

2:13-15 Women in the Church 02
Series: 1 Timothy
Reading 1 Timothy 2:8-15 August 20th 2017

The last couple of weeks we have been looking at Paul's admonitions to women in the Church. Paul started by looking at their clothes. They weren't to dress in such a way that they were a distraction to the message of the Gospel. Their emphasis was to be on good works and the heart. This is a common theme in Scripture. The correct start for our behavior is always the heart, not the outward adorning of our person. This is something that we need now more than ever, for both men and women, as it is so easy for us to portray ourselves as what we want to be, instead of living a quiet and acceptable life in front of God who tests our hearts. From there, Paul moved into the behavior of women in the Church. This is something that our society is completely against, but it is taught in Scripture. Women were commanded to learn in quietness and forbidden from teaching or taking authority over a man. Last week we looked at the most common reasons given for violating this command, including a lack of education, cultural norms of the day, belief that this section is an opinion of Paul and is not scriptural, and difficulty understanding the reasons that Paul gives. Today we want to look at those reasons and while they are difficult to fully understand, there is no problem understanding the command and many of the reasons why. So let's dig into God's Word and see what He leads Paul to write.

- Principles and applications of that principle. Principles are for all people everywhere. Applications can be either individually defined, such as the liberty one believer has to eat meat while another struggles with it, or universally applied such as here, where God says to do this, because of these principles.
 - How do we know if we have the correct one?
 - Does God say it is clearly for us?
 - Is it supported by other scriptures? – Usually confirmed by other passages leaving us with no doubts, but with overwhelming evidence. Scripture is clear.
 - Confirmed in application in 1 Corinthians 14:33-34
 - (1Co 14:34-35) “³⁴ Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but *they are* to be submissive, as the law also says. ³⁵ And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church.” (edification of the Church)
 - Principle of head-ship of men and submission of women is confirmed.
 - Genesis 2 & 3; 1 Cor. 11 & 14; Eph. 5; 1 Peter 3
 - So we know the principle clearly and we can be sure of the application, even if we struggle to understand some of the reasons given.
 - 1st Reason: 1 Timothy 2:13 “For Adam was formed first, then Eve.”
 - Creation Model – First Mention Principle explains a lot of something. Basics...
 - When God was done everything was very **good**. It was just how God wanted it!
 - Christ uses this principle in Matthew 19 to talk about marriage and divorce. From the beginning it was not so!
 - Paul will use this model many times under the guidance of the Holy Spirit!
 - Romans talking about the first Adam and the last Adam.
 - In Corinthians talking about the headship of men in 1 Cor. 11.
 - Genesis 1:24-31 “²⁴ Then God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, *each* according to its kind; and it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that *it was good*. ²⁶ Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. ²⁷ So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of

God He created him; male and female He created them.²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.²⁹ And God said, See, I have given you every herb *that* yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.³⁰ Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which *there is* life, *I have given* every green herb for food; and it was so.³¹ Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”

- Notice that God is a God of order.
 - (1Co 14:33) “For God is not *the author* of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”
 - (1Co 14:40) “Let all things be done decently and in order.”
 - All of creation testifies to this.
 - He separated (divided) the light from the dark and the land from the water. He placed lights to rule the day and night. He set bounds for the nations...
- Genesis 2 is an expanded account of what happened, focusing on the creation of man and woman because they are the representatives of God here on earth. God’s chosen rulers. Man (mankind) was to rule over the earth.
 - Genesis 2:6-25 – Details of the creation of man and woman
 - Man was created first.
 - (Gen 2:7-8) “⁷ And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.⁸ The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.”
 - (Gen 2:15-18) “¹⁵ Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend and keep it.¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.¹⁸ And the LORD God said, *It is not good* that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.”
 - Work given
 - Law given
 - Problem identified
 - (Gen 2:19-20) “¹⁹ Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see *what he would call them*. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name.²⁰ So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.”
 - The authority was given to (male) man.
 - Genesis 2:21-25 “²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.²² Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.²³ 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.²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”
 - A proper help / mate for man.
 - She was a part of him. Not below him or above him, but near to his heart. A protection and support allowing him to function well.

- Pre-sin Adam's response.
 - She is a part of me, bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh.
 - His authority over her, he names her woman.
 - He doesn't use this authority to rule over her with dominion, but to care and nourish her as his own body.
 - God adds a therefore: They shall be one flesh! Marriage... (3 parts – Leaving (ceremony) – Joined (covenant) – Relationship (privileges, duties, and responsibilities of marriage).
 - Image of God: Oneness with diversity – Trinity (Father Son Spirit) Earthly representation (God, Man, Woman).
 - 1 Co. 11:3 “But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.”
 - Ephesians 5:23 “²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.”
 - Divine order given. Unity and diversity. Not worth, but order.
 - Ephesian 5:21-33 – Mutual Submission to one another.
 - Men are to submit by leading in a loving, building way, loving their wives as Christ loved the church, giving their lives if necessary.
 - Women are to submit with honor and respect as Church is subject to Christ.
- 2nd Reason: 1 Timothy 2:14 “And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.”
 - Much harder to understand completely.
 - Second half is clear – The woman Eve was deceived... Satan convinced her to doubt God's word and character. She might not have thought that, but that is what she did, and she bore the consequence for it.
 - Not me, so why should this have bearing over me? Because God said it does.
 - James 1:17-18 “¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. ¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”
 - Romans 11:32 “For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.”
 - Romans 5:12-15 “¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-- ¹³ (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.”
 - Ephesians 2:7 “that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”
 - We bear an outward and inward part of that curse! (So do men!)
 - Outward to show us that it is true and remind us of the pain of disobedience and sin.
 - Without excuse.
 - Women – Pain in childbirth and desire would be for their husband.

- (Gen 3:16) “To the woman He said: I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you.”
- (Gen 4:7) “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it.”
- Man – Ground cursed and ruler-ship (Abusive Dominion) over women.
 - Genesis 3:17-19 “¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat of it: Cursed *is* the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat *of* it All the days of your life. ¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. ¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you *are*, And to dust you shall return.”
- For the Christian, the closer we walk with God the less we see the problems of sin in our lives. – Ephesian 5:21-33 returns us to the ideal pattern. Christ and the Church.
 - Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?”
- 1 Half – Adam was not deceived!
 - 1st Possibility – Adam voluntarily ate knowing that it was the only way that His wife would be eligible for salvation.
 - This was pre-sin, but was still a part of the fall.
 - Yet it was disobedience to God and punished as such with no distinction of motives.
 - Looks too good to men, so suspect this reason.
 - 2nd option – Adam was given the fruit without knowing what it was.
 - Doesn’t seem right either as Adam will bear the full punishment for disobedience.
 - 3rd Possibility – The woman lead in the deception. Man followed her lead and tried it knowing that it was the forbidden fruit, but wanting to see if what she said was correct.
 - Equally to blame. Leadership would be affected by the curse.
- 1 Timothy 2:15 “Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.”
 - We know that this is not referring to physical salvation!
 - Eph 4:4-5 “⁴ *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism;*”
 - (Eph 2:8-9) “⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.”
 - She will find her physical and spiritual fulfillment in the family. Her teaching and influence and fullest expression of her gifts and ability. Proverbs 31 woman is married.
 - For singles as well – under the authority of God and the Church they will find the protection they need to function. Not as well as under a husband, but it is to be there protection as they age and don’t have a father to care for them.
 - Remember the context as well. In Rome women had no rights, not even those of citizenship, they were possessions.
 - Christ elevated them to image bearer of God. Accountable and able to stand for Him, but with a uniqueness and place / order given by Him.

2Co 13:14 “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit *be* with you all. Amen.”