

Title: Women in the Church - Part 2

Passage: 1 Timothy 2:8-15

Draft Summary:

Key Truths

- Be aware and follow what the whole of Scripture says about a topic rather than culture.
- Be obedient to God's calling on your life as serve through distinct (but still many possible) roles that God may use you for His glory in the church.

Application:

- Make sure you're ruled by Scripture, not by culture
- Women: encourage to sit under godly teaching and be involved in every area of the church except those roles only for men.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What does it mean to be ruled by God's Word? How may we be tempted to instead be ruled by culture?
 - If wish, share about your experience with regards to men and women in the church - has there been any past issues we may help come along side to help process or answer any questions?
 - What next steps will you take in response to the sermon?
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Passage:

1 Timothy 2:8-15

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

EXPOSITION

Introduction

Feminism (distinction)

- First wave: women's right to vote, protection against slavery and spousal abysmal
 - Reflects the Gospel as women have equal dignity as men.

- Second wave: current culture that redefines roles for men and women as well as meaning of gender overall.
 - Contrary to the Gospel

Overview:

I. Outward appearance and attitude of women in the church (v.9-10)

II. Women's role in the church (v.11-12)

III. God's design for women (v.13-15)

I. Outward appearance and attitude of women in the church.

1 Timothy 2:8-10

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.

II. Women's role in the church (v.11-12)

1 Timothy 2:11-12

Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.

Let a woman learn

- Ancient times: women were not to learn at all.
 - Women were previously viewed so low that they were not to be taught at all.
- Bible: Let women learn
 - Why? Women are equal in dignity and value. They are to learn from God's Word as with men.
 - Affirmation of women's right to learn

Luke 10:39 (Jesus' example with teaching women)

And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

learn quietly

- quiet = same word used in v.2
 - Context does not mean silence.

1 Timothy 2:2

for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

- Quiet = life without turmoil
 - not argumentative

Learn...with all submissiveness

- All are to submit to authorities that God has placed in the church.
- Resist the urge to view "submission" as something negative
- Submission is to those who are qualified to be elders.
 - Submission is always in context of positive terms

Perfect example of submission - Jesus

- Jesus submitted to God the Father's will even to death on the cross.
 - Submission does not entail coercion
- Submission = Voluntary obedience to God's will for God's glory
- Each person of the Trinity are of equal value and glory
 - Likewise, men and women are of equal value and worth but have different roles.

I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.

- further clarification of "quiet" and "submissiveness"

Permit

- allowing something that one desired to do.
- Here, implies women naturally want to usurp their role, which reflects the curse from the Fall

Genesis 3:16b

To the woman he said,

"...Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you."

Teach

- Meaning = Exposition of Scripture in the official teaching of sound doctrine
 - Preach or exercise doctrinal discipline that is tied to the preaching ministry
- All women are to submit to the teaching and discipline to pastors (which is no different than male laypersons)

to exercise authority

- Meaning = to serve as pastors
 - women are not to be pastors

Common Objections

1. Paul is just sharing his private opinion and not speaking for God.
- The word "permit" is a command
 - Here, Paul is speaking with apostolic authority.

1 Timothy 1:1

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2. Paul was just addressing only to the Ephesus cultural norms.
- Others further argue Galatians 3:3 to promote female pastors. But the context of that passage was not addressing male and female roles but equal dignity and worth before God.

III. God's design for women (v.13-15)

1 Timothy 2:13-15

For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

Biblical response:

1. From order of Creation

For Adam was formed first, then Eve

- God made man first and then made woman later as a "helper"
 - Note: "Helper" is not an inferior role but different role
 - Ex: Holy Spirit is referenced as a "helper". Holy Spirit is equal in value and worth but different role from the other Persons of the Trinity.
- God intentionally created male and female in a specific way. God has plans for this concept, which is uniquely and specially designed.
- Our response: understand what it means to be a man of God or a woman of God.
 - Otherwise, we are left in complete confusion and chaos.

2. From the fall

and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

- Satan approached woman first as a reverse of God's creation but also pointing to woman's inclinations.
 - Woman's more relational nature means they are less inclined to exclude others due to doctrinal error.
 - Men and women are profoundly different. Women have strengths that are lacking in men. Likewise, men have
- God gave Adam leadership role so made first, then later women.
- God gave men a disposition that is better suited to preaching and governing the church in evaluating doctrinal purity
 - While woman's disposition place a high value in relations in promoting unity and community.

Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

- “childbearing” = example of being obedient to God’s calling on one’s life.
 - Note: not all women are married or will bear children.
- Meaning = representative example of how a woman should be obedient to God’s calling on her life and her distinctive role.
- “Will be saved” = Christian life in general
 - Not salvation through faith in Jesus
 - “Salvation” - three meanings:
 - Ephesians 2:8-9 (moment place faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior = saved from penalty of sin = justification)
 - Philippians 2:12 (work out salvation with fear and trembling) (being saved from the power of sin = sanctifications)
 - 1 Peter 1:3-5 (When get to heaven and saved from presence of sin = glorification)
- Meaning = Women will experience out working of their salvation through their lives if follow the roles God has given them.

Application

Make sure you are ruled by Scripture, not by culture

- Doctrine of roles of male and women is a root area where false teaching has otherwise entered through.

Encourage women to sit under godly teaching and be involved in every area of the church except those roles only for men.

- If you question any particular church’s interactions with women, then interview any of the female church leaders. Hear and understand their theological understandings and perspectives and evaluate whether unBiblical.
- Share the Gospel, minister to those who are less well, encourage and come along others, lead/participate in women’s Bible studies or ministries