

2:15 Saved through Childbirth  
Series: 1 Timothy  
Reading **1 Timothy 2:8-15** August 27<sup>th</sup> 2017

The last two weeks we have been working our way through Paul's instructions to Timothy regarding women. This is certainly a difficult passage. It goes against most of our mainstream culture today. Yet it is important to remember that the problems with this passage are not really with the instruction, but with the reasoning over why Paul gives the instruction. The first part was simple. Women were to dress modestly and simple so as to not be a distraction in the church. People were coming to the church to hear the message of the Gospel, not to be part of a social center. (**1 Tim. 3:15** – Pillar and support of the truth!) That principle has many applications... We are to keep the preaching of the word the highest priority in the church. We must guard it. Things come in, not just clothes, but church growth doctrines that make drawing people in the most important part. We forget that God has given us the blueprint for the church and we deviate from it to our own destruction.

The second part was an admonition for women to be silent in the church, not teaching or taking authority over a man--A simple command, yet one that is greatly disputed today. Is it a universal principle for all Christians or an opinion of Paul for Ephesus only? The answer is easy to see in the reasoning that Paul gives. First he points to the creation order, that Adam was created first and then Eve. This included Adam's authority as a naming agent and Eve being created for Adam. It is also supported in multiple places in the New Testament. In **1 Co. 14:34-35** where Paul is talking about the purpose of the gifts. They were given for the edification of the churches. Then He concludes that women were to be silent in the church. He equates this with them being under submission, so the principle of submission is linked again to the application of letting males lead in the churches. This principle is also affirmed in **1 Co. 11:3** and **Ephesian 5:23** where he states that the husband is head of the wife as Christ is head of the Church. This makes it impossible to switch as placing the wife as head, puts the church as head of Christ, or the wife as co-leader (equal in leadership) places the church as equal in leadership to Christ, both equally an abomination. **1 Peter 3:1-6** and **Colossians 3:18** also exhort women to submit to their husbands with **1 Peter** using Sarah and Abraham as an example of obedience. So the Bible presents a clear and consistent message on this subject.

- Review – God is Sovereign
  - Creation of Adam, then naming then Eve to fulfill a need.
  - Choosing of Abraham & Israel.
  - Choosing of Jacob over Esau.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Born to remember the Passover, then Levi for standing on the Lord's side.
    - **Genesis 49:5-7** <sup>65</sup> Simeon and Levi *are* brothers; Instruments of cruelty *are in* their dwelling place. <sup>6</sup> Let not my soul enter their council; Let not my honor be united to their assembly; For in their anger they slew a man, And in their self-will they hamstrung an ox. <sup>7</sup> Cursed *be* their anger, for *it is* fierce; And their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob And scatter them in Israel.”
      - **Genesis 34:25** (for the taking / rape of Dinah)
    - **Exodus 32:25-28** <sup>25</sup> Now when Moses saw that the people *were* unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to *their* shame among their enemies), <sup>26</sup> then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, Whoever *is* on the LORD'S side-- *come* to me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him. <sup>27</sup> And he said to them, Thus says the LORD God of Israel: Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor. <sup>28</sup> So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about three thousand men of the people fell that day.”
    - **Number 3, 8, and 18** – God gives Aaron, the Sons of Levi, for a help in the work of the tabernacle. This fulfills the curse of Jacob for Levi, yet turns the curse into a blessing.
      - **Deu. 21** – They become a tribe of judges and teachers of the Law throughout the tribes of Israel.

- **Joshua 19:1-9** The second lot came out for Simeon, for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families. And their inheritance was within the inheritance of the children of Judah.
- Leadership – A privilege, not a right!
  - Miriam – **Numbers 12:1-2** “<sup>1</sup> Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman. <sup>2</sup> So they said, Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also? And the LORD heard *it*.”
  - Korah – Genesis 16 Korah plus 250 leaders try to take leadership...
    - **Numbers 16:3** “They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, *You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?*”
- **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!
    - **Ephesians 2:8-9** “<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.”
    - **Ephesians 4:4-5** “<sup>4</sup> *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;* <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism;”
  - She will find her physical and spiritual fulfillment in the family. Her teaching and influence and fullest expression of her gifts and ability.
    - Women today view this verse as a curse, as a limitation, bondage, slavery.
    - Other examples:
      - **Psalms 16:11** “You will show me the path of life; In Your presence *is* fullness of joy; At Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.” – Drugs, money, power, fame, sex...
      - Child discipline
        - **(Pro 23:13-14)** “<sup>13</sup> Do not withhold correction from a child, For *if* you beat him with a rod, he will not die. <sup>14</sup> You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell.”
    - The Bible gives us God’s order, God’s plan for our lives. We have the choice to listen and walk with the wisdom of God in our lives, or to fight against Him.
  - The whole world is mixed up right now. They are talking about giving us freedom and yet they are bringing us into bondage. Not just to sin, but to ideas that injure us and chain us!
    - Transgender movement – wants to limit a man and a woman to narrow paths.
      - Do you have a man who is gentle, kind, and not aggressive – He might be created wrong, He might be meant to be a woman.
      - Do you have a strong woman, who has been gifted by God with intelligence and charisma? Maybe she should have been a man.
    - If not a man / woman – maybe they were born gay?
    - Instead of seeing the endless possibilities and the beauty of diversity within a sex, we are saying these things are wrong and can be fixed...
      - Yet a transgender person is 19 times more likely to commit suicide.
        - Williams Institute report. <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/AFSP-Williams-Suicide-Report-Final.pdf> Quoted by USA today and UCLA.
          - 4.6% in general population.
          - 10-20% among lesbian, homosexual, or bisexual community.
          - 46% of biologically men, 42% of biologically women, with 21% of cross dressers.

- One of the more conservative estimates. Based on actions, not struggles.
- A child without discipline is a terror to friends and family.
  - Instead of being a part of the family with jobs, joys, duties and responsibilities, He is at war with the world to get his own way, and is never happy.
- **Proverbs 31** Woman is married.
  - She runs and orders a home with employees and massive workloads.
  - She engages in business.
  - Diligence and artistry.
  - Joy in her marriage.
  - **Proverbs 31:25-29** “<sup>25</sup> Strength and honor *are* her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come. <sup>26</sup> She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue *is* the law of kindness. <sup>27</sup> She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness. <sup>28</sup> Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband *also*, and he praises her: <sup>29</sup> Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all.”
- 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.
  - Within that place there was scope for every woman with every skill.

A people we can either embrace God’s design and reap His blessings, or if we can choose to fight God’s design and end up under His curse.

**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.