



The Masculine Mandate: God's Calling to Men

By Richard D. Phillips

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Summary

There is a crying need in the church today for men to be men. But competing visions for what a man is to be some growing out of popular culture and others arising from flawed teaching in the church are exacerbating the problem.

Rev. Richard Phillips believes it is possible to cut through all of this confusion by consulting the Bible. Only in the pages of Scripture, he asserts, can men find a clear explanation of their God-given roles as leaders, husbands, fathers, and churchmen. Beginning in Genesis, Phillips shows that God commissioned Adam to work and tend the Garden of Eden. In these twin tasks, he perceives a template for manhood, one that, when carried out with diligence, provides dignity to men, service to mankind, and glory to God. He then goes on to show that men are called to lead, to love their wives, to discipline their children, and to serve the church of Jesus Christ.

Here is biblical exposition of the most practical sort teaching that reveals not only what men are to think, but what they are to be.

Contents

- Man in the Garden
- The Masculine Mandate
- Man's Sacred Calling to Work
- Man as the Image of God
- Man as Shepherd-Lord
- God's Astonishing Design for Marriage
- Marriage Cursed and Redeemed
- To Work: The Disciplining of Children
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- Men in Friendship
- The Masculine Mandate in the Church
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Resources

- Questions for Reflection and Discussion
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Editorial Review

Review

Egalitarian and chauvinistic thinking have corrupted our ideas about godly manhood. With boldness of heart and pastoral wisdom, Rick Phillips leads us back toward biblical manhood- masculinity grounded in the cultural mandate, the cross, and the ordinary means of grace. May men of the church answer the call of this mandate to stand up and be counted, and to live out their faith courageously as workers, protectors, nurturers, and leaders for Christ.

--Eric C. Redmond: Senior Pastor, Reformation Alive Baptist Church, Temple Hills, Md. Author, *Where Are All the Brothers? Straight Answers to Men's Questions about the Church*

In the face of the widespread confusion in our culture, Rick Phillips lays out the biblical mandate for men to work and keep the world around us. This book carefully avoids stereotypes and legalistic rules, while unfolding with clarity and practical simplicity the biblical vision of men as individuals and in relationships to other men, to our wives and children, and to the church of Jesus Christ. I learned much from this book and look forward to sharing it with my sons.

--Iain M. Duguid: Professor of religion Grove City College, Grove City, PA.

About the Author

Richard D. Phillips is the senior minister of Second Presbyterian Church in Greenville, S.C., and he also serves on the board of directors for the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals. He has written numerous books including *What's So Great About the Doctrines of Grace*, *Jesus the Evangelist*, *Holding Hands, Holding Hearts*, and *The Reformed Expository Commentary: Hebrews*.

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