



## AM I SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY?

MALES AND FEMALES IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

RON CLARK

When a boy cries, his father trains him in the way of the ancients. He is taught to “man up,” and rejects anything feminine in his life. Thus he begins the process of becoming a man in the image of his culture. This transformation comes at the expense of his own calling to reflect the image of God. However, men and women were both created in this divine image and were meant to live in harmony rather than enmity. Recently, influential Christian writers and leaders have suggested that men have become too feminized and need to return to their calling to be “real men.” Clark believes that this “new masculinity” is in reality a return to the way of the ancients. Drawing from his experiences as a minister, domestic—and sexual—violence prevention advocate, and community leader, Clark suggests that Jesus came to redefine masculinity and resist the cultural view of manhood, power, and oppression.

“Are men to be strong, tough, and raging? Or compassionate, empathetic, and caring? Ron Clark takes you through biblical and cultural history, providing a thought provoking case for what real manhood is. This book will definitely challenge you to think through whatever paradigms you may have instead of simply accepting the status quo.”

—Eric and Jennifer Garcia

co-founders of the Association of Marriage and Family Ministries

“Ron Clark makes a strong, religious case for the strength in gentleness and humility, and adds an urgently needed voice to the call for compassion in a world that too often feels cold and distant.”

—Patrick J. Lemmon

Co-founder and former Executive Director of Men Can Stop Rape

“Ron Clark is one of the leading voices among male clergy in the struggle to end men’s violence against women and children. This book contains all of the qualities of courageous honesty, wisdom, and humility that make him such an effective educator and leader. Women and men—inside and outside of Christian communities—will find great insight and compassionate teaching in these pages.”

—Jackson Katz

author of *The Macho Paradox: Why Some Men Hurt Women* and *How All Men Can Help*

RON CLARK is the lead church planter for the Agape Church of Christ in Portland, Oregon where he is active in community organizations in domestic and sexual abuse, homelessness, and human trafficking. He is an adjunct faculty member at George Fox Evangelical Seminary and author of *Setting the Captives Free*, *Freeing the Oppressed* and *The Better Way*.

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**Media, Examination, and Review Copies:**

Contact: James Stock  
(541) 344-1528, ext 103 or [James@wipfandstock.com](mailto:James@wipfandstock.com)

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