

The Position of Women In The Church According To The Scriptures

The Scriptures of the New Testament are clear in their teaching on Women within the Church, it is not a cultural thing nor is it set in place for the Apostolic Era alone.

The WORD of GOD is relevant for all time, if it is Eternal, it should be treated as such, without caveats and provisos added.

It is important for us today in the time of greatest Apostasy and Deception to hold fast to the true meaning of the Word of GOD and its clear teachings.

Therefore, Paul leaves clear instruction with Timothy for the Governance of the Church not only for his time but for ours also.

2:12 But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.

1Timothy 2:13 For it was Adam who was first formed, and then Eve.

1Timothy 2:14 And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into trespass.

Whilst 1 Corinthians 14:34-35 speaks of keeping silent in Church, this is in regard to chattering across the Assembly and distracting from what is being taught, but it is important because even in this some may be attempting to put their own spin on the message from the Pulpit and causing disruption and confusion within the Assembly, Church is not a place to hold discussions under the radar of the Service, but Women with questions should wait till later and ask their own Husbands or indeed hold a Bible Study in their own homes which is the better way to deal with any questions.

A note book is a good option in this situation so questions can be noted for later discussion.

1Corinthians 14:34 The women are to keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says.

1Corinthians 14:35 But if they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home, for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in church.

In Titus' Letter he speaks to older women as teachers, but only of other women and especially of young women starting out where these older ones teach the young ones to be reverent and to refrain from gossiping and to love and care for their Husbands and Children.

There are Ministries specifically for Women where a Woman or team of Women preach and teach the Gospel, to other Women, within the framework of these Ministries there usually is an Elder, a Man, appointed to give guidance and act in authority for that Ministry.

The main role of Women is in the Family and the raising of Children, where the Children are taught about ALMIGHTY GOD and the actions of the Mother, and other women within the Family framework bear witness of the things of GOD, to that child and the Community around them.

Titus 2:3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behaviour, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good,

Titus 2:4 so that they may instruct the young women in sensibility: to love their husbands, to love their children,

Titus 2:5 to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be slandered.

The next scripture portion can be a cause of contention, but I believe it says what it means. Women can pray, sing praises and prophesy (read and proclaim the Scripture within the framework of prayer and worship) But with their heads covered in respect for their Husbands who is head of their household, but this respect ultimately goes to LORD JESUS as Head of the Church.

1Corinthians 11:5 But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying, shames her head, for she is one and the same as the woman 'whose head is shaved.

1Corinthians 11:6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut short. But if it is disgraceful for a woman to ²have her hair cut short or ¹her head shaved, let her cover her head.

1Corinthians 11:7 For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God, but the woman is the glory of man.

1Corinthians 11:8 For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man.

1Corinthians 11:9 For indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.

1Corinthians 11:10 Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

In the Letter to the Colossians, Paul speaks of us in our everyday lives, as we interact within the Family and our Community, not only in the formal setting of an Assembly of Believers, this does not give Women a platform to teach from a Pulpit, this is for

everyday conversation, where matters pertaining to the LORD may be spoken of and Worship offered to the ALMIGHTY GOD in the Name of JESUS our LORD.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with gratefulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

In Acts Chapter 18: we meet Aquilla and Prescilla, fellow Servants with Paul in his Mission to the Gentiles.

Aquilla and Prescilla acted together as a team, Husband and Wife, Prescilla did not go about on her own teaching, unless she was with other Women and in that case she would have taught only other Women.

We have many examples of this practice today where a Husband and Wife go out into the Mission Fields to spread the Gospel or to work within a Church Ministry in a Community, a Bible Study etc where they work in tandem, BUT, the Husband is always the head because he has the responsibility as set out in Scripture.

Acts 18:24 ¶ Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, arrived at Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures.

Acts 18:25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John;

Acts 18:26 and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

Phoebe was a Servant within the Church, she would have served in the capacity of giving hospitality to the travelling Missionaries who came to her area, and as a help to the Assemblies within her area in matters of organisation etc. we see the same situations within the true Church today where women, usually the wives of Elders and Deacons, and others of course act in matters of Hospitality or Hosting visitors and the organisation of events within the Assemblies.

Romans 16:1 Now I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea;

Romans 16:2 that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also been a benefactor of many, and of myself as well.

Regarding Elders, Pastors and Deacons

We are clearly told within the following 2 Scripture portions of the qualifications necessary for an Elder, Deacon or Pastor, In fact anyone who holds a position of Governance and Teaching within the Church.

Women are mentioned here only as those who are married to the office holder and not being the office holder themselves, Women are cast in the support role.

We are given a prime example of this in Proverbs 31:10-31 where the Wife acts in such a way that it allows her Husband to hold the position of (in his case perhaps) as a member of the town Council. But she has the authority in her role to do what is necessary to keep the Household running and even to engage in business.

The Wife is not stifled within the bounds of the Family nor of the Church, but can act in her capacity, and within the gifting of HOLY SPIRIT as set out by Scripture.

The Scripture portions below are clearly set out and in them it also precludes Women from Teaching or Preaching in the Assembly where Men are present.

1Timothy 3:8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not fond of dishonest gain,

1Timothy 3:9 but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.

1Timothy 3:10 And these men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach.

1Timothy 3:11 Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.

1Timothy 3:12 Deacons must be husbands of only one wife, leading their children and their own households well.

1Timothy 3:13 For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Titus 1:5 ¶ For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you,

Titus 1:6 namely, if any man is beyond reproach, the husband of one wife, having faithful children, who are not accused of dissipation, or rebellious.

Titus 1:7 For the overseer must be beyond reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of dishonest gain,

Titus 1:8 but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, righteous, holy, self-controlled,

Titus 1:9 holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to reprove those who contradict.

When the workers within the early Church were set aside to administer the alms and food for the poor, MEN were set apart for the Work, which freed and enabled the Apostles to continue to Preach the Gospel and Pray for the Church.

Acts 6:3 Therefore, brothers, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this need.

Acts 6:4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.”