

Colossians 3, Message #18:
Help Meet: God-Given Gender Roles
Study Handout by Pastor Melissa Scott, Ph.D.

This study handout accompanies Pastor Scott’s message number VF-2313 on Colossians (an excursus into Genesis), preached on October 31, 2021 at Faith Center in Glendale, CA.

Genesis 2:18

Hebrew:

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים לֹא-טוֹב הָיְתָה הָאָדָם
Adam/man the to be good not Elohim Yahweh said he and
לְבַדּוֹ אֶעֱשֶׂה-לוֹ עֵזֶר כְּנֶגְדּוֹ:
to suit him/ help for him I will make alone
equal to him

Greek:

Καὶ εἶπε Κύριος ὁ Θεός· οὐ καλὸν εἶναι τὸν ἄνθρωπον μόνον·
and said Lord God not good to be the man alone
ποιήσωμεν αὐτῷ βοηθὸν κατ’ αὐτόν.
I will make for him help to/for him

Samaritan:

אָדָם יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים לֹא טוֹב הָיְתָה אָדָם
I will help for the man alone good not God Yahweh said he and
לְבַדּוֹ אֶעֱשֶׂה-לוֹ עֵזֶר כְּנֶגְדּוֹ:
make

Syriac/Aramaic Peshitta:

אָדָם יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים לֹא טוֹב הָיְתָה אָדָם
I will make for him Adam alone good not Yahweh Lord said he and
לְבַדּוֹ אֶעֱשֶׂה-לוֹ עֵזֶר כְּנֶגְדּוֹ:
likewise, to be a profit,
equal aid, help

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1. Genesis 2:18 “And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.”
עֵזֶר כְּנֶגְדּוֹ
2. Genesis 2:20 “. . . not found an help meet for him.”
עֵזֶר כְּנֶגְדּוֹ
3. Exodus 18:4 “And the name of the other was Eliezer [my God is a help]; for the God of my father, said he, was mine help [helper of me], and delivered me from the sword”
אֱלִיעֶזֶר
בְּעֵזְרִי
4. Deut. 33:7 “And be thou an help to him from his enemies.”
וְעֵזֶר
5. Deut. 33:26 “. . . who rideth upon the heaven in thy help”
בְּעֵזְרֶךָ
6. Deut. 33:29 “O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help”
עֵזְרֶךָ
7. Psalm 20:2 “Send thee help from the sanctuary”
עֵזְרֶךָ
8. Psalm 33:20 “He is our help [help of us] and our shield.”
עֵזְרֵנוּ
9. Psalm 70:5 “Thou art my help and my deliverer”
עֵזְרִי

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10. Psalm 89:19 “I have laid help upon one that is mighty”
עֲזָר
11. Psalm 115:9 “O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he is their help”
עֲזָרָם
12. Psalm 115:10 “O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he is their help”
עֲזָרָם
13. Psalm 115:11 “Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he is their help”
עֲזָרָם
14. Psalm 121:1 “. . . from whence cometh my help.”
עֲזָרִי
15. Psalm 121:2 “My help cometh from the LORD”
עֲזָרִי
16. Psalm 124:8 “Our help is in the name of the LORD”
עֲזָרָנוּ
17. Psalm 146:5 “. . . the God of Jacob for his help”
בְּעֲזָרוֹ

Other verses that use forms of this Hebrew word for “help” include Isaiah 30:5, Ezekiel 12:14, Daniel 11:34, and Hosea 13:9.

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עִזַּר verb
 “help”

עִז adjective
 “strong, mighty, fierce”

עִזָּר ↓

עִזָּ noun, masc.
 “strength, might”

עִזָּר ↓

עִזָּוֶז noun, masc.
 “fierceness”

עִזְרָה “Ezra”

עִזְיָאֵל proper noun, masc.
 “my strength is El”
 “Uzziel”

עִזְיָאֵלִי adjective
 “Uzzielite”

עִזְיָאֵל proper noun, masc.
 “Aziel”

עִזְיָה proper noun, masc.
 “my strength is God”
 “Uzziah”