

**EVANGELICALS DIVIDED: SUMMARY OF EGALITARIAN AND COMPLEMENTARIAN VIEWS**  
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I. Summary of the Egalitarian Position

A. God's Design in Creation

1. Male/Female equal in essence (Gen 1:26-27)
2. Male/Female equal in function (Gen 1:26-28)

B. Distortion due to the Fall

1. Male/Female equal in becoming sinners deserving God's judgment (Gen 3:6; 16-19)
2. Sinful Male authority and Female subjugation (Gen 3:16)

C. Restoration in Christ

1. Male/Female equal in salvation by faith in Christ (Rom 3:22-24)
2. Male/Female equal again in function through Christ (Gal 3:28)

II. Summary of the Complementarian Position

A. God's Design in Creation

1. Male/Female equal in essence (Gen 1:26-27)
2. Male authority and Female submission as part of God's good and wise created design (Gen 2-3)

B. Distortion due to the Fall

1. Male/Female equal in becoming sinners deserving God's judgment (Gen 3:6; 16-19)
2. Sinful inclination for women to usurp male authority along with sinful male expressions of abuse or abdication (Gen 3:16)

C. Restoration in Christ

1. Male/Female equal in salvation by faith in Christ (Rom 3:22-24; Gal 3:28; 1 Pet 3:7b)
2. God's good design of Male authority and Female submission restored in Christ (1 Tim 2:9-3:7; Eph 5:22-33; 1 Pet 3:1-7a)

III. Biblical Complementarian Vision: The Way Forward

- A. Acknowledge God's absolute rights of Ownership of and Lordship over our lives.
- B. In humility and trust, strive always to be faithful to God and to His Word.
- C. Embrace God-given Authority and Submission.
- D. Recognize the Strategic Importance of the Intersections of Cultural and Biblical Points of Conflict.
- E. Just as there are illegitimate *allowances* of how women may minister, so there are illegitimate *restrictions*.
- F. Give clearer emphasis to, and joyous celebration of, the multitude of ministries women may and should do!
- G. For those in authority, recognize God's uniform admonition to exercise it for the well-being and edification of those under your charge (Eph. 5:25-27; 1 Pet. 5:3).
- H. For those in submission, recognize that it is God's command to yield in respect to those in authority, as unto the Lord (Eph. 5:22-24; Col. 3:23-24; Heb. 13:17).
- I. On application areas, consider whether the ministry role in question is *sufficiently elder-like* to warrant applying elder principles to it.
- J. With so many and urgent needs, both home and abroad, no man or woman wanting to serve the Lord should go without a meaningful ministry, to the glory of Christ and the good of others.