

Man of Steel & Velvet

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Steel:

- Leader
- Protector
- Provider
- Teacher
- Strength of Character
- Courage

Velvet:

- Understanding
- Attentiveness
- Gentleness
- Chivalry
- Humility
- Dependability

Show Thyself a Man

- 1 Kings 2:1-3
 - Keep his statutes, commandments, etc.
- Jeremiah 5:1
 - Executes judgment (justice), seeks truth
- Ezekiel 22:29-30
 - To stand in the gap before me for the land
- Joshua 1:6-9
 - Observe the law of Moses; do not turn to the right or left
- 1 Corinthians 16:13
 - “act like men” (NASB) “be men of courage” (NIV)

But, Who Am I?

- Moses – Exodus 3:11-4:17
 - God’s answer: I will be with you
- Gideon – Judges 6:12, 14-16
 - God’s answer: I will be with you
- Saul – 1 Samuel 9:21; 10:21-22
 - God’s answer: God is with you
- Jeremiah – Jeremiah 1:6
 - God’s answer: I am with you

Who Are the Real Men?

- **Samson?**
 - One of the strongest men in history
- **Absalom?**
 - “there was no one who was praised as much as Absalom for his good looks. . . no blemish”
- **Saul?**
 - Head and shoulders taller than any other man in Israel, “there is none like him among all the people”
- **David?**
 - Shepherd boy who played the harp
 - Not even considered a candidate for the throne
- **Zacchæus?**
 - So short he had to climb a tree to see Jesus

Man of Steel: Leader

- God-given roles
 - Gen. 3:16; 1Tim. 3:5; Eph. 5:22-23; 1 Pet. 3:1, 5-6
- Role of responsibility, not privilege
- Not to be taken lightly
 - Tit. 2:5 “that the word of God may not be blasphemed”
- Equipped for the task
 - Physically stronger – 1 Pet. 3:7
 - Blessed with the capacity to shoulder his duty
 - Woman blessed with capability to perform her role
 - Complementary partnership

Personal Fulfillment in this Role

- Family leadership is inborn in men
- A real man will take on the role willingly
- Gratification in this responsibility
- Considers family success his #1 goal
 - Going to heaven together
 - Family will feel *security* in his protection, responsibility, dependability, and leadership
- Family leadership is his greatest opportunity for fulfillment
- Lose yourself in this responsibility and fulfillment will naturally follow

Wives, You Can Help Him

- Respect, adoration - Eph. 5:33
- Submission, obedience – Col. 3:18; Tit. 2:5
- Support
 - Helper suitable for him – Gen. 2:18 (NASB)
 - Keepers at home – Tit. 2:5
 - Guide the house – 1 Tim 5:14
 - Delegated responsibility
 - Nothing helps a man *thrive* more in his manhood, his masculinity, his role as leader, than the respect, adoration, submission, obedience, and support of the woman he loves

Man of Steel: Protector

- As soldiers, men always did the fighting
- The woman is the weaker vessel – 1 Pet. 3:7
- Protect them from dangers
- Protect them from evil
- Protect her from masculine work
 - Guard her femininity
- Protect her from the harshness of the world
- A woman thus protected by a man can thrive in her role of wife, mother, homemaker

Man of Steel: Provider

- Roles given by God – Gen. 3:16-19
 - It is a natural instinct
 - It gives great satisfaction and a sense of purpose
 - It gives security to the wife and children
- Provide for your own – 1 Tim. 5:8
- Equipped for the task – 1 Pet. 3:7

Man of Steel: Teacher

- God chose men to be preachers, elders, deacons, prophets, kings (it was called the *Patriarchal* age)
- Not a “coin toss”
 - Men are suited for the role
 - God will be with you
- Teach your wife – 1 Tim. 2:11-14; 1 Cor. 14:34-35
- Teach your children – Eph. 6:4

Man of Velvet:

Understanding, Attentiveness

- Give yourself completely to her – Eph. 5:25, 31
 - Deny self for her, as Christ did for His bride
 - Leave father and mother for her
- Dwell with her with understanding – 1 Pet. 3:7
 - Dwell with her with understanding
 - Give honor to her
 - Listen, sympathize, care
- Give her the affection due her – 1 Cor. 7:3-5
- Look for ways to please her – 1 Cor. 7:32-33

Man of Velvet: Gentleness, Chivalry

- Code of Chivalry (Rifts, England Supplement)
 - Protect the innocent
 - Respect women
 - Exhibit courage in word and deed
 - Defend the weak and innocent
 - Destroy evil in all of its monstrous forms
 - Always keep one's word of honor
 - Be polite and attentive
 - Be respectful of host, women, and honor
 - Loyalty to one's friends and those who lay their trust in thee

Man of Velvet: Gentleness, Chivalry

- Love your wives – Eph. 5:25-31
 - Like Christ who gave himself for His bride
- Be not bitter against them – Col. 3:19
- Be kindly affectionate – Rom. 12:9-10
 - Also applies to husband/wife
 - Sermon on the Mount

Man of Velvet: Humility, Dependability

- Listen to her opinion
 - All good leaders are humble enough to listen
 - Benefit from her wisdom, experience
- Christ, the “Lord and Master” humbled Himself to wash the disciples’ feet – Jn. 13:13-15
- Cleave to your wife – Gen. 2:24
- Be where you’re supposed to be and when
- Do not commit adultery against her
 - Ex. 20:14; Prov. 5:15

Conclusion

- Not easy to achieve these ideals
 - The “ground” is cursed with “thorns and thistles”
- Lifelong pursuit
- You have what it takes
 - God has equipped you
- Pray for wisdom and strength