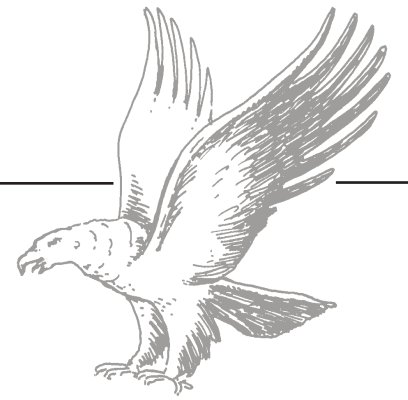


Wings

*"Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles."
Isaiah 40:31*



October 2, 2016

Liberated . . . And Lonely

Decades of feminist dogma have achieved remarkable gains for women—but at a steep price. The Bible's solution requires that we acknowledge a simple, common sense fact of life.

"Strength and honor are her clothing; she shall rejoice in time to come. . . . A woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates" (Prov. 31:25, 30-31).



This description of the virtuous wife has been the model to which young women have aspired for ages. This ideal involved a lot of hard work, but the payoff came in the form of the gratitude heaped upon women by their families and by society. The praise that women received "in the gates"—*i.e.*, in the highest echelons of cultural power—was the reward for their hard work.

All that changed in the 1960s, at least in Western cultures. Women began to be exposed to a drumbeat of discontent, being told that as wives and mothers they were being victimized and taken advantage of. Women were encouraged to "liberate" themselves from the chains of their traditional roles and to "fulfill their potential" outside the home. The watchword was "equality," and women were led to believe that they ought to

compete with men as absolute equals, recognizing no distinctions between the sexes. So today women can work like men, drink like men, curse like men, and have unrestricted sex like men (except on college campuses, where women reserve the right to be treated as delicate little snowflakes who can be traumatized by a single inappropriate glance from a male. Go figure.).

After half a century, how is that project working out? The latest evidence suggests: not too well.

Sociologists are now worried about a looming crisis in women's mental health. A report published by UK's NHS Digital revealed that one in five women have CMD [common mental disorder] symptoms, compared to one in eight men. Among young women (age 16 to 24), CMD symptoms are almost three times that of young men. CMD symptoms include various forms of depression and anxiety (*The Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey—Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, England, 2014*).

This trend is personalized in a recent book by Andrea Tantaros, *Tied*

Up in Knots: "My generation felt the deluge of motivational messages that encouraged us to capitalize on our newfound female power. While I'm truly thankful for this array of choices, nobody told us there would be consequences. It almost seems like we were duped, or unconsciously misled at best."

In her review of Tantaros' book, author Suzanne Venker noted, "In the name of equality, women have renounced their femininity and are now regretting it. . . . A woman's true value lies in the way she was made. She doesn't need to change anything or to prove anything in order to be worthy or happy. She only needs to embrace it."

This movement was doomed to fail for one obvious reason: *men and women are not equal*. Biologically, psychologically, emotionally, and temperamentally they are different, and no amount of social engineering can change that fact. They were designed by God to occupy distinct but complementary roles in society, and we disregard that design to our harm—as a generation of young women is now learning.

— David King