

# Fathers: The “goodman” of the home. Mt. 24:37-51

*“Honor thy Father”* Eph. 6:2 Timaō: to Prize or Value!

## *Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday June 17 AM*

God has a plan for the man that involves lovingly leading his home. (Eph. 6:2; 1 Cor 11:1-3)  
Satan also has a plan to blind and *“bind the strongman, so he can spoil his house.”* Mk 3:27 Every man is caught between these two “plans.” When we devalue God’s plan for masculinity, we “bind the strongman” and leave our homes and culture vulnerable. Few can deny that masculinity is under attack in our culture. Sometimes this is subtle, but often (and increasingly) it is overt!

## So where have all the men gone? Why does it matter?

Jesus revealed 2000 years ago that the decline of “strong men” was related to the last days!

Luke 17:28-30 *“as it was in the days of lot...even so shall it be when the Son of Man is revealed”*

Mt. 24:37-39 *“as it was in the days of Noah...so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be...”*

*But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.”*

### 1. What is a “Goodman of the house”? *Oikodespotēs*:

#### A. “Oiko” means the home.

- 1) This is the final refuge from society & Satan!
- 2) That’s why our homes (families) are under such aggressive attack!  
(relational, emotional, financial, spiritual) (John 10:10; Rev. 12:12)

#### B. “despo’tēs” (despot) literally means: Lord, Ruler, Master, Head of the family. Why does this sound so foreign to us today?

### 2. Who is the “Goodman” of the house?

#### A. For millennium the “goodman” was understood to be “the man”.

- 1) 4000 years ago: Gen 18:19 *“I know him, that he will command his ...household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD,”* (See also Joshua 24:15)
- 2) 2000 years ago: Eph. 5:23 *“the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church.”*
- 3) Even 50 years ago it was understood. *So why does this sound so crazy today?*

#### B. The pendulum effect!

- 1) God’s Design of loving leadership Is Balanced. 1 Cor 11:1-12; Eph. 5:22-32
- 2) Our selfish desires lead us astray...leading to a relational “tug of war”.
- 3) Truly “Good” men (and women) are rare! (Eccl. 7:28,29)
  - a) The value of something is proportional to its rarity.
  - b) Even “good men” (women) are flawed! Pr 20:6-7 *“Most will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithfulman who can find? The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.”*  
Pr 11:3 *“The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.”*

- 4) The Feminist movement was a reaction (in part) to “bad” men.
- Some men *refuse* to be the “goodman”, requiring the woman to assume this role.
  - Some strong willed women confiscate this role, so the men *relinquish* their responsibilities.
- Either way the family is left vulnerable! *“suffered his house to be broken up”* Mt. 24:43

## Application: So what’s a “Goodman” to do?

- 1) Be Watchful: Mt 24:42,43 *“Watch therefore”* Grēgoreō: be vigilant/*aware*! (1 Peter 5:8)  
*“if the goodman of the house had known ... he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken up.”*

Remember God’s design is balanced.

- Women are “keepers (sensitive guardians) at home” Titus 2:5
- Men are the “goodman” or “strongman” of the home. Mark 3:27

- 2) Be Ready! Mt 24:44 *“be ye also ready...”* hetoi’mos: *adjusted*, so as to be prepared!  
 What “adjustments” do you need to make to be ready for Jesus’ return? 1 Jn. 2:28-3:3  
*“abide in him, that when he appears, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed.”*

- 3) Be *Faithful*. Mt. 24:25 *“who is that faithful servant”* Pistos: Trustworthy, true.  
 Pr 20:6-7 *“Most men will proclaim his own goodness: but a faithful (trustworthy) man who can find?  
 The just (righteous) man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.”*  
 Luke 18:8 *“when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”*  
 Mt. 24:46-51 *“Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I  
 say unto you, That he shall make him ruler (in Christ’s Kingdom) over all his goods.*

Jesus closed with this warning:

*But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; ...  
 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not  
 aware. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”*

## What can we do for our “goodmen”?

- Pray for them. Eph. 6:10-19! *“pray for us”*
- Partner with them. Heb. 13:7 *“For they watch for your souls as they that must give  
 account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief. For that is unprofitable for you!”*
- Price (Honor/ value) them accurately. Ro. 13:1 *“render honor to whom honor is due”*  
*“Honor thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well  
 with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.”* Eph 6:2-3

**Timaō: to Prize or Value!**