

Men are dirt, is that a good thing?

Written by Timothy Houston
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With all the negative stereotype about men that already exist, why would it ever be a good thing to refer to men as dirt? I hear this and other similar comments whenever I am out sharing from my book. Unfortunately, whenever anyone hears that statement, men and women from all cultural ethnicity think of it primarily in its negative connotation. But I use this statement for two different purposes, first to serve as a replacement to the statement “All men are dogs,” and secondly to created dialogue about the true creative purpose of man.

The original man was from the dust of the ground, and although the quality of the dirt itself differs greatly since then, the potential that dirt possesses is still noteworthy. Everything that we see with our eyes came from the ground (*or from other things that came from the ground*). Every car, computer, house, oil rig, nuclear energy plant, spaceship and skyscraper came from dirt. When I use the term “Men are Dirt,” I am connecting them to the power, purpose, and potential they possess. Both diamonds and dynamite come for the same ground. I know firsthand what it feels like to go from a bomb waiting to explode, to fertile ground waiting to nourish and support.

All women prefer diamonds over dynamite. The challenge is getting them to understand that the same ground produces them both. A woman is most powerful when she is able to make a clear distinction between the many and various types of men, and the ground or heart she is currently dealing with. After making this separation, she then will only allow the men in her spear of control who will add enrichment to her life. The better she understands a man, whom she cannot control, the more she is empowered to evaluate her choices which she is able to control.

For dust you are and dust you will return (Genesis 3:19). The analogy between man and dirt is more that what meets the eye. The best of both man and the dust from which he was formed lie below the surface in that both can nourish. The natural and spiritual ground a man occupies is full of nourishment. This spiritual nourishment is manifested in the words and actions a man produces for the good of mankind. Good ground produces more that what was originally planted. Making those in his circle of influence better is man’s elementary purpose. The sooner we all can be brought to understand the spiritual and creative connection between man and dirt, the better we will be able to understand man himself.

Men who are fertile ground produce jewels. More important still, these men serve as nourishment for other seeds that will become plants or metaphorically speaking, dreams. These dreams or ideas are like stems which are the thoughts that come up out of man and extend themselves to others. Because these thoughts are generated by his heart, rich soil will produce a good harvest, but if the soil contains no nutrients, it will be barren. It is the heart of man that makes him good. A good man is a good husband, father, and friend. Those around him become better. It is in this light that men are dirt is a good thing.

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positive life changes in families and communities. For questions, comments or more information, go to www.tlhouston.com.