

## What Can Women do for the Lord?

### Women Pastors?--Biblical Qualifications for Pastors, Elders, Deacons and Spiritual Overseers & The Biblical Roles of Wives

Galatians 6:1: "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."  
Proverbs 14:12, 16:25 : "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."  
Jeremiah 17:9 : "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"  
Proverbs 18:13: "He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him."  
John 8:31&32: "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."  
Galatians 4:16: "Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?"

#### WHAT CAN WOMEN DO FOR THE LORD?

There are two errors among Christians in regard to the woman's ministry: (1) Some teach that women can do anything. That is not Scriptural.  
(2) Others teach that women can do almost nothing. That also is not Scriptural.

Godly women have a large role in the work of God. Though they have some limitations and there are some restrictions upon their work, they should not be despised by the churches. The Bible often mentions women in an honorable manner.

#### THE LIMITATION TO THE WOMAN'S MINISTRY

1 TIMOTHY 2:11-15

**11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.**

**12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.**

13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

**1. The woman is to have a humble, quiet, teachable spirit.**

Compare with:

1 Pet. 3:1 ¶ Likewise, **ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands**; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

1 Pet. 3:2 **While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.**

1 Pet. 3:3 **Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;**

1 Pet. 3:4 **But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.**

## 2. **There are two main restrictions on the woman's ministry**

("But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." 1 Tim. 2:12).

### a. **She is not allowed to usurp authority over the man.**

USURP: To seize and hold in possession by force or without right; as, to usurp a throne; to usurp the prerogatives of the crown; to usurp power

Obviously, then, she can never hold a position such as pastor. In contrast to this biblical restriction we have churches today, such as the Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, Korea, pastored by David Yonggi Cho, which have many woman pastors.

## **Biblical Qualifications for Pastors, Elders, Deacons and Spiritual Overseers**

**(Authorized King James Version):**

**I Timothy 3:1-7:** "This is a true saying, If **a man** desire the office of a bishop, **he** desireth a good work. A **bishop** then must be blameless, the **husband of one wife**, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that ruleth well **his** own house, having **his** children in subjection with all gravity; (For **if a man** know not how to rule **his** own house, how shall **he** take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride **he** fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover **he** must have a good report of them which are without; lest **he** fall into reproach and the snare of the devil"

**\*\*Never does the Word of God imply a bishop (which was and is the equivalent of a modern day pastor: see definition below) could be a woman. It is such a foregone conclusion the Bible only used this term in the masculine and makes it very clear that the Bishop, Pastor, Elder, Deacon and Spiritual overseer is to be "the husband of one wife". Never does the Bible say a these could be "the wife of one husband".**

The Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary (which much more accurately defines the words used in the times of the King James Bible) defines "BISHOP" as:

"1. An overseer; a spiritual superintendent, ruler or director; applied to Christ. Ye were as sheep going astray, but are now returned to the shepherd and bishop of your souls. 1. Pet.2.

2. In the primitive church, a spiritual overseer; an elder or presbyter; **one who had the pastoral care of a church**. The same persons are in this chapter called elders or presbyters, and overseers or bishops. Scott, Comm. Acts.20. Till the churches were multiplied, the bishops and presbyters

were the same. Ib. Phil.1.1. 1. Tim.3.1. Tit. 1.7"

**I Timothy 3:8-15:** "Likewise must the **deacons** be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a **deacon**, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. **Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife**, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, **that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God**, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

**Titus 1:5-9:** "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and **ordain elders** in every city, as I had appointed thee: If any be blameless, **the husband of one wife**, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. For a **bishop** must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as **he** hath been taught, that **he** may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."

\*\*Notice in this passage that the term for elders and bishops are used interchangeably.

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## **Baptist Megachurch Makes History Electing Woman to Pulpit**

Julie Pennington-Russell was voted on Sunday to become **senior pastor of an Atlanta-area megachurch**. The historic decision that went without dispute makes the congregation the largest church of Southern Baptist heritage to be led by a woman.

"Without a doubt, this is a major development," commented the Rev. R. Albert Mohler Jr., president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and one of America's pre-eminent Evangelical leaders, in a blog post when initial reports about Pennington-Russell's near-confirmation as head of First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga., came out.

In a closed session on Sunday after morning worship, some 500 members elected the married mother of two to lead the nearly 2,700-member church, according to The Waco Tribune-Herald. Only five hands of dissent were visible at most, said First Baptist's interim pastor, Dock Hollingsworth. ...

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## **THE LIMITATION TO THE WOMAN'S MINISTRY( continued)**

**b. She is not allowed to teach men.**

This does not mean that a woman can never talk to a man about the Lord. I do not believe it is wrong for a woman to give her testimony and to share Christ with men in a casual setting.

**12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.**

What 1 Timothy 2:12 means that the woman cannot teach with authority; this is the context. Examples are teaching from the pulpit, teaching Sunday School classes, teaching at Bible conferences, Bible colleges & on the **radio, TV or internet** (which is by far the greatest way that Woman preachers reach not only women **but other men as well**). **When a woman preaches she is taking authority in a role that God has never called her to as God will not contradict his Word and His Word is clear on this matter.** There is no more authoritative thing in the world than to teach or preach the Bible. God's Word forbids a woman to do that.

**3. God tells us the reason for these limitations**

("For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, **but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.**" 1 Tim. 2:13-14).

First, the order of creation requires these limitations (v. 13). The woman was created after the man to be his helpmeet and not his head. Also read:

1 Cor. 11:8: **For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man.**

1 Cor. 11:9 **Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.**

Second, the nature of the woman requires these limitations (v. 14): **And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.** The woman was not created to lead but to serve and she was given the equipment to do the latter and not former. As a result of this, she is more easily deceived.

**Genesis 2:22-24:** And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, **made he a woman**, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she **shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.** Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

**\*\*In this way since a rib was taken from man to make a woman, when they Biblically are joined in marriage they complete each other & "become one flesh".**

**As a result of the fall Genesis 3:16 says:** Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; **and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 14:34-35**

**34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.**

**35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for**

## women to speak in the church.

1. This is referring to teaching and prophesying. That is the context. The woman is not allowed to speak out in the church services in the sense of teaching or preaching.
2. This also forbids women to speak out and disturb the meetings with their questions and comments.
3. This does not mean that a woman can never say anything in church.

She can sing and testify in due order. If there is an open question and answer time, she can participate. What Paul is warning about is disorderliness **as that was plaguing the Corinthian Church.**

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**Dr. Johnson Comment: Below is a question that I received that relates to this subject:**

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [STEVE MCCOOL](#)

**To:** [Scott Johnson](#)

**Sent:** Monday, May 28, 2007 12:40 PM

**Subject:** Women preachers

One of the main arguments between my wife's dad and myself has been women preachers. I understand the scripture when it says women are to keep silent in the Lords house and not to usurp authority over the men. The things my daddy-in-law comes back with are 1. Acts 2:17-21 where the Peter tells the men of Judae'a that their daughters would prophesy. I have had trouble explaining this to him. When does this actually take place in time? With him being assembly of god he believes that the events Peter talks about in the above scripture was given to the church at the Azusa street revival. I have study the Azusa street revival. I believe is was satans way of getting into the modern church. there were very demonic going ons at that meeting.

Also he refers to Deborah, the prophetess and judge and all the other women in the Old Testament that were leaders of the Israelites.

A couple of years ago I agreed to study via scripture and the internet the things the assembly of god believe. I did this. I study the scriptures they gave me, I went to the official web site for the assembly of god, and I went to the web site for the Azusa street mission. I did all this and I am now more convinced more than ever that all the groups that came out of the Azusa street revival of 1906 are nothing more than cults of satan sent forth to deceive the very elect. Now I am still waiting for my daddy-in-law to do the same. He expects me to study what he believes but refuses to study what I believe. Truth be known, he can't study what I believe with his NASB perversion. Any help with this matter would be very appreciated. Steve McCool

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**(My Reply) Steve:**

Go to this link: [http://www.scionofzion.com/azusa\\_street.htm](http://www.scionofzion.com/azusa_street.htm) regarding the corrupt foundation of Azusa Street (which is the foundation of the Pentecostal/Charismatic Church. I am going to be doing a teaching on this soon, Lord willing. I will be interjecting a high amount of Scripture with this teaching.

**Steve this teaching is one you may want to reread (as I did) in order to fully comprehend all the Scriptures I am going to quote, but the Biblical confirmation is simply awesome to view.**

Now in regard to "Acts 2:17-21 where the Peter tells the men of Judaea that their daughters would prophesy". Read the Scriptures below in the order I have set them in to see **that primarily this will occur during the tribulation**. This point can be unquestionably proven if you look at all the **blood and fire and moon references both in Joel and Acts** (see below) and then do a keyword search to find that this **will only occur during the tribulation as all these prophecies are fulfilled in Revelation and only in Revelation**. Pentecost and the miracles that followed did not last indefinitely (as verified by many early church writers). These were some things that happened in Acts for a short time but they ceased afterward. **1Cor. 13:8**: Charity never faileth: **but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease**; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. You may be asking yourself why did all the miracles and things start to cease, well one reason is that: **1Cor 1:22 says: For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:** These miracles were signs to the Jews as the Lord had always dealt with them through signs and wonders. **Jesus first went to the Jews but now read: Act 18:5&6** And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified **to the Jews** that Jesus was Christ. And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: **from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.**" At this point the Apostolic soul winning emphasis **primarily shifts to the Gentiles** (most likely up until the time in which the tribulation begins): **Rom 11:25** For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; **that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in**. Most likely when the fullness of the gentiles comes in, **it will coincide with the start of the 7 year tribulation** and the emphasis will start to go back to the Jews and their eyes will slowly start to be opened. **See Zec. 12:9&10** " And it shall come to pass in that day, **that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem** And **I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications**: and **they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him**, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn." This verse is **in direct reference to Armageddon, the Jews realization of who Jesus Christ really is and how the emphasis will shift back to the Jews in the last days** and how they (The Jews /Israel) will have **the spirit poured upon them**. **Act 2:14&15**: ¶ But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all [ye] that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. **Act 2:16** **But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;** (**Joel 2:28-32**): And it shall come to pass afterward, [that] **I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh**; and your sons and your

daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. **And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: **for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance**, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call."

**Rev. 8:7&8** "The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and **fire mingled with blood**, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain **burning with fire** was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea **became blood**;

**Rev 8:12:** "And the fourth angel sounded, and the **third part of the sun was smitten**, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; **so as the third part of them was darkened**, and the **day shone not for a third part of it**, and the night likewise."

**Rev 9:2:** "And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; **and the sun and the air were darkened** by reason of the smoke of the pit."

**Rev 6:12:** "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and **the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;**"

Now read **Acts 2:17-21:** "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will **pour out of my Spirit** upon all flesh: **and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:** **And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:** And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

**So within the full contest of these verses these events will occur during Revelation as we have proven by citing the Scriptures.**

Now as far as the Judges goes.

The text relating to Deborah and Jael contains four main sections:

**1 Deborah, a judge of Israel, summoned Barak** (Judges 4:1-11, 5:1-18).

When war and oppression come, Deborah acted as a leader of the people. She chose the most able military general and told him what he must do.

**2 The battle was fought: Sisera fled** (Judges 4:12-16, 5: 19-23).

The superior enemy forces were routed, their troops were slaughtered, and the Israelites were jubilant. Their faith in their God was strengthened. Sisera, the enemy general, fled from the battlefield towards the encampment of **Jael the Kenite woman**.

**3 Jael met Sisera, and killed him** (Judges 4:17-24, 5:24-27).

Jael called Sisera into her tent, hid him and fed him. After Sisera fell asleep, Jael killed him by driving a tent peg through the side of his head. She was hailed as a national hero by the pursuing Israelite forces, led by Deborah and Barak.

Now in the time of Judges 21:25 it says: "In those days **there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**" This was a rebellious wicked time. **Just read Judges 2, and 3 to understand the unbelievable rebellion that the Jews were in towards the Lord.** In chapter 4 the Lord permits Deborah to be a judge in Israel. The Lord had to actually use these women to accomplish his will **as Lord could not find a suitable king or man for that matter.** The Lord used these woman (and I praise God for that) but this was not the ideal way the Lord had traditionally chose to deal with His enemies (before or after). **In other words the men of this time really dropped the ball.**

Ask yourself if **Isaiah 3:12** could be an endorsement for women rulers: "As for my people, children are their oppressors, and **women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.**"

**Now for a further study on this issue Pastor David Cloud has done an excellent study on this subject entitled:**

**WOMEN LEADERS IN THE BIBLE** <http://www.wayoflife.org/fbns/fbns/fbns150.html>

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**A report in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, June 19, 1996, reviewed the ministries of several women who preach to large groups of men and women. One of these was Billy Graham's daughter, Anne Graham Lotz. The report noted that these women "draw their inspiration from the many female preachers and prophets, some nameless, in the Bible."**

**Let us look for a moment at the women in Scripture who are frequently held forth as examples for women preachers today.**

**The foremost Bible example of a woman leader is DEBORAH. Why did God make Deborah a judge in Israel (Jud. 4:4-5)? The answer is not difficult. The men in Deborah's day were very weak and cowardly. This is seen in the fact that Barak, the captain of the armies of Israel, refused to go into battle unless Deborah went with him. The woman had to remind him that God had said it is time to fight; the woman had to encourage and challenge him to go; yea, the woman had to go with him!**

**"And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go" (Jud. 4:8).**

**Deborah clearly realized that this was not right nor natural, and she told Barak it would not result in his honor. "And she said, I will surely go with thee; notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; FOR THE LORD SHALL SELL SISERA INTO THE HAND OF A WOMAN..." (Jud. 4:9).**

Obviously it was a period in Israel's history during which God could find no man to do His will, so He used a brave, willing woman. We can praise God for women like Deborah who are willing to be strong when the men are weak. This has often happened, both in secular and in church history.

The problem in Deborah's day was spiritual apostasy. When God's people turn away from Him, He renders men powerless against their enemies and removes wisdom from their hearts. It is a judgment upon apostate people. We can see this very thing today in apostate North America and Europe. In general the leaders are weak and seem entirely lacking even in common sense. They cannot control their little children and women rule over them (compare Is. 3:12). This is God's judgment because of the apostate condition of professing Christians. In Deborah's day Israel was in bondage to their enemies only because of their apostasy from the true God and His Scriptures (Jud. 4:1-2). This was why the men were so weak. God had removed their power as He did from sinful Samson.

"Therefore the flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not strengthen his force, neither shall the mighty deliver himself. ... And he that is courageous among the mighty shall flee away naked in that day, saith the Lord" (Amos 2:14-15).

Someone might ask, "If God called Deborah to judge in Israel of old, perhaps He would call a woman to lead in a church today?" This cannot be so, because God's Word has expressly forbidden the woman to teach or usurp authority over men in the churches (1 Timothy 2:11-12). We must rightly divide the Word of Truth. We do not get our instructions for church work in the Old Testament; we get them from the New Testament. That is very basic.

What about the DAUGHTERS OF PHILIP? They were prophetesses (Acts 21:8-9). Doesn't this mean that women can preach to men in exercising their gifts of prophecy? Not at all. That is strictly forbidden in 1 Timothy chapter two. The fact that God gives ministry gifts to women does not mean they are free to take authority in the church or to ignore the apostolic injunction against preaching to or teaching men.

As a missionary in South Asia in the 1980s, I wrote a gospel pamphlet entitled *The Unknown God*. The message was taken from Paul's sermon on Mar's Hill in Acts 17, an appropriate message to the idolatrous people of that part of the world. Some months after we began publishing this illustrated pamphlet I was approached by a female missionary who began to reprove me for the pamphlet and for what she considered to be an overly negative approach to the Gospel. I was heading to the barber shop one fine afternoon when I saw her coming toward me on her bicycle. She had collared me before to correct me about this or that thing, so I did the only brave, manly thing I could think of -- I tried to duck into the barber shop before she could catch me! Alas, though, I was too slow. She caught up to me and proceeded to take me to task as we were standing on the city street. She didn't like the direct approach of condemning idolatry and preaching repentance. I reminded her that this was exactly what the Apostle Paul did. She countered that Paul was

probably in the flesh when he preached that message. (I guess she knew that bit of information by revelation or vision or something!) I told her that Paul most certainly was not in the flesh when he preached the message recorded in Acts chapter seventeen by divine inspiration. I also told her that if God wanted to correct me, He would use a man to do it.

She said, “Have you not read of the daughters of Philip who were prophetesses?”

I reminded her that when Paul was staying at Philip’s house, God brought a male prophet from another city to prophesy to Paul instead of using Philip’s daughters.

“And the next day we that were of Paul’s company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him. And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy. And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. And when he was come unto us, he took Paul’s girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles” (Acts 21:8-11).

When I had made this point from the Word of God, this missionary lady got back on her bicycle and peddled away.

There is no doubt that God gave the gifts of prophecy to women. Peter, on the day of Pentecost, had promised that God would do this: “And on ... my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy” (Acts 2:18). But the Holy Spirit, the Spirit who gives the gifts, has placed restrictions upon the exercise of those gifts. 1 Timothy 2 and 1 Corinthians 11 and 14 are Holy Scripture. Immediately after forbidding the women to speak in church meetings in 1 Corinthians 14:34, the apostle Paul warned that those who ignore this instruction are not spiritual. “If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord” (1 Cor. 14:37).

Some will no doubt ask, “Why does blessing appear to be upon the ministries of some women who preach and teach to men?”

First of all, God sometimes blesses the ministry of His Word in spite of the errors of the minister. In such cases, though, the minister (whether it be man or woman) will only receive personal reward for the labor inasmuch as it was done according to the Word of God (1 Cor. 3:6-15; 2 Tim. 2:5).

Second, many times that which appears to be God’s blessing is not. The Mormon Church is one of the fastest growing “churches,” but it is apostate and preaches a false gospel. The same is true for the Roman Catholic Church, which is the largest “church” in the

world. Whatever apparent blessings these “churches” have is a deception, because it is not from God. The Bible warns repeatedly of the danger of spiritual delusion. There are false gospels, false christs, false spirits (2 Cor. 11:3-4). Jesus warned of the multitudes who will stand before Him in the judgment and will boast of their spiritual accomplishments, but He will say to them, “And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity” (Matt. 7:23). The devil poses as an angel of light and his ministers as ministers of righteousness (2 Cor. 11:15).

My friends, the bottom line is that the Bible, God’s holy Word, forbids the woman to teach or to usurp authority over the man. He forbade this 1,900 years ago, and He forbids it today.

Beware of being influenced by the rebellion of the hour.

“Let the woman learn in silence, with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, was in the transgression” (1 Tim. 2:11-14).

“Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak: but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also says the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only? If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord” (1 Cor. 14:34-37).

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What many do is claim some pet doctrine without comparing Scripture to Scripture to get the big picture. This is the basis for most cults that form, that still claim to use the Bible as their foundation. **Mark 7:13** "Making the **word of God of none effect** through your **tradition...**" **II Timothy 2:15**: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**" Regarding the people of Berea (**Acts 17: 11&12**) says: "These were **more noble** than those in Thessalonica, in that they received **the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily,** whether those things were so. **Therefore** many of them believed..."

As far as your father in law goes if he refuses to look at what you set in front of him, quote: **Proverbs 18:13**: "He that answereth a matter **before he heareth it,** it is folly and shame unto him."

Hope this helps. God bless!

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## The Biblical Roles of Wives

First off I am posting some excellent foundational teachings on this subject by Pastor John Weaver (a true man of God).



### The Family - Part 5

1

**John Weaver • The Role of the Wife** - 1 • 55 min.

Ephesians 5: 21-33 • Freedom Ministries

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=1110711202610>



### The Family - Part 6

2

**John Weaver • The Role of the Wife** - 2 • 51 min.

Ephesians 5: 21-33 • Freedom Ministries

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=111071123551>



### The Family - Part 7

3

**John Weaver • Role of the Husband** • 60 min.

Ephesians 5:21-33 • Freedom Ministries

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=1211071454245>

## Genesis 2:20-24

And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, **made he a woman**, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she **shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man**. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

**\*\*In this way since a rib was taken from man to make a woman, when they Biblically are joined in marriage they complete each other & "become one flesh".**

**As a result of the fall Genesis 3:16 says:** Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; **and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.**

## Within the male/female relationship who is Biblically supposed to lead?

Eph 5:22 ¶ **Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.**

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Eph 5:24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, **so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.**

Eph 5:25 **Husbands, love your wives**, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Eph 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Eph 5:28 **So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.**

Eph 5:29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

Eph 5:30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

Eph 5:31 **For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.**

Eph 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Eph 5:33 **Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.**

1 Corinthians 11:3: "But I would have you know, that the **head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.**"

1 Pet. 3:1 ¶ **Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands;** that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

1 Pet. 3:2 **While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.**

1 Pet. 3:3 **Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;**

1 Pet. 3:4 **But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.**

1 Pet. 3:5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, **who trusted in God,** adorned themselves, **being in subjection unto their own husbands:**

1 Pet. 3:6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him **Lord:** whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

1 Pet. 3:7 ¶ **Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.**

Titus 2:3 The **aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not**

false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

**Titus 2:4** That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

**Titus 2:5** To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

### Who was created for whom?

**1 Cor. 11:5** But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven...

**1 Cor. 11:7** For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man.

**1 Cor. 11:8:** For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man.

**1 Cor. 11:9** Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

**1 Cor. 11:13** Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?

**1 Cor. 11:14** Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?

**1 Cor. 11:15** But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.

### The Marriage Bed

**1 Cor. 7:3:** Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.

**1 Cor 7:4:** The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.

**1 Cor 7:5:** Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

### What about women and men working out their salvation?

**1 Timothy 2:11-15** Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and **charity and holiness with sobriety**.

a. In this verse Paul encourages the women not to be discouraged because of the fall but to know that they have a very important role in the world and in the church.

b. It is possible that this is a faint allusion to God's promise to Eve that her seed would bruise the head of the serpent (Gen. 3:15), the prophecy of Christ's coming as man's

Saviour. It is a great encouragement to godly women to remember that though the woman was the first sinner, the woman is also the instrument that God used to bring the Saviour into the world so that sinners would be redeemed.

#### What this verse does not teach:

(1) The verse is not teaching that women achieve eternal salvation in this manner. Salvation is not by faith and charity and sobriety. That would be a works salvation. Salvation is by grace through faith without works (Eph. 2:8-9).

(2) It does not promise escape from the pain of childbirth. Godly women usually suffer as much as others in child-bearing.

(3) It does not promise that a godly woman will never die in childbirth. Many godly women have died while bearing children.

d. Salvation is used here not in the sense of eternal salvation but in the sense of fruitfulness and purpose in this world. The main teaching of this verse is that the woman's primary sphere of blessing in this world is the home and her work of bearing and training children. She shall "be saved" through the instrumentality of bringing up children and guiding the home, through the faithful performance of her duties as a wife and mother. "She shall be saved from the arts of impostors, and from the luxury and vice of the age, if, instead of wandering about, she remains at home, cultivates modesty, is subject to her husband, and engages carefully in the training of her children" (Wetstein).

#### To prove the point of salvation further we read:

**John 3:16&17:** "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, **that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; **but that the world through him might be saved.**"

**Romans 5:8-10:** "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.** Much more then, **being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.** For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, **we shall be saved by his life.**"

**Romans 8:16&17:** "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, **that we are the children of God:** And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, **and joint-heirs with Christ...**

**Romans 10:8-13:** But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, **the word of faith,** which we preach; **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the



same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

**Ephesians 2:8-9:** "For **by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

**Hebrews 11:1-8:** ¶ **Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.**

**Romans 10:17** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Hebrews 11:6** But **without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is**, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**James 2:18** Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, **and I will shew thee my faith by my works.**

**Hebrews 10:35:** **Cast not away therefore your confidence**, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. **Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.**

**What is the proper function/role/vocation of Woman according to scripture?**

**1 Timothy 5:14-15** I will therefore that the **younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.** For some are already turned aside after Satan.

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## **THE BLESSING OF THE WOMAN'S MINISTRY**

"...if women have mastered men for evil, they have also mastered them for good -- we gladly make declaration that some of the fairest and most fragrant flowers that grow in the garden of God and some of the sweetest and most luscious fruit that ripens in God's spiritual orchards are there because of woman's faith, woman's love, woman's prayer, woman's virtue, woman's tears, woman's devotion to Christ" (R.G. Lee, Payday Someday).

1. Consider some of the ways that God has used women:

a. It was a woman who brought Jesus into the world. b. Many women assisted Jesus during His earthly ministry (Lk. 8:2-3). c. It was a woman who anointed Jesus for His burial prior to His death (Mat. 26:6-13). d. It was mostly women who stood at the cross (Mat. 27:55-56). e. It was women who observed Jesus' burial and who came to anoint Jesus after He was dead (Lk.

23:55-56). f. It was women who first came to the empty tomb and first believed the resurrection (Mat. 28:1-6). g. It was women who first reported the resurrection to the apostles (Mat. 28:7-8). h. Women were waiting with the men in the upper room for the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:14).

2. Women are very, very important in church work, too (Romans 16:1-5). Many of the first Christians were women (Acts 17:4, 12), such as Lydia the first convert of Philippi (Acts 16:14).

a. Women can teach other women (Titus 2:3-5). b. Women can teach children. Women such as Lois and Eunice trained up young workers for the Lord (2 Tim. 1:5). c. Women can witness and bring sinners to Christ. d. Women are crucial in the work of building strong spiritual homes so that the church is thereby strengthened in the Lord.

Three Bible examples:

a. Lydia is an example of the blessing of a godly woman to the work of God (Acts 16:12-15, 40).

Lydia was the first convert in Philippi. She then influenced her entire household to trust Christ. After she was saved she begged Paul and Silas to stay as guests in her home. The Bible says "she constrained" them. This means she was a very persuasive woman! Thus the church at Philippi was started in Lydia's home. In Acts 16:40, we see that when Paul and Silas were loosed from jail they came first to Lydia's home and there they "comforted the brethren." It is obvious that this is where the church was accustomed to meet. This godly businesswoman was a very important member of the early churches.

b. Phebe is another example (Rom. 16:1-2).

She was a servant of one church, the church at Cenchrea, which was near Corinth. This teaches us the importance of church membership and the importance of faithfulness to the church. We serve the Lord Jesus Christ, but we serve Him in this world through the church. Those who despise the church today despise the work of God.

Phebe was doing the work of the Lord. She was on business pertaining to Paul and to her church. Many believe that she was carrying the Epistle of Romans to Rome. Paul instructed the believers to treat her with respect and to give her whatever assistance she needed.

c. Priscilla is another example.

She worked with her husband in starting churches (Romans 16:3-5). She assisted her husband in instructing Apollos (Acts 18:24-26). This is an example of how a wife can assist in teaching the Bible to a man in an informal setting in

association with her husband. In some passages Paul mentions Priscilla first, before her husband (Acts 18:18; Rom. 16:3). This might mean that she was the more zealous Christian of the two, or it could mean that her husband spent more of his time with the tent business while she spent most of her time in the spiritual ministry, or it could mean that Paul was closer to her. Whatever the exact reason, it is a fact that Paul honored her by mentioning her first before her husband.

## CONCLUSION

### 1. Questions for the women:

- a. Are you saved like Phebe? Before you can serve Christ, you must be born into God's family (Phebe was called "our sister.") Are you sure you have been born again? If you are saved, your life will be changed (2 Cor. 5:17).
- b. Are you faithful to the church like Phebe?
- c. Are you serving God zealously like Phebe?
- d. Are you in fellowship with your husband like Priscilla?

### 2. Questions for the men:

- a. Are you saved like Aquilla, who was "in Christ Jesus"?
- b. Are you serving God together with your wife like Aquilla?
- c. Is the church important to you like it was with Aquilla?

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## Traits of a Virtuous Woman

Proverbs 12:4: A **virtuous woman** is a crown to her husband...

Pro 31:10 ¶ Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

Pro 31:11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

Pro 31:12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

Pro 31:13 She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.

Pro 31:14 She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.

Pro 31:15 She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

Pro 31:16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.

**Pro 31:17** She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.  
**Pro 31:18** She perceiveth that her merchandise [is] good: her candle goeth not out by night.  
**Pro 31:19** She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.  
**Pro 31:20** She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.  
**Pro 31:21** She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household [are] clothed with scarlet.  
**Pro 31:22** She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing [is] silk and purple.  
**Pro 31:23** Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.  
**Pro 31:24** She maketh fine linen, and selleth [it]; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.  
**Pro 31:25** Strength and honour [are] her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.  
**Pro 31:26** She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue [is] the law of kindness.  
**Pro 31:27** She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.  
**Pro 31:28** Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband [also], and he praiseth her.  
**Pro 31:29** Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.  
**Pro 31:30** Favour [is] deceitful, and beauty [is] vain: [but] a woman [that] feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.  
**Pro 31:31** Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

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Jude 3&4: "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.