

# The Importance of the Male Incarnation

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2019

Why was Christ born a male? Why was the Messiah not born as a female? To understand the importance of why Jesus Christ was born a male and not female one must understand Male Headship and Men as the Representatives of Christ.

In Genesis 1:27 God creates humanity. The text says God created man in His own image, in the Image of God He created him, male and female he made them. Many modern translations go for the gender neuter “*in the Image of God He created them.*” But the Hebrew of Genesis 1:27 is not plural but masculine singular “*in the Image of God He created him.*” It was Adam who was originally created in the Image of God.

1 Corinthians 11:7 adds that man is the Image and Glory of God but that woman is the glory of man. It is the males that stand in the place of God. Females, on the other hand, stand in the place of humanity, specifically the Church, the people of God. In Ephesians 5:22-32 Paul teaches that the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the Head of the Church and that women should submit to their husbands as the Church submits to Jesus. The men/husbands represent Christ, while women/wives represent the Church. In Ephesians 5:31-32, Paul quotes Genesis 2:24, “*Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.*” Paul then states that this is a reference to Christ and the Church. From the very Beginning God made males and females with men representing Christ and women representing God’s People.

Now regarding the Fall of humanity, we have three figures present in this account. Satan, Eve and Adam. The first to Fall was Satan who came to deceive humanity. The next to fall was Eve. As Paul points out in 1 Timothy 2:14, it was Eve who was deceived and not Adam. Thus the order that they fell was Satan, Eve and then lastly Adam. However, the Fall is not credited to either Satan or Eve, instead the Fall is attributed to Adam. As Paul wrote in Romans 5:12, “*through one man sin entered the world*”, and in v19, “*through one man’s disobedience many were made sinners.*” And in 1 Corinthians 15:22 Paul says, “*in Adam all die.*” It is through Adam’s Fall that sin entered the world. It is because of Adam that all of humanity is now conceived in sin. It is because Adam’s Fall that we inherit Original Sin. As Genesis 5:3 says, Adam fathered a son in his own likeness, after his own image, and as 1 Corinthians 15:49 states, humanity now bears the Image of Adam, the man of dust.

It is from Adam’s sin, and not Eve’s sin, that all humanity is now corrupted and fallen. Both Augustine of Hippo in his *City of God*<sup>1</sup> and Thomas Aquinas in his *Summa Theologiae*<sup>2</sup> taught that Original Sin is passed down through the sperm. It is from Adam that Original Sin is passed on. Aquinas even theorized that if Eve had fallen but that Adam had not fallen then sin would not have entered the world, vice versa if Eve had not fallen yet Adam had still fallen then sin would still have entered the world. As he wrote in his *Summa Theologiae*, “*Original Sin, is contracted, not from the mother, but from the father: so that, accordingly, if Eve, and not Adam, had sinned, their children would not contract Original Sin: whereas, if Adam, and not Eve, had sinned, they would contract it.*”<sup>3</sup>

The reason that sin entered the world through Adam, and that Original Sin is passed down by the father, is because of Male Headship and Adam’s role as the representative of Christ. In the case where Eve falls but Adam does not, humanity could have been spared and sin may not have entered the world, if Adam had acted accordingly. Adam as the male was the Christ figure, Adam represented Christ and Eve the Church. For Adam and Eve were the first to become one flesh (Gen. 2:24) and as

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<sup>1</sup> *City of God Book 13* Chapter 14 - [www.newadvent.org/fathers/120113.htm](http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/120113.htm)

<sup>2</sup> *Summa Theologiae* First Part of the Second Part Question 81 Article 5 - [www.newadvent.org/summa/2081.htm#article5](http://www.newadvent.org/summa/2081.htm#article5)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

Paul said in reference to Genesis 2:24, “*This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the Church.*” (Eph. 5:31-32) Adam was the first ambassador of Christ (cf. 2 Cor. 5:20).

In Genesis 3:6, Adam did not heed the Word of God but instead listened to his wife and ate the fruit. In Genesis 3:17 God condemns Adam for listening to Eve.

Instead of listening to Eve, Adam should have a) as her head and her pastor rebuked her for eating the Forbidden Fruit and called her to repentance and b) as her head and the ambassador of Christ he should have served as her mediator, pleading her case to God and begging for mercy. Just as Abraham in Genesis 18:22-33 interceded on behalf of Sodom, and as Moses in Exodus 32:7-14 interceded on behalf of the Israelites following the Golden Calf incident, so too, Adam should have interceded on behalf of Eve. If Adam had brought even to repentance and pleaded her case before God then God would have forgiven her, for if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteous (1 John 1:9). If Adam had done his duty then sin would not have entered the world and Original Sin would not be passed onto to all humanity.

However, in the case where Adam sins, this is a different matter. Regardless of Eve’s sin, if Adam fell, then all of humanity would still Fall. This is because of Male Headship. Adam is the head of Eve, for the husband is the head of his wife, as the Scriptures say in 1 Corinthians 11:3 and Ephesians 5:23. Therefore, the husband represents the family, specifically the couple of husband and wife. If the man falls, then the family falls with him. Additionally Eve was taken from Adam, she was one flesh with him. If a part of the body dies, as long as the head is unharmed the person will live, but if you cut off the head, the body will die. In his Fall Adam represented not only himself, but also Eve and all those descended from them (the rest of humanity). For this reason sin entered the world not through Eve’s sin but through the disobedience of Adam. Hence why, even though Eve fell first (1 Tim. 2:14), Adam is credited with the entrance of sin into the world (Rom. 5:12,19; 1 Cor. 15:22).

Now in order to redeem humanity, Christ had to become human. Hebrews 2:14 states that in order for Christ to redeem us He had to share in our flesh and blood.

But in order to save all humanity, Christ had to share in male humanity. In order to save all of humanity Christ had to save the head.

In Romans 8:19-22 Paul speaks of all of Creation groaning under the subjection of man and how Creation was bound in corruption due to the Fall of humanity. But through the redemption of humanity all of Creation is redeemed. This is because God created humans to be the heads of His Creation (Gen. 1:26,28). Through the Fall, man not only corrupted himself but all of Creation. Thus, in order to redeem all of Creation, mankind, the head of Creation, needed to be redeemed.

The same principle applies to humanity itself. Men are the heads of humanity, thus through the Fall of Adam all humanity was corrupted and bound in bondage to sin. Therefore, in order to liberate humanity the Messiah would have to bear the flesh and blood of man, and by man I mean a male person. For males represent both genders and all of humanity, while females only represent their gender and a part of humanity. If Christ had been female, He would have only redeemed the female gender, but by being male, Christ redeems both males and females. For by being male Christ takes on the place of the head and represents all humanity, not just the male gender.

I think nothing in all of Creation demonstrates this best than the fact that males have an XY chromosome and females only have XX chromosomes. When producing a child the female egg provides an X chromosome, but the male sperm provides either an X chromosome or a Y chromosome. There are male sperm and female sperm, and they decide the gender of the baby. Women only have X chromosomes, whereas men possess both X and Y chromosomes. Men represent both genders the Xs and the Ys. Therefore, when Jesus took on flesh He became a male, an XY so that He could redeem both the XYs and the XXs.