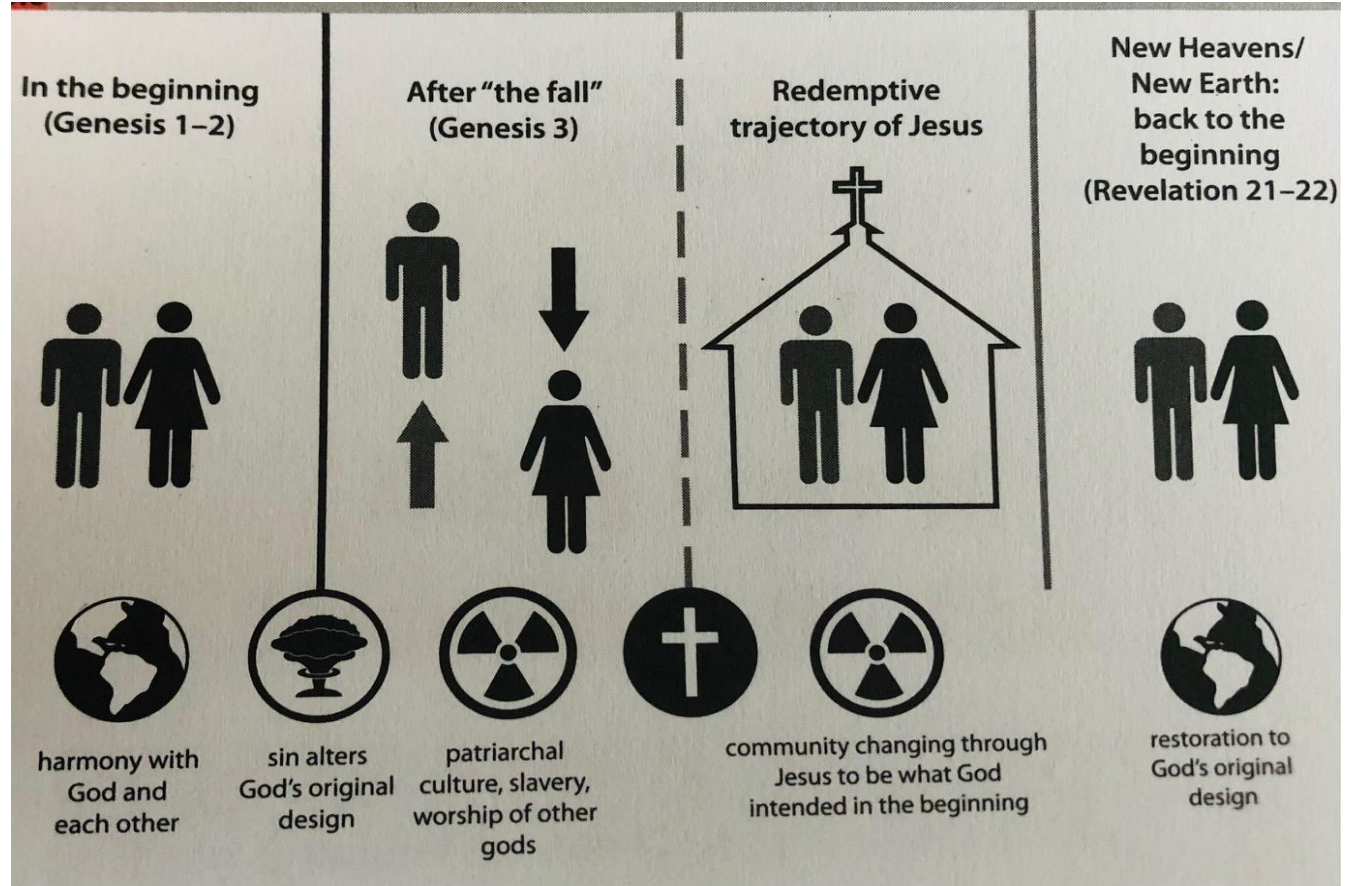
Third Wave Feminism Definition of Sexism	Historical definition of Sexism
<p data-bbox="131 628 894 710">‘1.attitudes or behavior based on traditional stereotypes of gender roles:’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="131 751 751 781">-very little difference even biologically speaking<li data-bbox="131 822 929 904">-not only have equal access to opportunities as men, but are actually expected to carry out the same types of lives as men<li data-bbox="131 944 832 975">-The Bible was written in patriarchal times by all men. <p data-bbox="131 1015 440 1046">Is the Bible sexist? Yes</p>	<p data-bbox="1016 628 1673 659">‘4.hatred, dislike, or mistrust of women; misogyny.’</p> <p data-bbox="1016 680 1696 710">Prejudice, denigration, difference in value, not equal</p> <p data-bbox="1016 1000 1789 1030">Is the Bible sexist? No! Let’s find out why we can say this...</p>

Prerequisites

2. Before we launch into the Bible...

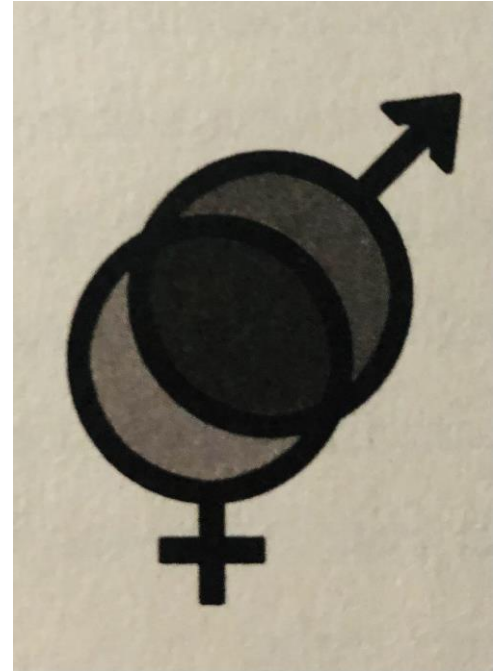
- a. The Bible was written FOR us, but it was not written TO us.
 - i. Never read a Bible verse
- b. Just because God knows about something does not mean He caused it
 - i. Descriptive vs. Prescriptive

The Bible



Creation

1. Distinct, but equal
2. “Strong helper” (Hebrew: ezer)
3. Marriage definition in equality and also Jewish view of sexual intimacy
4. Singleness-Arrow to Jesus
5. Identity (Creation)vs. Roles (the Fall)




The Fall

1. Who's to blame?
2. "Desire" rarely found in
OT
3. Positive glimpses

The Fall: Rape

1. Verse immediately before & evil act of violence
2. What would happen to the woman/victim?
3. Punishment?
4. Instruction to the woman (Ex. 22:16-17)

RAPE IN THE BIBLE



If a man happens to meet a virgin who is not pledged to be married and rapes her and they are discovered, he shall pay her father fifty shekels of silver. He must marry the young woman, for he has violated her. He can never divorce her as long as he lives.

Deuteronomy 22:28-29 (NIV)

inspiration.com Nonsense from the Bible

The Fall: Biblical Marriage

1. Never see God's endorsement
2. Complete ban? God working in a fallen world
3. Negative consequences and Solomon
4. Arrow to Jesus--marriage definition exclusivity

I believe in biblical marriage



Man and multiple wives: (Abraham, Jacob, Solomon, David etc.)

Man and concubines: (2 Chronicles 11:21)

Man and his brother's wife: (Genesis 38:6-10)

Man and the woman he rapes: (Deuteronomy 22:28-29)

Man and women he captures in war: (Numbers 31:1-18)

Redemption

Jesus: Overwhelmingly positive and thus countercultural

1. Mary
2. Gospel of Luke
3. Road to Emmaus

Redemption

Paul&Peter

1. Understand Roman world
2. Not women in general to men in general
3. Is hierarchy at odds with equal value?



shouldn't you be home in the kitchen?

1 Corinthians 14:34-35

(34) "Let your women keep silence in the churches:
for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded
to be under obedience as also saith the law.
(35) And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at
home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."

Know Your Bible

1 Peter 3 & Eph 5

1. Remember “never read a Bible verse”-- what do the surrounding verses to the husbands say?
2. Submission when a husband is in the wrong--Sapphira and Abigail

1 Tim 2 & 1 Cor 14

1. Church in Corinth
2. Church in Ephesus
3. What else did Paul say?
4. Manner of learning and seating
5. 2 thoughts on 1 Timothy 2

Restoration

Still Redemption: First century Christian women & today

The New Heavens and New Earth/The Bridegroom comes to marry
the Church