

INTRODUCTION

*M*any women are struggling to understand who they are and where they stand today—in the family, the community, and the world.

There are fundamental truths about the inherent makeup of women and men that have been lost to the cultures and traditions of the world, as well as the hearts and minds of individual women and men. As a result, many of us do not truly understand a woman's nature, potential, and special contributions to the world. We need to reaffirm the worth of women and recapture biblical principles that can free women to be fulfilled and valued.

Keys for Women reveals how women are God's unique creation. He designed them perfectly to fulfill their calling in Him. If you are a

woman, accept the freedom God has given you in Christ. Know that you are esteemed by Him. Develop the creative ideas He has given you. Use the many gifts and talents He has placed within you. Discover who you were meant to be—both as a spiritual being created in God’s image and as a female created for His good purposes.

—*Dr. Myles Munroe*

*W*omen and men were created equal
but were also created different. This is
part of their unique designs. Yet *different*
does not mean *inferior* or *superior*.

*P*eople lack a basic understanding of the woman's nature, and wherever this lack of understanding exists, there will always be misuse and abuse of the woman.

*W*omen have largely developed their self-concepts from cultural traditions shaped by men who did not understand females.

Women and men alike must come to know the woman's true nature and purpose if we are to address the devaluing of women that has affected them throughout history and still affects them in the twenty-first century.



The answer to the historical devaluing of women does not lie in declaring that there are no differences between females and males but in recognizing and affirming their complementary differences. These differences are to be used in harmony.



The spirit of equal rights that *demand*s equality from men was never intended by God, because He has already made men and women equal. Men and women were created equal.

A woman's place is, before anything else, *in God*—in the way He created her, in the tremendous value He gives her, and in the purposes He has for her. Only when we grasp the implications of this truth will we resolve the controversy and conflict surrounding the role of the woman in the world.

*G*od *created* man, but He *made* male and female. He created man to be a spirit (spirit-man), as He is Spirit, and He made male and female out of the physical world He had created.

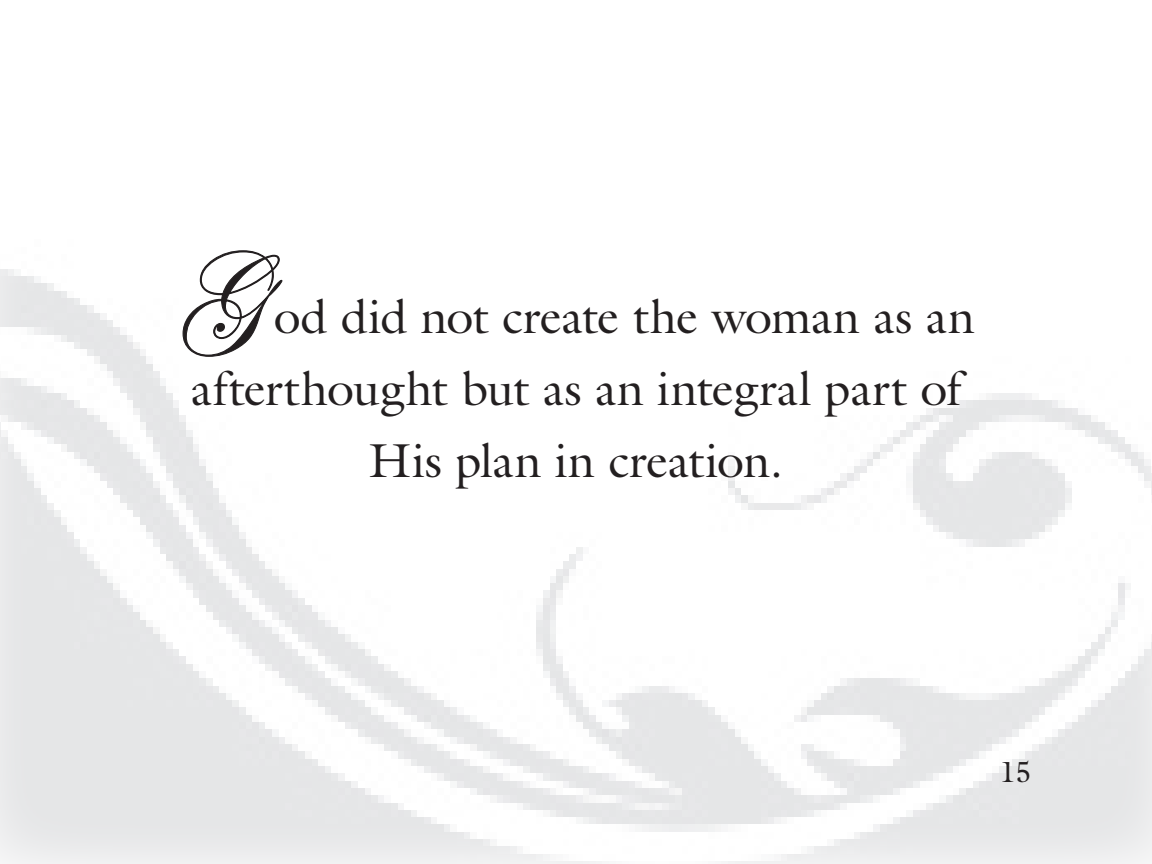


God created man and placed him in two separate physical “houses” so that He could fulfill His purposes for humanity and for the world. (See Genesis 1:27.) Therefore, although spirits have no gender, the houses in which they live do. The first house God made was the male; the second house God made was the female.



A woman is not less than a man because she is a woman, and a man is not more than a woman because he is a man. Their complementary differences are necessary because of their purposes.

*M*an was created to have dominion over the earth. The purpose of dominion was given to both male and female, since the spirit-man resides in each. Therefore, spiritually, both male and female have the same responsibility toward the earth.



God did not create the woman as an
afterthought but as an integral part of
His plan in creation.