



## Positive Complementarianism

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### ***Introduction***

A reluctant combatant...

...spurred into action:

- By Ian Paul's Grove Booklet
- Through grappling with bishops
- By Rodney Stark and Caitlin Moran

What I'm hoping to achieve in this session...

Defining 'egalitarian' and 'complementarian'

### ***A. Genesis 1–3 does imply that some sort of gender complementarity is right***

- Outlining the sequence of events
- Treating Genesis seriously as an ANE document and as a narrative
- So what sort, exactly

### ***B. The Scriptures confirm that some sort of gender complementarity is right between husbands and wives***

- 1 Cor 11
- 1 Peter 3
- Eph 5

### ***C. The Scriptures confirm that some sort of gender complementarity is right in church families***

- 1 Cor 14
- 1 Tim 2

Why 1 Tim 2 is general and not just addressing a specific, local problem...

**The important but complex negative case:**

Andreas J. Kostenberger, 'A Complex Sentence: the Syntax of 1 Timothy 2:12' in *Women in the Church: An Analysis and Application of 1 Timothy 2:9–15* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 2005), pp.53–84.

Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to x or [and not] to y, but she is to remain quiet.

**Either**

(a) x and y are both negative in themselves, and their combination is also negative

Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to *teach falsely* or *aggressively domineer* a man, but she is to remain quiet.

**Or**

(b) x and y are positive in themselves (or not necessarily negative), but in this context and in this combination they are negative.

Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to have leadership authority over a man, but she is to remain quiet.

**The neglected but simple positive case:**

- The biblical understanding of leadership
- The biblical delight in diversity of gifts and roles in the body
- The biblical emphasis on 'good conduct' as that which prospers the truth (1 Tim 3:14–15)
- The positive biblical model of authority, teaching and service in 1 Tim 3.

**Back to Rodney Stark and Caitlin Moran**