

I Timothy Sermon #18

I Timothy 2

Lord willing, ladies, we will finish Chapter 2 tonight and our series on the Biblical woman.

Last week, two major parts – in the context of the local assembly, mixed group – the woman is to be a learner (vs. 11)

Secondly, she is not to occupy the position of teacher

Godly women do have an important ministry in the local assembly, even though they are not called to be teachers of the Word in a pastoral sense.

I have entitled this six-part series, “Reclaiming the Biblical Woman”

I Timothy 2:11

Let us stand for the reading of God's Holy Word

I Timothy 2:11-15

Let us pray

You may be seated.

Vs. 12

She is not to be a teacher

What exactly is God removing from ladies?

This word “teach” here is the word often translated “doctrine”

What is he saying?

It is not proper for a woman to be doctrinally instructing men or to usurp authority over them in this way.

Usurp authority – literally means “one who acts by his own authority.”

In other words, an independent authority

In the church, a woman must not be in a position where she makes independent decisions which men must submit to.

There is to be quietness about her and her demeanor.

God gives reasons for these instructions—

Vs. 13 – “for” – for this reason

Vs. 14 – “and” – he will connect another reason

God goes back to two of the most significant events in human history

He goes all the way back to the first couple – (1) to their creation and (2) to their fall

These two events have impacted the entire human race

God connects the New Testament church all the way back to the first couple

Now, let’s look at the reasons He gives.

The first reason is the order of creation – vs. 13

★Why is a woman to be a learner not an instructor of men in the church assembly?★

Because of the order of creation – Adam was first formed then Eve

Paul establishes woman's subordinate role in the divine order of original creation.

God made woman after man to be his suitable helper

The priority of man's role is obvious.

If I can put this simply in our terms, it is a matter of seniority – Adam was formed first!

In Genesis 2:18-22 – God put Adam to sleep, and out of a rib the first female was formed and Adam took one look at her and named her woman.

Woman means out of man.

The woman may have come from the man at the beginning, but today, it is the man who is born of the woman. – P. T. L.

I Timothy tells us—Adam was formed first—therefore, he is the leader

I Corinthians 11:8-9, *“For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.”*

In other words, the source of woman is man and that gives Adam the headship.

Headship by the man, then, was part of God's design from the beginning, and Adam bears the responsibility for its success or failure.

Adam was first formed.

Adam was given direction by God

Adam named all the animals

Adam was in the leadership position.

And then Eve came and Eve was added to Adam as a helper – suitable for him

Adam and Eve had positions.

So God takes us all the way back to the order of creation as the first reason.

The second reason – vs. 14

The second argument has to do with man's fall into sin.

The Bible goes to the fall of man and says – do you realize that when Adam and Eve sinned, Adam did it with full knowledge?

He was not deceived at all.

What was he not deceived about?

He was not deceived about the consequences of that sin

In other words, Adam's eyes were wide open when he sinned.

But Eve, being deceived, was in the transgression

Eve was fully deceived.

The word here means that Eve was completely led away – she was fully deceived.

Genesis 3:13, *“And the LORD God said unto the woman, ‘What is this that thou hast done?’ And the woman said, ‘The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.’”*

She was right. He did beguile her.

What in the world does this have to do with women and their subjection to men in the assembly?

Listen carefully.

The Bible is saying—

★Adam did not sin because he was deceived. Adam sinned through the circumstances of submitting to the woman's leadership★

Genesis 3:1-7 chronicles the tragic account of what happened when Eve usurped the headship role

Adam was the follower – even though he had full knowledge

He submitted to the woman who was fully led astray in her thinking

And, the first time man did that, look at the consequence.

Because Adam rejected the God-given order, he listened to his wife, disobeyed God, and brought sin and death into the world.

The whole human race thus fell into depravity and judgment because man and woman violated their God-given positions.

Eve was not suited by nature to assume the position of ultimate responsibility.

When she stepped out from under the protection and leadership of Adam, she was highly vulnerable and fell.

And, of course, when Adam violated his leadership role and followed Eve, the perversion of God's order was complete.

The Fall resulted, then, not simply from disobedience to God's command, but from violating God's appointed roles for the sexes.

As the head of their relationship, Adam bore ultimate responsibility.

That is why the New Testament relates the Fall to Adam's sin, not Eve's (Rom. 5:12-21)

I Corinthians 15:21-22, "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

Look at the order of Creation and then the Fall – these are lessons for us.

Now, it gets a little more tangled.

Have you ever questioned what vs. 15 means?

What does that mean? That's a tough one.

Verse 15 is one of the top ten most difficult passages in the New Testament.

I do know this – vs. 15 is intended as a consolation to women.

They need a consolation prize—Amen!—after six passages on restoring the Biblical woman

In other words, in spite of the transgression of woman, that she overstepped her bounds, this is exactly what the word “transgression” in verse 14 means.

It means to step beyond what God has laid out as proper bounds.
In spite of that fact, there is a consolation for womankind.

What kind of consolation is he talking about? Vs. 15

Back in Genesis 3 – verse 15 – *proto evangelium* – the first mention of the Gospel
Obviously referring to the conflict that will be between the seed of the woman issuing ultimately in her seed – Jesus Christ and Satan

Vs. 16

Sorrow in childbearing

Husband rule over thee – in bondage to thy husband

I Timothy 2:15 – notwithstanding, the fact of vs. 14 – the consolation is she shall be saved in – literally, the childbearing – if she continues

Let me give you the major interpretations of this:

First, the woman receives grace for salvation by having children

We know that is not true when we look at the other scriptures dealing with salvation.

Salvation does not come to us by any work on our part.

It is always by faith through God’s grace alone.

Paul obviously does not intend to teach that women are eternally saved from the wages of sin **through the bearing of children.**

That would contradict the New Testament’s teaching that salvation is by grace through faith alone (Rom. 3:19-20).

Second, some people say – women will have spiritual satisfaction in life.

She will enjoy spiritual satisfaction, not through leading man, but by having children
– by occupying her regular place in the home.

Third view – which is the one I hold – that this childbearing refers to the birth of Christ.
That the seed of woman would eventually lead to the Messiah.

Eve sinned – now the whole human race is plugged into sin
But the Lord says – the seed of the woman

The promise of the Savior who would be “made of a woman”

Galatians 4:4a, *“But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman.”*

It was through a woman that the Savior came into the world.
Jesus had an earthly mother but He had no biological earthly father

Paul’s point is that while a woman may have led the race into sin, women have the
privilege of leading the race out of sin to Godliness—by raising up a Godly seed
and eventually the Christ Child.

This does not mean that God wants all women to bear children; some He doesn’t even
want married.

It was the sin of Eve that brought sin into the world.
Now every time a woman bears a child, she brings a *sinner* into the world
But Mary brought the Lord Jesus, the Savior into the world.

So how are women saved?

By childbearing—because Mary brought the Savior into the world.

Don’t ever say that woman brought sin into the world, unless you are prepared to add
that woman also brought the Savior into the world.

My friend, no *man* provided a Savior: a *woman* did.

However, each individual woman is saved by faith, the same as each man is saved by faith.

For women to reverse the blight that has befallen them in the Fall and fulfill their calling they need to raise a Godly seed.

To do that, they must **continue in faith and love**, where their salvation really rests.

And they must continue in **sanctity** (holiness) **with self-restraint** (the same word translated “discreetly” in verse 9).

In this passage we see how God has perfectly balanced the roles of the sexes.

Men are to be the leaders in the church.

Women may be highly gifted teachers and leaders, but those gifts are not to be exercised over men in the services of the church.

For the church to depart from this divine order is to perpetuate the disaster of the Fall.

When any part of His order is ignored or rejected, His church is weakened and He is dishonored.

Paul’s argument was not based on cultural standards but on two historic and foundational facts:

- (1) “Adam . . . was first created, and then Eve” and
- (2) “it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman”

When women usurp man’s God-ordained role, they inevitably fall into other unbiblical practices and delusions.

God has established the proper order and relationship of male-female roles in the church, and they are not to be transgressed for any reason.

For a woman to take on a man’s role because he has neglected it—merely compounds the problem.

When the church comes together as a body to worship God, His standards are clear:
the role of leadership is reserved for men.

Let us stand for closing invitation.

Salvation