

What's a Woman to Do?

The Debate About Women In Ministry- Part 1

HOW TO PROPERLY INTERPRET TEXT

- 1. 1 of 3 Pastoral Epistles (Letters) Paul addresses ISSUES SPECIFIC to the Church/Believers
- 2. God is a Culture-Crasher: The Kingdom of God comes in Existing Cultures (good w/bad)
- 3. The Church flourished in many different Cultures – not all had the same “Issues” - The Gospel did Not Create those cultures

This LAST POINT is FOUNDATIONAL:

To Understand Passage (Any) – Must Discover:

- What The Author Thought He Was Saying
- What The Recipient Thought He Was Reading
- All Within The Current Culture Of The Day

“The Inductive Bible Study Method”

Paul's Underlying Motivation for Instructions

The *Greatest Possible Effectiveness* of
the Gospel – within the current culture
– while staying within biblical
parameters, of course

1 Timothy 2:11 (KJV) “Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.”

1Cor. 14:33-35 NIV84 For God is not a God of disorder but of peace... (34) women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the Law says. (35) If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church.

“...women to learn in Silence”

- “*hesuchia*” (Gk.) – mostly translated: “quiet/ly”
- Defined: “descriptive of a one who stays home – does their own work – does not meddle in the affairs of others”
- - ALSO – “carries the connotation of an unruly crowd being “hushed”

“...women to learn in *Silence*”

- “*hesuchia*” (Gk.)
- 1Tim 2:11 CJB Let a woman learn *in peace*, fully submitted;
- 1 Tim 2:2 “we may lead a quiet and *peaceable* life

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

- HOW MANY “COMMANDS” HERE?

1. Not allow a woman to teach

2. Not allow a woman to “exercise authority over a man”

3. Remain silent (just dealt with this one!)

“Not Allow A Woman To Teach”

Ephesus

- Capital of Province of Asia – 3RD Largest City?
200k
- Financial trade center – many wealthy women of
“high status”
- Chief Center Worship of Grecian gods - #1 was
Artemis
- Temple – 1 of 7 wonders of the world

“...or exercise *authority* over a man,...

- Common Gk. word *exousia* – 103 times in NT - “the power of rule or government...; a sign of the husband’s authority over his wife; the sign of regal authority, a crown.” *legitimate* authority Mt. 28:18
- *authenteō* (Thayer): (1 time only) “one who with his own hands kills another or himself; one who acts on his own authority, autocratic; an absolute master; to govern, exercise dominion over one.”

“...or exercise *authority* over a man...”

- “*authenteo*”
- 1 Tim 2:12 KJV But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to *usurp authority* over the man, but to be in silence.
- “aggressive, domineering attitude, which is obviously unacceptable for men or women in the community of faith.”

1Tim. 6:1b “so that God's name and our teaching may not be slandered.”

- How We Live With One Another – Matters!
- How We Relate To Each Other – Reflects On God's Name
- Our Behavior Either Validates Or Slanders Teaching Of Christ

I Want My Life To Bring Glory To God
I Believe You Do Too!

The Moravians' Would Say:

“May the Lamb that was slain receive
the reward for His suffering.”