

Did GOD Make Men Superior to Women?

Your mission should you choose to accept it, is to dare to read what is written below, because it just might change your beliefs....

I challenge you, men and women. **Yes, men, this is for you too!** Both need to be open to reexamine some long held traditional beliefs...let's examine them closely...are they really fact, or fiction? True or False? Where did we get these beliefs from? Religion? Tradition? Or the truth of GOD's WORD, JESUS and the HOLY BIBLE?

Knowing what the HOLY BIBLE says is not the same thing as knowing what the Bible means.....

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.....In **(I Samuel 16:7)** it says....*For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but **the Lord looks at the heart.***"

(Meaning the Lord see's our heart, (our thoughts, intentions) not the outside appearance - as in male or female, black or white, pretty or ugly or other outside appearances)

.....In **(Galatians 3:28)** "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, ***there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in CHRIST JESUS.***" (Meaning... in JESUS CHRIST no one has the upper hand based on these distinctions, **no one is superior or inferior to the other**).

So what happened?... Why has the greatest majority of Religious Institutions taken a different path, one of hierarchy, stereotypes and domination? Ask yourself, does this attitude really seem GODLY or HOLY? Ask yourself.....should I rule over you, or should you rule over me, or who should be the greatest? Is that the message JESUS came to proclaim? Or was that the message of the scribes and pharisees which he railed against?

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Some of the biggest problems with the way the Man Made Organizations make in trying to interpret the scriptures concerning women are:

- (1) Totally omitting the historical background of the passages.
- (2) Understanding that Paul was addressing certain problems and issues in Corinth & Ephesus which was specific to them.....it was not addressed to all women everywhere.
- (3) Exposing the true meaning of the Greek & Hebrew words used in the Bible....verses modern understanding of the words today (That! Is a big one to understand)
- (4) Lastly....Failure to reconcile the whole word of GOD (both Old and New Testaments without contradiction).

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Knowing what was happening in Ephesus & Corinth at that time is key to understanding what Paul really meant.

BACKGROUND ON EPHEBUS

Understanding the religion of Artemis & Diana is important in understanding the words Paul wrote for the women there.

The Artemis/Diana cult was the primary religious force in Ephesus. Diana's Ephesian temple was one of the seven wonders of the world at that time. The economic, religious, and social culture of the city was built almost entirely around several cults to female deities, the biggest of which being Artemis (to the Greeks) (and the Egyptian goddess Diana to the Romans).

Artemis worshiped in Greece was the goddess of hunting, but, in Asia Minor, during the Roman times, she was identified with the mother-goddess Cybele (Sil-bil-lay), a sensuous nature goddess. In Syria and Asia Minor she was known as the goddesses of love and in Palestine under the name Ashtoreth.

Artemis & Diana were seen as fertility goddesses, and therefore sexual rituals were deified which means Diana's followers worshiped their "so called God" with sex rituals. They believed the courtesan (temple prostitutes) imparted "knowledge" to men through the sex act. It was thought that through these sexual rituals and the sexual gaze drawn by their lavish and risqué clothing, they could bestow upon men their own secret "divine knowledge" from Diana their god. The office of temple courtesan (prostitute), was considered commendable, they were not looked down upon, they were exalted. The worship of Diana was not confined to Ephesus but was prevalent in nearly all the cities of Asia, in many places on the Greek mainland, in the south of Gaul, Syria, and in Rome itself. She was "worshipped throughout the province of Asia." Confirmation of this was found in the book of Acts which talks about how ingrained this belief was to the fabric of Ephesians society. **(Acts 19:24-35)-You can read the whole chapter of Acts 19, which gives more background)** Artemis & Diana taught female superiority and dominance; women were the religious leaders in the city, they taught that woman was created before man. As Christian and pagan beliefs intermingled, they taught that Eve was created FIRST, and Adam received life from her. Eve was called the "Illuminator". Eve was exalted as the "bringer of life" to Adam, hence her name, "the mother of all living." When she ate of the tree of knowledge she allegedly received the hidden knowledge God had kept from them.

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BACKGROUND ON CORINTH:

Corinth was very similar to Ephesus, it was the largest territory in Greece, it was the central seat of Roman government. The temple was dedicated to the worship of Aphrodite, the pagan goddess of love. All around Corinth, pagan worship was rampant. Corinth was a cesspool of religious prostitution, just like Ephesus. The way that they worshiped, heard and honored their pagan gods was through (perverted sex with temple prostitutes... the same way it was at Ephesus), she was the conduit for the man to hear from their pagan god and she would oracle or divine to them; her body was seen as a mediator type; they were seen as a pathway to blessings from the gods. At the temple they had more than 1,000 temple-prostitutes, (however, they were looked upon as higher-class citizens, (why - because they could tell you what their pagan god said supposedly) they were well educated, richly dressed, articulate, heavily painted,

schooled in oratory skills and rhetoric, hence they had social standing and cultural status. The pagan temple prostitutes, heavily populated Corinth, they were admired and respected to share their thoughts and opinions regarding spirituality or theology, especially in the presence of men. Specifically to Corinth, the temple prostitutes already formed an entire cultural acceptance of women who shared “enlightened” opinions and beliefs regarding spirituality and theology.

In Paul’s day, unlike today it wasn’t at all abnormal for a person to cherry pick what he or she liked to hear from several religions and mesh them all together. New converts (especially the women of Ephesus & Corinth) would find ways to combine their new faith with the old, hence, women would go into a trance like state, where they would moan or convulse and even go into hysterics. Hysterical shouting and wailing of women would carry over into group meetings or places where JESUS was being discussed’. (They were trying to do the same thing as before). When Christianity was introduced at Ephesus these same women embraced the Messiah’s story as truth, but they also made a smooth transition into positions of spiritual authority as the mediators of the Savior JESUS CHRIST while they maintained belief in the final authority of Artemis/Diana.

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What were some of these uniquely “Christian flavored” /Artemis / Diana beliefs?

- First, as women were the source of life to men, it was taught that *Eve* came first, and then *she* gave life to Adam. They called Eve “the illuminator”, believing she actually *liberated* the world by eating the fruit and giving humanity the secret “knowledge” (Greek, *gnosis*) of life and death.
- They taught that Adam was created through Eve’s rib - (we will discuss the rib later) not the other way around, and that enlightenment came through these pagan entities.
- Artemis/Diana was also the goddess of the hunt (through archery) wilderness, forests, hills, animals, and the moon.
- Also, as part of the rejection of the material world, and in a certain twist on the Artemis beliefs, they taught that a unique salvation was offered to those women that rejected childbirth, opting instead for dedication to pursuing higher “divine knowledge”.
- It was believed that she (Diana) could both bring and relieve disease in women; she (Diana) could control animals with her blessing; she was able to create all life without the need for a male’s involvement and she served to protect little girls.
- Also, Artemis/Diana was a fertility goddess, whose name means “protector”. It was believed that she was the deity that could be given credit for keeping women “safe” through childbirth. It was a Female cult - women priests were in charge, women came first, then came men. (So now you can see how Paul needed to give instruction to these newly formed churches of JESUS to Ephesus & Corinth in particular).

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Now with this background information we can go to some of the scriptures that religious institutions/man made organizations have twisted and tried to apply to all women everywhere and at all times....

Go to (1 Corinthians 1:2) To the Church (Greek word - Ekklesia, which means “out of”, “out from” or “from” - basically meaning “those called out from”, we will discuss this at a later time in more detail, so as not to take away from the current subject matter) of GOD which is at Corinth. The letter is addressed to the (ekklesia - the called out from GOD) which is at Corinth.

I CORINTHIANS 7:1

Now concerning the things whereof you “wrote to me”....

(From the scriptures.... I Corinthians 7:1 - Paul is responding to a letter the Corinthians wrote to him).

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Now we go to the scriptures about women in question...

Go to **Chapter 11:1-16** - Read in it's entirety until 16

1 CORINTHIANS 11:16 - I want to draw your attention to“we have no such custom, neither the churches (Ekklesia) of GOD”.

We have Paul's letter, but we don't have the Corinthian's letter to Paul. So what Paul just did is..... he is restating the questions they had, and saying - we have no such customs, neither the churches (ekklesia) of GOD. That goes for the head covering (scarf / hat, etc that women wear in the buildings (what some call church-now/religious institutions) .etc...

WHAT WERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE EPISTLE / LETTER?

After Paul established the (Ekklesia) at Corinth, word reached him in Ephesus that the saints were squabbling and dividing. Arguments for how a gathering/meeting should be conducted, believers were engaging in sexual perversion and at times resulting in incest, they were taking each other to court and allowing pagans to make legal rulings upon matters that were spiritual in nature, immoral conduct, doctrinal errors, some saying their way was the right way, they were having disruptions during gatherings resulting into chaos, there was a lot going on there.

Now we are going to backtrack a little, because many people still don't get what just happened there....Paul said in (I Corinthians 11:16 - we have no such custom” but some people still don't get it...so we are going to break it down little by little and go into it a little deeper.....

I Corinthians 11:5 (NKJV)

But every woman who prays or **PROPHECIES** with her head uncovered dishonors her head (**PROPHECY** - is speaking right?) So here Paul is openly acknowledging that women are allowed to speak in church-which in greek means Ekklesia) By saying when they pray or prophesy - the issue is **HOW TO PRAY & PROPHECY, NOT IF THEY CAN OR NOT**. Also prophesy - comes from the greek word **PROPHETESS** (Pro-phet-euo) which means “teach, refute, reprove, admonish (correct, reprimand) or comfort others. So if women are used of GOD in Prophecy, they are also “teaching, refuting, reproofing, or correcting others right? Right. (Also notice, it doesn't say that the women were only prophesying to women, it was men & women they were prophesying to). Paul was correcting the way you are supposed to prophecy (man or woman) ...not if a woman could speak or not. He said in (I Corinthians 14:40)let all things be done decently and in order...everything.

We are also going to address head coverings, which many woman still do today in religious institutions when they go to a building....what they call Church....they feel they should where a hat or covering on their head, so lets discuss that....

HEAD COVERINGS: (Is also a cultural thing)

In the Greek / Roman culture - understanding the association between hair and fertility is key. To a modern reader, the concept of hair and fertility being related in any way is foreign, however, it is heavily documented throughout this era, (I have included a link below). They believed that the long hair of adult females was the sexual equivalent of female genitalia, and of course this "science" seems crazy today, and it is, in light of what we know about hair now, but the world around Paul believed this medical teaching, and as a result, a woman with an uncovered head was in a sense making the statement in that culture and time, that it didn't matter to her if she wandered about displaying her intimacy (it would be like displaying your private parts). What Paul and his fellow early converts to JESUS accepted is irrelevant, we are talking about their culture in Ephesus & Corinth. For a woman to go into a place of worship and pray or prophesy with her head uncovered was to blatantly associate herself with the behaviors of temple prostitutes and common pagan practices. Source - <https://www.sbl-site.org/publications/article.aspx?ArticleId=271> (Hippocrates, Aristotle, to name a few)

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A little bit more about the "head" while we are on the subject....

We will go back a little bit also to **1 Corinthians 11:3** which says:

But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is GOD.

"The husband is the head of the wife" has been pulled out, alienated from the rest of the dialogue, leaving many Christians perfectly comfortable defining "headship" for themselves. They've read those eight little words as if they were a complete sentence, a whole thought, when nothing could be further from the truth. It's only when we allow Paul to finish his sentence that we discover GOD's definition of headship.

THE GREEK WORD *KEPHALE* ("HEAD") INDICATES THAT THIS IS NOT ABOUT RULERSHIP

The meaning of this passage has been distorted because of the assumption that *kephale* means "ruler," "leader," or "boss" in the same way that the English word "head" can carry this figurative meaning today. We know now.... that this assumption is wrong. Unbiased research reveals that if Paul wanted to convey the idea of "authority," he would have chosen the greek word *archon*. This word, *archon* conveys the idea of authority, rulership, or leadership.

When we recognize the Greek meaning of *kephale* as a source or origin, as Paul explains in verses 8 and 12, **then verse 3 does not seem to teach a chain of command.** Paul's word order also shows he was not thinking of chain of command: Christ, head of man; man, head of woman; GOD, head of CHRIST. Those who make it a chain of command must rearrange Paul's words. In fact, Paul seems to go out of his way to show that he was not assigning authority to males when he said, **"For as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from GOD."** (1 Cor 11:12) - **If it was an chain of command, he would not be at the bottom....right???**

It requires a great deal of humility to admit we've been wrong. But to concede that "head" means "source/origin" in regards to Christ and "all men," and "source/origin" when it comes to Father and Son, and yet *passionately insist* that it somehow means "authority/leader" in regards to men and women is downright ridiculous. This would require an impossible-to-defend leap of faith and break every rule of education, grammar and common sense!

Also, the idea that 1 Corinthians 11:3 teaches that man is the boss is incorrect and harmful. It does not harmonize with Biblical teaching as a whole. Nor is it true to the literary or cultural contexts in which it was written. As with all error, it has caused untold damage, in this case, to individuals and to True followers of JESUS in marriage. Further, it quenches the gifts and abilities of women by telling them that they must always fill a subservient role. And it puts ungodly pressure on men by demanding that they function in areas for which GOD may not have gifted them. Also, studies show that this model has contributed to rampant domestic abuse in the Church. **So, WHO's THE BOSS? For a truly successful marriage, there can be only one - the LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

Let's also talk about another key scripture that religious institutions like to use for hierarchy and rulership.

Ephesians 5:22-24 (which is very similar to the other scripture we just read)

(22)Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. (23) For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. (24) Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

We often portray marriage as a hierarchy, with Husbands on the throne and wives at the footstool, and we use Scripture to justify this view: "Wives...submit to your husbands as you do to the Lord" (Eph. 5:22). We assume this verse means women have no say in family matters or that their opinion is second-rate. In extreme cases, women have been told to submit to abuse in order to honor male headship. But this is not only dangerous but not correct. Again, the "wives submit", has been highlighted, pulled out, and distorted with our English understanding and interpretation and we are back to the "male headship idea." But upon further inspection....let me ask a question.... Why does no one pull out the scripture right before this one...Ephesians 5:21 It says Submitting yourselves' one to another in the fear of GOD. (Sounds pretty mutual to me)

Also did you know that in Ephesians Paul addresses husbands and wives separately; and in each instance, he gives exactly the same responsibility and "authority" to each. There is perfect mutuality throughout the chapter. Neither is to exercise authority over the other. In fact, Paul alternates between men and women twelve different times in this passage; and, "In every case there is complete mutuality between the two sexes. (If you want you can read Ephesians from 5:20-33). How did we get such a distorted understanding of this verse of "wives submit"? because we allowed it to be taken out of context, and quoted out of context, we believed a pastor or preacher's interpretation as fact instead of the Bible and studying it for ourselves)

Have you ever heard someone say, I was quoted out of context? That's not what I meant, and that's not what I said! Well, that's what happens when we pick one verse out and not read the surrounding verses that go along with that verse. If we read everything in context along with knowing what submit truly means, we get the true understanding of what Paul was saying and meaning.

Now we are going to go to another verse.

I CORINTHIANS 14:34-35

Let your women keep silence in the (Church - Ekklesia) for it is not permitted unto them to speak (Greek word - Laleo - meaning present tense, not forever, only in that certain instance); but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the **LAW**.

Well, that wouldn't make since for the women to keep silence because in (**I Corinthians 11:5**) as we stated before it says- "But every woman that prays or prophesies" Paul talks about how a woman should pray or prophesy - (he's telling you how a woman is to speak- not if she could speak - so that is not keeping silent) It is again emphasizing (I Corinthians 14:40)let all things be done decently and in order) **Now getting back to the last portion of the last verse of I Corinthians 14:34 - So saith the law.....so what law are we talking about?** Some refer to **I Timothy 2:11** - Which says let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But since I Timothy was written after 1 Corinthians as historical evidence shows, this reference of law could not have anything to do with **1 Timothy 2:11**.

Also I would like to highlight - (Sometimes that note is written in the notes of bibles-but is not correct, be aware that notes, or commentaries in the Bible are not the word of GOD, they are the words of men which is different than the word of GOD-but we will get into that another time, so we don't get off subject). So getting back to the last statement in that verse....(so saith the law)...Was it the mosaic law they were talking about? (meaning Moses' law) - nope, no such law. Was it Corinth law? No, the women were able to speak freely in Corinth, (as we learned) that only leaves man's law - meaning customs of man. What man's law silences women? The talmud - it says a women's speech is shameful. Do you know what the Talmud is? **In short summary...it says disgusting things about JESUS, Gentiles, Women and more, it's a book that jews (Revelation 2:9 & Revelation 3:9 - those that say they are jews and are not) believe in and go by, their rule book the Talmud, not the first 5 books of the Bible as claimed. In other words (I can't even repeat what it says...it's so disgusting). But again, to stay on topic; back to our discussion....**

Also, if women are to keep silence then what do we make of Joel 2:28 - "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; (key word - all flesh) and your sons and your daughters (key word daughters) shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:"

Says plainly right there that your **daughters shall prophesy**, so how can they keep silent and prophesy at the same time? Answer...They can't.

Then the verse is repeated again in Acts 2:17 (so it must be pretty important) - "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith GOD, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your **daughters shall prophesy**, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:"

Was daughters prophesying only reserved for the last days?or has it always been? Lets see what the old testament says...

MIRIAM - (Moses' sister) Exodus 15:20 it says... **Then Miriam the prophetess**, (key word - prophetess) the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.... So we can see that women were also prophets or they were called prophetess since the time of the old testament.

HULDAH - **2 Kings 22:14** - So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto **Huldah the prophetess**. & again noting that Huldah was a prophetess 2 Chronicles 34:22 -....**Huldah the prophetess...**

WIFE OF ISAIAH - Isaiah 8:3 - And I went unto **the prophetess**; and she conceived, and bare a son.

ANNA - Luke 2:36-37 -And there was one **Anna, a prophetess**, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; (37) And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but **served GOD with fastings and prayers night and day**.

FOUR VIRGIN DAUGHTERS OF PHILIP - Acts 21:8-9 - 8 And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.
9 And the same man had **four daughters, virgins, which did prophecy**.

So we can clearly see that women did prophecy and were used and are used of GOD as well as men were. Again, you cannot prophecy and keep silent at the same time. The bible has to have continuity and harmony throughout, proving once again these scriptures on silence were for those particular instances to that particular group at that particular time.

Now that we have established that....lets go to the second part of the scripture...

I CORINTHIANS 14:35 (Second part of the scripture) and if they will learn any thing, let them ask their Husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak (greek - Laleol - again means present tense, not forever) in the church (Ekklesia)

The main point again...was disruption, don't speak out of order) - **I CORINTHIANS 14:40** - Which says....Let everything be done decently and in order. Now we're going to go over to Timothy:

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Now lets go to Timothy...

Book of Timothy Backdrop - On an immediate level, the audience of this letter is only to one man: (Timothy) described by Paul as "my own son in the faith". (**I Timothy 1:2**) By extension of where this advice would be taken and how it would be implemented, however, the audience could be seen as the (Ekklesia) members in **Ephesus**. Timothy (was a Greek) and was left in charge of the (Ekklesia) in Ephesus that Paul had launched during his second missionary trip; Timothy had traveled with Paul on this journey (**Acts 16:1**) and was in Paul's presence near the end of his first roman imprisonment (**Philippians 2:19-24**). Timothy's initial exposure to faith in GOD came from his mother and grandmother (Eunice & Lois - two women) according to **2 Timothy 1:5**. Just making a note two women (Eunice & Lois who taught a man)

I TIMOTHY 2:9-15

9) In like manner also, (referring to instructions on how to pray following - **1 Timothy 2:8**) - that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety: not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array. (**Braided hair definitely is a cultural issue - again the prostitute temple women used to weave gold into their braided hair at that time to advertise who they were - prostitutes; hence, why Paul said - don't do that**).

10) But, (which becomes women professing **GODLINESS** with good works) - Paul is trying to stress how you are supposed to act in modesty, (not trying to attract attention of **surrounding men**) Another similar scripture - **1 Peter 3:3-4** Whose adorning let it not be that outward *adorning* of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, (meaning advertising who you are - braided hair with gold, like the temple prostitutes) or of putting on of apparel; (**if he meant never where gold or never braid your hair he would also mean by this scripture....never where clothes - clearly he wasn't telling you to not where clothes**) But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of **GOD** of great price. (Put importance on who you are...on the inside (the hidden man of the heart, not the outside, what you see with your eyes)

11) Let the woman learn in **silence** (**Greek word Hesuchia means quietness, not silence**) with all subjection. Didn't say women (plural) said woman (singular) (**At the time of the newly formed (Ekklesia) some women would have just been coming out of the mystery cult religions where moaning, wailing, and hysterical shouting (as noted in the history we went over at the beginning (referring to Ephesus & Corinth) as well as other behaviors were the norm) Once converted these same women would have taken their pagan outbursts into their gatherings disrupting everyone, hence why Paul said what he said to the ekklesia of Ephesus.**

Also in I Timothy 2:2 - For kings, and for ALL (Key word - ALL) that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all GODLINESS and honesty.

12) But I suffer not **A WOMAN** to **TEACH**, nor to **USURP** authority over the man but to be in silence. (It would appear that quietness is to be a quality of all the saints).

Some people may say..... well...why didn't Paul, in his letter, just say that he supported women leaders of the ekklesia, and then give a full explanation as to what circumstances might require otherwise? Simply because he didn't feel that he had to (it was understood). Timothy, as well as the other leaders in Ephesus, already knew how Paul felt on the issue. Priscilla (a woman) had been their Teacher along with her husband Aquilla, both instructor figures in the beginning, before Timothy)

Getting back to the next scripture.....

Again, **A woman** - he had a specific woman in mind (not all women everywhere and at all times. In fact this letter isn't even for the entire church/ekklesia. It is a letter to Timothy dealing with his specific issues (it was regarding a specific woman teaching a false doctrine) **Teach** - The first use of teach (greek - didaskein (dadaseen) in one of these scriptures means a command "not to teach another doctrine or a wrong doctrine nor to become preoccupied with myths - as in (I Timothy 1:3-4 - Teach no other doctrine, neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than **GODLY** edifying which is in faith, so do...

What they were doing was teaching other doctrines - Diana theology. If we were to understand the use of didaskein (dadaseen) as a prohibition against all women instructing men in any manner, we would find difficulties with other scriptures such as **Titus 2:3** that says the older women should be teachers of what is excellent - the exact scripture - "The aged women likewise; that they be in behavior as becomes holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine: **teachers of good things**, that they may teach the **young women** to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children. (while their instruction certainly was to include young women (Titus 2:4) it was not necessarily limited only to women. See **2 Timothy 1:5** - When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in you, **which dwelled first in your** grandmother Lois, and your mother Eunice: and I am persuaded that in you also. (Timothy was taught by his Mother (Eunice) & Grandmother (Lois) - See **2 Timothy 3:14:15** - Continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy scriptures. (It was his mother (Eunice) and grandmother (Lois) who had taught Timothy the Scriptures). Also let's not forget Deborah which was a judge and prophet who led the children of Israel into battle (which were men) and trusted GOD for a great victory. Thanks to her leadership, Israel enjoyed peace for 40 years.

Also, **Colossians 3:16** - Let the word of (JESUS) Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom: **TEACHING and admonishing ONE ANOTHER (Key Word - One Another)** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. **Note: TEACHING ONE ANOTHER not only a man teaching women, but women teaching man (one another)**

Also, (**I Corinthians 14:31**) For you may **ALL** (Key Word - ALL) prophesy one by one, that **ALL** may learn, and **ALL** may be comforted. (Key Word - ALL) It becomes evident that a number of scriptures support the concept of women sharing instruction with men as well and vice versa. **It's the type of specific teaching (false doctrines) that is prohibited, rather than all teaching of any kind.**

Now lets get back to the word - Usurp...

USURP - In greek - authentein - means absolute power in a destructive manner, describing the activity of a person who acts for his or her own advantage apart from any consideration of the needs or interests of anyone else. The following verses in 1 Timothy regarding the creation order are perfectly aligned, because those prostitute temple women are not supposed to dominate men.

USURP - We don't take authority over anyone, ever. WOMEN & MEN ARE TO RULE ALONGSIDE EACH OTHER IN MUTUAL UNITY. It is not the woman or the man that has authority it is the word of GOD, LORD JESUS and the HOLY SPIRIT.

13) For Adam was first formed, then Eve. **That's where you get for Adam was first formed, then Eve - Paul was correcting Artismas Diana theology and what they believed, that Diana created Eve and Adam was taken from her rib.-** (We will go over rib in a little)

14) And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. **Think about this....Isn't it a contradiction to tell a woman that when she comes to faith in JESUS, her personal sins are forgiven but she must continue to be punished for the sin of Eve? It puts a terrible burden of guilt and shame upon half of those redeemed from all sin.**

In (1 John 1:9) it says... If we confess our sins, He (JESUS) is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. All means **ALL** sin. Also, both old and new testaments declare that each person must answer for her or his own sin (**Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10** - both say - we must all appear before the judgment seat of JESUS CHRIST) Also, **Ezek 18:17-20** a son shall not share a Father's guilt, or a father his son's (mean's woman's also).

If Paul was forgiven for what he did ignorantly in unbelief and thereafter was given a ministry, why would the same forgiveness and ministry be denied to women?

Romans 5:14 - Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of **Adam's transgression**, who is the figure of Him that was to come.

(If we wanted to get nit picky....it says **death reigned from Adam** not Eve and also said **Adam's transgression**), but we are not here to point out or accuse, or blame either one over the other, they were both equally responsible, it's just that sometimes Adam isn't held as equally responsible or accountable as Eve, so that's just to level the playing field, and show that they were equally responsible.

15) Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

(Paul again, was correcting Artimus / Diana Theology, Diana was a fertility goddess, whose name means "protector". It was believed that she was the deity that could be given credit for keeping women "safe" through childbirth).

Paul in other words, was saying don't look to Diana to be your protector in childbirth, you don't need to go to Artimus for that, put your faith and hope in JESUS as your protector and he will take care of you.

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We went briefly over... Titus 2:3-5, which went over how women are able to teach not only to women but also to men as well, but we need to bring up Titus 2:5 because some people will say...yeah...but in Titus 2:5 - It says...to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, **obedient to their own husbands**, that the word of GOD be not blasphemed. (The word that will be pulled out, will be "**obedient to their own husbands**" and they will say....see, women are supposed to be obedient.

So what does the greek word "obedient or obey" mean? The word *Obey (peitho)* means to be **persuaded**. The obedience suggested is not by submission to authority, but resulting from persuasion.

Every True Believer first allegiance must be to GOD. We will not stand before our spouses on the Day of Judgment nor give account to them for the deeds done in our body. It is to GOD we will answer to. It is GOD we must obey. To place the wishes of a husband or for that matter a wife above the wishes of GOD is idolatry.

Case in point... **Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira**, also sold a piece of property. With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 5:1,2) Fatally, his wife, Sapphira, complied with her husband's ungodly lead. Wives Know This! YOU are not to comply with your husband's ungodly plans and directives - in her case it was **lying**. What does Revelation 21:8 say..."But the "fearful and unbelieving and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and **ALL LIARS**, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

In Acts 5:29 it says....Then Peter and the **other apostles** answered and said, **We ought to obey GOD rather than men.**

Other examples are Abigail (who was the wife of Naval) she did not ask for her husband's approval while meeting David and there are many other examples which we will discuss later. (I Samuel 25:19)

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OTHER SUBJECTS AND QUESTIONS:

The Curse placed on Eve - does the blood of JESUS atone for all sins or everything except the curse placed on Eve? (We've discussed that a little, but let's look into that even a little further....

"And GOD blessed **them**; and GOD said to **them**, (KEY WORD - THEM) "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, and **subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**" Genesis 1:28 This first man and first woman had a true partnership in marriage, walking in equality, love and mutual respect, just as GOD had designed. **And both of them were expected to rule and subdue the earth, just as He had commanded. Why should we believe that the precious blood of JESUS is powerful enough to save our souls, heal our bodies, redeem us from a life of poverty...but too weak and ineffectual to restore women to their rightful place of equality with men?** Of course nothing could be further from the truth. Either the blood of JESUS covers all sin, or it doesn't.

We have to conclude by the evidence...That GOD has given women the same rights and responsibilities that He's placed upon men.....that is evident in his word and by what we've discovered. So where have we gotten this idea about Women being less than a man? Answer..... Religious Institutions and seminaries that have taught the Pastors, Teachers, Preachers, and Evangelists gender prejudice. And think about this, would you want to be held accountable to GOD by actively subverting and suppressing the call of GOD in the life of a person, just because she is a woman? I wouldn't want to answer to GOD for that? Would you?

Was the woman created for servitude to the man?

Genesis 2:18 - And the Lord GOD said, it is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him a **help meet** for him.

In Hebrew the two words that "help meet" are derived from are the words "ezer" and the word 'k'enegdo"

It is used in the Bible as a designation for someone who rescues or saves from difficult situations rather than for a **subordinate assistant**, which the word suggests in English. Nineteen of the twenty-one usages in the O.T. concern GOD as help or helper, so would you say he is subordinate to us? I don't think so....

After Eve's creation, GOD did not tell her: "You are Adam's helper; I command you to serve him well." She was not created for servitude; she was fashioned to be a **co-laborer** with Adam so that they might rule together over creation as GOD commissioned them to do (see Gen. 1:28).

The Hebrew word, **ezer** occurs 21 times in the Hebrew Bible. In eight of these instances the word means “savior”. These examples are easy to identify because they are associated with other expressions of deliverance or saving. Elsewhere in the Bible, the root **ezer** means “strength.... the word is most frequently used to describe how GOD is an ezer to man.

True power comes when men and women understand that they have been blessed with different gifts, abilities and truly work together as equal partners to help each other be successful. Men and women are supposed to work together in the name of the LORD JESUS, FATHER GOD and the HOLY SPIRIT and it is when they are united, body, soul and mind, that GOD’s work moves forth. We are nothing without each other and nothing without JESUS THE CHRIST.

After generations of hearing - and preaching - that GOD’s way is for women to be “under” men in ministry, marriage and other important matters of life, it takes a real paradigm shift to believe anything different.

Men and women are made equal in GOD’s image - (Genesis 1:27) So GOD created man in His own image, in the image of GOD created He him; male and female created He them. **He gave them dominion over everything, not dominion over each other.

Rib - Was Eve made from a rib of Adam?

In Genesis 2:21-23 - And the Lord GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the Lord GOD had taken from man, made He a woman, and brought her to the man, 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.

The Hebrew word that is translated as rib (צלע / tsela) **Strong’s #6763** does not mean “rib” it is translated as side, corner, chamber or flank, but not rib. The tradition of mistranslating the Hebrew word *tsela* goes back to the Catholic Vulgate (Latin) version of the Bible. All the English versions of the Bible written during the Protestant Reformation took their cues from the Catholic Vulgate and translated the Latin word rather than the Hebrew word (this also includes the King James Version). So did you get that? They translated the Latin word rather than the Hebrew word. In all of these cases, *tsela* is referring to an entire side. Unfortunately, tradition is difficult to overcome. Since the early versions of the English Bible erroneously mistranslated *tsela* as “rib” (and still do), it is difficult to get people to accept the correct translation.

The Hebrew term “בנה / banh” means: to build or fashion. The term banah is only used with Eve and not with Adam. Genesis 2:7 states, “Then the LORD GOD formed (יצר / yer) the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.” The Hebrew term *ysr* means to shape or form. GOD is depicted as a master craftsman, shaping and forming dust into a human being, much like a potter shaping and forming clay into a bowl.

Are Women Inferior?

Note how both Adam and Eve were “formed” from existing material. (One was not superior to the other, neither was one inferior to the other) Again in Genesis 1:26 - And GOD said, let Us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them (key word -

them) have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle. Note: He gave them dominion over everything, not dominion over each other.

Kephale also means "source." This is important because it teaches the Ephesians that women were created from the same substance as men. It refutes the pagan idea that women were made of an inferior substance between that of man and animal. Paul, therefore, undermines this pagan notion by referring to the man as the *kephale* ("source") of the woman in creation and exhorts husbands to love their wives as their own bodies

Lastly, Adam, knowing how the woman was formed, said, This is flesh of my flesh, and bone of my bone." Had Eve been created from the rib alone, Adam would only have been able to say that she was "bone of his bone." Therefore, GOD refers to the two of them in Genesis 2:24 as being "one flesh," not "one bone," or "one rib."

Surely women are supposed to obey and be subservient to man, aren't they?

I PETER 3:6:

Even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord.... She used the word, "lord" when she had been informed that she would bear a son, Isaac, from her own body. She did not use the word to convey subservience, but it is used in respect to her husband. Historians report that the term as actually one of endearment as in "honey" It did not mean rulership.

Keep in mind that the scriptures also say in Genesis 21:12, that In all that Sarah has said to you, (speaking to Abraham) hearken to her voice. GOD honored Sarah's instructions and He ordered Abraham to obey her), showing mutual respect and submission.

I Peter 3:7 reinforces his point of mutual submission:

Likewise, you Husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered.

Meaning..You show consideration to your wives in your life together, paying honor to the woman as the "weaker vessel, since they too are also heirs of the gracious gift of life - so that nothing may hinder your prayers." The term "weaker vessel" is a cultural term; not meaning weaker spiritually.... but physically. Also, keep in mind that this is very important, because prayers can be hindered if we are not doing this...

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Doesn't GOD speak to the man first, then the man speaks to the woman? Isn't the man the "recipient" or priest over his family?

Where do we get that idea? Again, the answer....sermon's preached in religious institutions, (man's interpretation of scripture, not GOD's) Search your concordance, scripture never describes men as "priests of the home." This man-made concept was popularized in religious institutions in the last century.

You will hear sermons preached about Abraham hearing from GOD, then he told Sarah what the LORD said, (which is one example), but for some reason....there are not any sermons preached about Samson's mother where GOD gave her instructions (the LORD's plan's) to raise up another judge over Israel, including all that was to be expected of her as she raised Samson, her Son, ever heard of that sermon?

Of course not... Well it's in Judges 13:3-10 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, (Samson's Mother) and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son. (4) Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing: (5) For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto GOD from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

(6) Then the woman (Samson's Mother) came and **told her husband, (key word - told her husband)** saying, A man of GOD came unto me, and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel of GOD, very terrible: but I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his name: (7) But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to GOD from the womb to the day of his death. (8) Then Manoah (Samson's Dad) intreated the LORD, and said, O my LORD, let the man of GOD which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born. (9) And GOD hearkened to the voice of Manoah; and the **angel of GOD came again unto the woman as she sat in the field: but Manoah her husband was not with her.** (10) **And the woman made haste, and ran, and shewed her husband, and said unto him, Behold, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the other day.**

(This was done even though we know that there was a husband in the picture whom GOD could have chosen to instruct first.

Then there is Mary - the angel Gabriel gave instructions to Mary first, then Joseph concerning the birth of JESUS. ...Luke 1:26-28 - And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from GOD to a city of Galilee named Nazareth. To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David: **and the virgin's name was Mary And the angel came in to her, and said, Hail, you that are highly favored, the LORD is with you: blessed are you among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said to her. Fear not, Mary; for you have found favor with GOD. And behold, you shall conceive in your womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call His name JESUS.**

Sarah (Abraham's wife) Genesis 21:10-12 - Wherefore she said to Abraham, cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac. And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his Son. And GOD said to Abraham, let it not be grievous in your sight because of the lad, and because of your bond woman: **in all that Sarah has said to you, hearken to her voice:** for in Isaac shall your seed be called. (GOD told Abraham to obey Sarah)

Elisabeth - (Mary's cousin, Mother of John the Baptist) **she was filled with the HOLY SPIRIT before her husband Zechariah as in Luke 1:41** - And it came to pass, that when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost. Zechariah **(Elisabeth's husband was filled with the HOLY SPIRIT after Elisabeth** as in **Luke 1:67** - And his father Zechariah was filled with the HOLY GHOST and prophesied

It is clear throughout the whole of scripture that GOD, LORD JESUS and the HOLY SPIRIT speaks to individuals, male or female, which openly assigns the word "priest" to anyone who follows JESUS the CHRIST.

(I Peter 2:9) "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:" (Gender is not mentioned)

Also Revelation 1:6 - And hath made "us" kings and priests unto GOD and his FATHER; to HIM be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. There is no gender restriction.

These scriptures are worth repeating...(I Samuel 16:7) it says....For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (The Lord see's our heart, (our thoughts, intentions) not the outside appearance - male or female, black or white, rich or poor)

....Also.In (Galatians 3:28) "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in CHRIST JESUS." (There is no gender restriction)

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Who is a true Son of GOD, who are the adopted as Sons? Didn't only firstborn Sons receive an inheritance? What was the purpose of being firstborn? What does firstborn mean? Lastly, Can a woman be a Spiritual Son of GOD? And can a Son be a Spiritual bride of Christ?

Romans 8:14 - "For "all" who are being led by the Spirit of GOD, these are sons of GOD." (If you are led by the Spirit of GOD, you are a SON of GOD, includes women)

I Thessalonians 5:5a"...you are all sons of light and sons of day." (That includes women too)

Revelation 21; - "He who overcomes shall inherit these things, and I will be his GOD and he will be MY son." (If you are an overcomer you are GOD's son, includes women)

Galatians 3:26-28 "For you are ALL sons of GOD through faith in CHRIST JESUS. For ALL of you who were baptized into JESUS the CHRIST have clothed yourselves with JESUS the CHRIST. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in CHRIST JESUS." (If you are baptized into JESUS the CHRIST - you are all Son's of GOD) Even Women are Son's of GOD.

Galatians 4:4b,5"...GOD sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons." (He adopted us all to be Sons of GOD)

Ephesians 1:5 "He predestined us to adoption as sons through JESUS CHRIST to Himself, according to the kind intention of HIS will."

Tragically, Christians who try to suppress women by pointing to the Old Covenant have failed to even understand its purpose.

It was never the Lord's intention to leave out the women, any more than it was His desire to leave out the Gentiles. The function of the Old Covenant was simply to foreshadow the New Covenant, and point to the coming Messiah, which is JESUS

GOD, LORD JESUS & the HOLY SPIRIT graciously adopted us (meaning all) “as sons” (giving us the right to inherit what a firstborn Son would inherit) and “clothed” us with the Firstborn, granting us these priceless riches that we have inherited: Salvation, eternal life, the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, yes, sonship - granted to each true follower of the LORD JESUS without regard to skin color, nationality, social standing, education or gender - it has become the great equalizer of us all. GOD knew exactly what He was doing when He made all true followers of the LORD JESUS spiritual sons.

Some may say....“But I still don’t understand how a woman can be a son,” you might say. Yet how is this any more bizarre than a man being a member of the Bride of Christ? We are talking about spiritual Sons & Daughters, not earthly fleshly Son’s and Daughters. At times it can be difficult for all of us to wrap our fleshly minds around spiritual concepts. But we must try. Our “GOD is a Spirit” and we must look beyond our carnal ways of thinking in our mind and this current Worldly Kingdom and grasp His ways in the Spirit. And in the Spirit, each born again Christian is a son. So yes, all true followers of JESUS, FATHER GOD and the HOLY SPIRIT are Sons of GOD and also the Bride of Christ (weather male or female).

This Worldly Kingdom, unable to grasp spiritual concepts, will always try to segregate its people by natural attributes and fleshly qualities - carefully inspecting skin color, education, social standing and gender. But we in the Body of Christ are forbidden to do so.(I Samuel 16:7b)....For the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

No, our pecking order - for lack of a better phrase - is not decided by race, nationality, gender, or social and economic opportunity in the Kingdom of GOD. This is a *spiritual* Kingdom and the HOLY SPIRIT is in charge, passing out gifts and callings as HE sees fit. And apparently, HE doesn’t stop to check gender before distribution! Just look at the disciples gathered together in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost. All 120 of them - men and women - Acts 1:13-15 (he didn’t exclude the women, they were right there along with the men and were also filled with the HOLY SPIRIT and began speaking in other tongues, boldly proclaiming “the mighty deeds of GOD.”

And in Romans 16:7 we see yet again the HOLY SPIRIT’s unwillingness to be prejudiced by gender. Here Paul is commending the woman Junia, called to the high office of an Apostle, as being “outstanding among the apostles.” And while some might consider femininity a disadvantage and women to be less capable, less qualified to bear the burdens of front-line ministry, the HOLY SPIRIT apparently disagrees. Otherwise, why would HE have placed upon Phoebe the responsibilities of a deacon? We will have more examples in the Bible of women as we go along.

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What about the order of creation? Doesn’t that show that men are superior?

The creation argument goes like this: because man was formed first, he has pre-eminence. If this is true...that the order of creation *did* determine rank, then cattle are superior to men, trees superior to cattle and water superior to them all. Why? Because that was the order of creation. (Let that sink in before we move on)....think about that....

In fact, this theory is so full of holes that had it been a ship it would have sunk a long time ago. GOD created in *ascending* order of complexity and beauty, not *descending*. He went from water to trees to cattle to His crowning achievement, mankind. **How ironic that the only ones who could biblically defend order of creation determining rank would be those alleging women to be superior, not men!** Eve was created out of the same “stuff” Adam was, so that both were made in the image of GOD. **(One was not superior nor was the other inferior to the other, they both were made in the image of GOD** (“Let US make man in our image, according to our likeness” (Gen. 1:26), the text tells us, “So GOD created man in HIS own image; in the image of GOD HE created him; *male and female* he created *them*” (v. 27).

In both of these verses the word translated “man” is *’adam*, a Hebrew word which can mean “Adam” (the first man), “human being,” or “humanity.” In verse (26) *’adam* clearly means “humanity” since after announcing his intention to create *’adam*, GOD says, “let *them* have dominion.” Verse 27 then makes it explicit that the *’Adam* who was created in GOD’s image includes both male and female. the image of GOD can be fully realized in a single human being — whether male or female. Further, Genesis affirms that men and women are equal. Both were created in GOD’s image, both were given dominion over the earth and its creatures, and GOD spoke to and blessed both (Gen. 1:26-28). Even if their roles are different, they are of equal worth.

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Why didn’t JESUS call any women to be his disciples?” Here’s the reality: “JESUS did call women to be his disciples!” (Didn’t expect that one did you?)

The problem is that later Church Fathers were so entangled and blinded by their Patriarchy they did their very best to obscure this fact and solidify men [and only men] as the leaders in the Body of JESUS CHRIST. So, here’s what we often miss about the women disciples of JESUS. They’re everywhere. First of all, the Gospels give us the names of several women who were following JESUS **[that’s what it means to be a “disciple”, by the way; it’s a “follower”]**, and we can find those examples here:

Mary Magdalene, Joanna and Susanna were three of JESUS’ female disciples according to Luke 8:1-3:

“After this, JESUS traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of GOD. The Twelve were with HIM, **and also some women** who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod’s household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.”

Did you get this? Not only are we told about the Twelve, and then these 3 women by name, but we’re also told that there were “many others” [meaning, many other women] who not only followed JESUS [which is the very definition of a Disciple], **but that they also** supported JESUS financially.

Translation: They were active members of the ministry with skin in the game who put their money and their time into the cause of JESUS THE CHRIST.

We are also told that there were 3 women who were the first eyewitnesses to the Resurrection of JESUS THE CHRIST in Mark 16:1-3:

“When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint HIM.”

Later, it is the same Mary Magdalene who is commissioned by JESUS as the “Apostle to the Apostles” [because “Apostle” means “sent one” and she was sent by JESUS to testify to his resurrection].

And in the earliest Christian Church movement, women continued to be honored and included as Deacons, Elders, Prophets, Teachers, **[yes, even as Apostles]**, throughout the later ministry of Paul and the other Apostles. Women were not only included, they were honored, revered, appreciated and named.

SOME EXAMPLES OF WOMEN IN THE BIBLE THAT WERE USED OF FATHER GOD, LORD JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **DEBORAH - JUDGE & PROPHET** - And Deborah, a **prophetess**, the wife of Lapidoth, she **judged Israel at that time**. (Judges 4:4)
- **BACKGROUND** - On an ordinary day while conducting her duties as judge, Deborah delivered GOD’s message to Barak to take 10,000 men to battle against Sisera, the commander of Jabin’s army. Deborah’s prophecy continued, **“And I [GOD] will deliver him into your hand” (Judges 4:7)**. Barak, who was a mighty warrior ready for battle, basically told Deborah, “I’m not going into battle unless you come with me.” ⁸ And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, *then* I will not go. **(Judges 4:8-10)** He had faith to believe that GOD spoke to him through Deborah, Barak even had confidence to trust GOD’s promise for victory. In fact, Barak is recognized for his faith in **Hebrews 11:32**. However, his faith would be increased if Deborah agreed to join him. Without hesitation Deborah courageously agreed to go. “Deborah was not caught up in the fear of her day. She took GOD at HIS word. So when she was given the message to give to Barak to attack Sisera, she didn’t flinch. Even though Sisera had a formidable army that featured 900 chariots made of iron, she delivered GOD’s message to Barak with confidence: ‘Has not the LORD, the GOD of Israel, commanded you?’ (Judges 4:6)” Although Deborah didn’t engage in battle, her presence bolstered Barak’s courage to fight victoriously for the LORD. If you’ve not read the story of Barak and Deborah you’re really missing out. In a nutshell GOD showed up in miraculous ways to help Barak’s army obliterate Jabin’s army. And in a turn of events, when Sisera flees for his life he takes refuge in the tent of a woman named Jael (wife of Heber) who ends up driving a tent spike through his temple while he slept. This fulfilled Deborah’s prophecy to Barak which stated that because of his faltering courage **“there will be no glory for you...for the LORD will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman” (Judges 4:9)**. We can not ignore the record that it was the judge and prophet Deborah who led the children of Israel into battle and trusted GOD for a great victory. Thanks to her leadership, Israel enjoyed peace for 40 years.
- **HULDAH (PROPHETESS)** - When eight-year-old Josiah became king of Judah, he inherited a mess. Idol worship thrived while the house of GOD stood in ruins. After finding the lost book of GOD’s commandments, Josiah told Hilkiah the priest, “Go, inquire of the LORD for me and the people and all Judah concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is the wrath of the Lord that burns against us.” And to whom did Hilkiah turn when he needed a sure word from GOD? To a

woman named **Huldah, a prophetess** married to a “keeper of the wardrobe.” (**2 CH 34:22 & 2 KINGS 22:14**) Before casting anyone aside based on superficial differences such as race, economics or gender, we’d be wise to remember that GOD never judges by outward appearance. After rejecting disobedient Saul, the Lord sent Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint a new King (David). Samuel was Commanded to go the house of Jesse, GOD assured this prophet that he had “selected a king for [Himself]” among Jesse’s sons. You know the story. The oldest boy walked in, tall and good-looking, and Samuel was sure that this was the Lord’s anointed, and then one by one seven of Jesse’s other sons passed before Samuel, and the Lord did not choose any of them, but then they brought in David who was the youngest and GOD chose him. But GOD said to Samuel, **“Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for GOD sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”** (1 Samuel 16:7) Take a moment and think of that! (That was a clear distinction of GOD’s character being revealed that he does not look on the outward appearance but he looks at the heart). **So let me ask you a question if GOD does not look at our outward appearance, and chose us according to that, why do religious institutions do that? Doesn’t it also say in his word that it is better to obey GOD rather than men? (Acts 5:29). So shouldn’t we listen to what GOD says instead of what man says? Yes, only GOD, LORD JESUS & the HOLY SPIRIT count as a reputable voice, if someone’s opinion doesn’t line up with the word of GOD, (even if it is a Pastor, or Preacher from a religious institution ...we can put a stamp on it and say return to sender, address unknown....**

- **Wise Woman at ABEL BETH MAACAH** who assumed the responsibility to deliver the city from siege (**2 Sam 20:14-22**). (14) And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel, and to Bethmaachah, and all the Berites: and they were gathered together, and went also after him. (15) And they came and besieged him in Abel of Bethmaachah, and they cast up a bank against the city, and it stood in the trench: and all the people that were with Joab battered the wall, to throw it down. (16) **Then cried a wise woman out of the city, Hear, hear; say, I pray you, unto Joab, Come near hither, that I may speak with thee.**(17) And when he was come near unto her, the woman said, Art thou Joab? And he answered, I am he. Then she said unto him, Hear the words of thine handmaid. And he answered, I do hear. (18) Then she spake, saying, They were wont to speak in old time, saying, They shall surely ask counsel at Abel: and so they ended the matter. (19) I am one of them that are peaceable and faithful in Israel: thou seekest to destroy a city and a mother in Israel: why wilt thou swallow up the inheritance of the Lord? (20) And Joab answered and said, Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy. (21) The matter is not so: but a man of mount Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, hath lifted up his hand against the king, even against David: deliver him only, and I will depart from the city. And the woman said unto Joab, Behold, his head shall be thrown to thee over the wall. (22) Then the woman went unto all the people in her wisdom. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri, and cast it out to Joab. And he blew a trumpet, and they retired from the city, every man to his tent. And Joab returned to Jerusalem unto the king.
- **MIRIAM - EXODUS 15:20 (PROPHETESS)** And Miriam the **prophetess.... She was a prophetess in the Old Testament.** Also in MICAH 6:4 For I brought you up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of servants: and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. (Miriam is listed right along with Moses & Aaron) If it weren’t for Miriam and Moses’ mother, there could possibly be no Moses, just a

note... Moses' mother put him in the basket and Miriam is the one who talked to Pharaoh's daughter and because of those two things done, Moses' life was spared.

- ANNA - PROPHETESS - (LUKE 2:36-37)-And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served GOD with fastings and prayers night and day.
- JUNIA AND ANDRONICUS - (Andronicus - was either Husband or brother of Junia) ROMANS 16:7 - Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow-prisoners, who are of note among the apostles who also were in Christ before me. (They were his relatives and had been in prison with him). Clearly, there were many identified as apostles, like Barnabas, who were not among the original Twelve, Junia was also among such apostolic workers. There is no reason to think that she was the only such female apostle or that female apostles were regarded as rare or unusual. This illustrates that apostolic labor was not male - specific. (If you want to learn more about Junia - check out the book - The Lost Apostle by Rena Pederson)
- TRYPHENA AND TRYPHOSA - (Sisters) (ROMANS 16:12)b Salute Tryphena & Tryphosa, who labor in the LORD (They worked hard for the LORD JESUS)
- BECCA-ELECT LADY - (2ND JOHN 1) - The elder to the elect (chosen) lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth. (This elect lady referred to a respected sister, she apparently exerted significant spiritual influence upon a number of people)
- NOADIAH - PROPHETESS - (NEM 6:14) - 14 My GOD, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.
- PHEBE - DEACON - ROMANS 16:1-2 - (Paul is speaking). I commend unto you PHEBE OUR SISTER which is a servant (Greek - #G1249 - DIAKONOS - literally means deacon /minister/ bishop/ pastor) of the (Ekklesia) which is at Cenchrea: 2) That you receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: (it didn't say she assist them, but that they assist her - that, right there says she was not a servant) for she hath been a succorer of many, (Greek for succorer means overseer of many, and of myself also. Note: These same translators, when referring to a man in scripture in 23 instances, spelled out "Deacon" or "Minister", but in this one instance, when referring to a female, the word "servant" was the choice of translation. A deacon or deaconess of modern times is, in most denominations, an ordained minister.
- AQUILA & PRISCILLA - ACTS 18:18,26, ROMANS 16:3, 2 TIM 4:19) ACTS 18:18 - And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren, and sailed from there into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila...ACTS 18:26 ..And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquilla and Priscilla had heard, they took him to them and expounded to him the way of GOD more perfectly. ROMANS 16:3 - Greet Priscilla and Aquilla my helpers in CHRIST JESUS. (2 TIM 4:19) - Salute Prisca and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus.

- EUODIA & SYNTYCHE - Both female, both fellow laborers (**PHILIPPIANS 4:2-3**) LABORED WITH ME OR CONTENDED AT MY SIDE (GREEK-SYNATHELEO) - MINISTERIAL FUNCTION
- TABITHA - (ACTS 9:36) Now there was at Joppa a certain **disciple named Tabitha**, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and alms deeds which she did.
- GREAT WOMAN OF GOD - (2 KINGS 4:8-10) And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where **was a great woman**; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, *that* as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread. 9) And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this *is* an holy man of GOD, which passeth by us continually. 10) Let us make a little chamber, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither.
- MARY - (LUKE 1:48) For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
- ELIZABETH - **The Scriptures describe Elizabeth as a woman who is righteous before GOD and walks in all the commandments and ordinances of the LORD blameless.** (Luke 1:6) An interesting note is in (Luke 1:41) which says...Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit before her husband and then in (Luke 1:67) eight days later her husband Zechariah a Levite Priest also got filled with the Holy Spirit. Here is yet another example that GOD does not examine gender first before handing out gifts, even if he is a Levite Priest. (Romans 2:11 GOD is no respecter of persons. If you want to check out Elisabeth's story it is in Luke 1:5-80)
- SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL - (JOHN 4:28) The woman then left her water pot, and went her way into the city, and **says to the men**, come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ? The woman at the well preaches the very first Gospel sermon, ever, that's right, **the first Christian sermon was preached by a woman, a person cohabitating outside marriage (after being married five times, yet she boldly proclaimed JESUS as the MESSIAH).** Think about all the restrictions placed around preaching ministry these days and let this fact sink in. And she doesn't just preach, her sermon leads to the conversion many in her town. John 4:39 - And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on Him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. So she gets to claim the first Christian revival too. (<https://mikeraburn.com/2013/10/10/red-letter-year-1010/>)
- MARY MAGDALENE - The scriptures show her as a faithful disciple, JESUS himself gave her a position of leadership, She was the 1st one to see JESUS after the resurrection, she was one of the most faithful. Now let's go into "The myth of Mary Magdalene being a prostitute" that myth started In the 6th century (591) with **Pope Gregory**, he said she was the same woman who in Luke 7 brought the alabaster oil to anoint the feet of JESUS. We know that this is not the same woman as Mary Magdalene because in Luke 8:1, JESUS left there and met Mary Magdalene in an entirely different city. **(But of course, the church is going to believe Pope Gregory and go with that, instead of what is written in the Bible right?...and that just gets regurgitated over and over again as fact)** Mary Magdalene was one of the most evolved, respected and faithful disciples, JESUS himself gave her a position of

leadership, she later met all qualifications required to be deemed an apostle which were to have been one of his followers and then to have witnessed the resurrection appearance with a call to spread his word but to allow a woman to keep the title of apostle would have opened up the door to giving women more value and rights, which could have given them the right to lead or even preach in a gathering (Ekklesia). Mary Magdalene was demoted from being the highly respected apostle to a prostitute, becoming one of the most misrepresented people in history, in drawing statues and paintings, Mary Magdalene the teacher and leader is instead depicted as Mary Magdalene the woeful repentant whore, usually partially clothed. **In 1969 the church (Ekklesia) quietly but officially admitted its error that was about 50 years ago and still nothing has changed.** She was the first one to see JESUS as a resurrection witness **and in 3 of the 4 gospels was told by JESUS to go tell the other apostles.** An epistle is a letter that has been sent, (which I'm sure you know) an apostle is someone who is sent on the behalf of others, that is what she was. She was there at the cross while he suffered. The fact is that women did indeed teach men, that women served as leaders, and that in doing so they enjoyed GOD's blessing. Lois and Eunice taught Timothy, and Phoebe is named as an overseer and a deacon in the church at Cenchrea. Believers are enjoined to teach and to learn from one another, without reference to gender. GALATIANS 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither **male nor female**: for ye are all one in Christ JESUS."EPHESIANS 5:21- **Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of GOD.**

- Mary and Martha as Disciples of JESUS - Many don't know the significance of Mary at the feet of JESUS. Mary "sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying" **(Luke 10:39)**. Without understanding the cultural context, we might miss what is going on here. In **their** tradition, "sitting at the feet" was what a disciple did. In **Acts 22:3**, the apostle Paul tells us that he was educated "at the feet of Gamaliel." Gamaliel, was an esteemed rabbi in Israel. Mary sits at the feet of her JESUS. Since this was the posture assumed by a disciple, we can safely conclude that Mary was a disciple of JESUS. Mary, a woman in a male-dominated world, yet a disciple! Scandalous and profound, indeed! JESUS' affirmation of Mary's posture reveals his acceptance of Mary as a legitimate disciple. JESUS welcomes women to learn at his feet.
- Abigail - Her intervention prevented bloodshed. Abigail was beautiful, wise, and intelligent. She could also speak eloquently, as depicted by how she talked to David. Her words showed humility, wisdom, and faith in GOD. Although Abigail knew of Nabal's foolish behavior, she recognized the danger he had put them in and took it upon herself to prevent any bloodshed. This shows us that Abigail was a woman of great courage. She was not afraid to meet one of the most influential men in Israel and face his army. Abigail was the peacemaker between David and Nabal. She was also resourceful in finding a way to prevent bloodshed. She reacted immediately when told of David's intentions toward Nabal. Abigail is loyal to her husband and his household when she asks David to pardon him. Abigail did not want anything to happen to Nabal, even though she thought him foolish and knew he was unkind. She acts as GOD's messenger, reminding David to remember that it is GOD's fight, not his. Abigail again shows her wisdom in waiting for Nabal to sober up before telling him about her meeting with David But it's too late for Nabal, who realizes the danger he put himself and his household in. He becomes ill with a heart condition and dies 10 days later. This is GOD's way of dealing with Nabal's unjust treatment of David. **(A**

mention to the story is Abigail did not ask her husband Nabal first for permission to intercede on behalf of many, but her swift action prevented much bloodshed).

- **PRAISING WOMEN - (NEH 7:67)** Beside their servants and their maids, of whom *there* were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and *there* were among them two hundred singing men and **singing women**.

The Apostle Paul lists many of the Holy Spirit's gifts in I Corinthians chapter twelve, speaking of miracles, healings, prophecy, discernment and much more - but nowhere does it state that these gifts are divided and distributed according to gender. And Ephesians 4, verses 11 and 12 speak of the callings of the Holy Spirit - apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher and evangelist - but again, it doesn't state that any of these are given, or withheld, on the basis of gender. And the fruit of the Holy Spirit, listed in Galatians, 5:22 is also not divided by gender. Obviously, the gifts, the callings and the fruit of the Holy Spirit are no more gender - specific than they are race specific! We in the Kingdom of GOD must remember that regardless of each person's natural inclinations, traditions and religious comfort-zones, the Holy Spirit is in charge. And He simply cannot be swayed by our gender any more than He can be influenced by our skin color or bought by our money. **In JESUS the CHRIST EMMANUEL, can a woman be an apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher or evangelist? Of course.** They were during Paul's time and they are today, whether so called church people - religious institutions in America realize it or not. GOD, LORD JESUS & the HOLY SPIRIT will still look at the heart and not at the outside appearance. GOD will call, equip and put women to work as quickly as He will men. Women are not overlooked based on their gender, but neither are they given a free ride because of it. Ananias was not the only one who keeled over dead for lying to the Holy Ghost. His wife, Sapphira, met this same fate as well! We serve a GOD of justice, righteousness and equality. And to portray Him as playing favorites among His children based on their physical differences is fraudulent and incorrect. He does not prefer white over black, rich over poor or men over women. JESUS came to bring freedom and salvation to everyone, including women, which are no less worthy than men in GOD's eyes and are capable of serving him in whatever leadership position GOD gifts and calls them.

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The word says in 2 Timothy 2:15 - "Study to show yourself approved unto GOD, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Again Knowing what the Bible says is not the same thing as knowing what the Bible means.....we can read black ink on white paper but do we understand what we are reading?

In Acts 17:11 - Now the Bereans were more noble-minded than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the scriptures every day to see if these teachings were true.

In the beginning, I asked ...so how did we get here... what happened?.... Why has the greatest majority of Disorganized Religion taken a different path, one of hierarchy, stereotypes and domination? Ask yourself, does this attitude really seem GODLY? Should I rule over you, or should you rule over me, or who should be the greatest? Is that the message JESUS came to proclaim? Or was that the message of the scribes and pharisees which he railed against?

What did JESUS think about the thought of "Who will be the greatest?" Why do we need to ask this question? **Because when you put anyone in a preferred status or place of authority over someone, the question that is asked is, who will be the greatest? It means we are wanting a hierarchy structure, so what did JESUS say about who will be the greatest? Matthew 18:1-5 - At that time the disciples came to JESUS, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" (2) And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them (3) and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. (4) Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Another scripture about who would be the greatest- Luke 9:46-47 (46) An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest. (47) But JESUS, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by his side and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great."**The Request of James and John Mark 10:35-45 (The Whole Story) (42) And JESUS called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. (43) **But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, (44) and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."**

JESUS led by example: John 13: 4 / John 13:12-15 - (You can read whole chapter if you like)

John 13:(4) He (JESUS) riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. (5) After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

John 13: 15-15 (12) So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? (13) Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. (14) **If I then, your LORD and MASTER, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. (15) For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.**

Now, you may ask yourself, why did I bring up these scriptures, what do these scriptures have to do with women, well, for one thing it is showing JESUS' character, (it shows how we are supposed to behave and think, as it is said in Romans 2:11 - For there is no respect of persons with GOD, meaning, no one is better than the other, not by race, or by wealth or by gender, we are all one in JESUS). And also the whole premise with this women subject is that it has an underlying undertone or show of superiority, I was created first, I am the head, I know better, I am the priest of the house....you submit to me...all of this sounds like who?? **(Isaiah 14:12-15) (12) How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! - (13) For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of GOD: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: (14) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. (15) Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. Also in Proverbs 16:18 Pride comes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.** These characteristics that I just mentioned are of the evil one, the devil, satan. So who's character do we want to be like and have in us - JESUS or satan's?

This is our challenge today. Having clearly seen in the scripture that each born-again Child of GOD is a “son” of GOD, clothed in JESUS the CHRIST EMMANUEL, we must resist our impulse to categorize saints by fleshly divisions. And acknowledging that the gifting, calling, and anointing of the Holy Spirit is no more gender-specific than race-specific.

Scripture teaches the fundamental equality of women and men regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or social class (Galatians 3:28)

....In (Romans 2:11) For there is no respect of persons with GOD. **The Greek word that is translated as “respector” is prosopolemptes. It means “to show favoritism”.**

Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, “Of a truth I perceive that GOD is no respecter of persons . . .” Acts 10:34

And if GOD, LORD JESUS and the HOLY SPIRIT is not a respecter of persons, should we be? No, we should not.

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It was a woman who wiped the feet of JESUS with her tears...(Luke 7:36-48) it was women (Mary Magdalene, Mary of Nazareth & Salome) who didn't flee when JESUS was crucified (It was a woman at the well, that was the first evangelist to share JESUS), it was a woman who first saw JESUS after the resurrection. I am not bringing up these things to exult women, but rather pointing out their worth as JESUS did by seeing their value and worth. It is a shame that we even have to do a study on such a topic, but women are as worthy of equal status as a man, and JESUS proved that by what he said and did and how he treated women.

WHAT DID JESUS SAY TO WOMEN? HOW DID JESUS TREAT WOMEN? These are just a few of his words...

- Matthew 9:22 — JESUS turned and saw her. “Have courage, daughter,” he said. “Your faith has saved you.” And the woman was made well from that moment.
- Matthew 15:28 — Then JESUS replied to her, “Woman, your faith is great. Let it be done for you as you want.” And from that moment her daughter was healed.
- Mark 5:34 — “Daughter,” he said to her, “your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be healed from your affliction.”
- Mark 5:41 — Then he took the child by the hand and said to her, “Talitha kum” (which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, get up”).
- Mark 7:29 — Then he told her, “Because of this reply, you may go. The demon has left your daughter.”
- Luke 7:13 — When the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said, “Don't weep.”
- Luke 7:48, 50 — **Then he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”** ... And he said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.” Just a note, he told a woman her sins were forgiven, did that mean all? Just not the Eve sin right? No, that meant all sins have been forgiven.
- Luke 8:48 — “Daughter,” he said to her, “your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”
- Luke 8:54 — So he took her by the hand and called out, “Child, get up!”
- Luke 10:41-42 — The Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has made the right choice, and it will not be taken away from her.”

- Luke 13:12 — When JESUS saw her, he called out to her, “Woman, you are free of your disability.”
- Luke 23:28-31 — But turning to them, JESUS said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and your children. Look, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the women without children, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed!’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”
- John 2:4 — “What does that have to do with you and me, woman?” JESUS asked. “My hour has not yet come.”
- John 8:10-11 — When JESUS stood up, he said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” “No one, Lord,” she answered. “Neither do I condemn you,” said JESUS. “Go, and from now on do not sin anymore.”
- John 11:23-26 — “Your brother will rise again,” JESUS told her. Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” JESUS said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”
- John 11:40 — JESUS said to her, “Didn’t I tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of GOD?”
- John 19:26 — When JESUS saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.”
- John 20:15 — “Woman,” JESUS said to her, “why are you crying? Who is it that you’re seeking?”
- John 20:16-17 — JESUS said to her, “Mary.” Turning around, she said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!”—which means “Teacher.” “Don’t cling to me,” JESUS told her, “since I have not yet ascended to the Father. **But go to my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my GOD and your GOD.**”

If JESUS treated women with respect and dignity shouldn't we do so also,? Isn't JESUS our example?

Some statistics you may not know....

Globally, almost one in three women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence at least once in their life. This violence is often perpetrated by current or former intimate partners.

In “Greece” 200 B.C., for example, the murder of female infants was so common that among 6,000 families living in Delphi no more than 1 percent had two daughters.” The practice of allowing unwanted daughters to die by exposure was so wide-spread in ancient Rome, they were forced to pass a law mandating each family to keep their firstborn daughter. It was legally and socially acceptable to murder all other baby girls by exposure.

In “India”...young girls were murdered as a matter of course. When demographic statistics were first collected in the nineteenth century, it was discovered that in some villages, no girl babies were found at all; in a total of thirty others, there were 343 boys to 54 girls...”

In “China”...Gender dynamics and social control as practiced in “foot binding” serve as a mechanism of patriarchal control that extend far beyond aesthetics. The practice effectively confined women to domestic spaces, limit their ability to work, travel, or participate in public life. This physical restriction reinforce women’s economic dependence on men. The timing of foot binding beginning in early childhood demonstrate how gender base violence can be embedded in cultural practices. Young girls have no choice in the matter, and the process shape their entire lives. The practice teach girls that their value lie in their ability to attract men through physical appearance, regardless of personal cost. The foot binding process begins when girls were between four and six years old. Practitioners would break the toes and arch bones, and bind the feet tightly with cloth strips. The procedure causes excruciating pain, infections, and permanent disability. The physical consequences were severe and lifelong. Bind feet make walk difficult and painful. Women with bound feet could not run, they had frequent falls, and experience chronic pain. Many develop serious infections, and some die from complications related to the bind process. These physical realities reveal the violent nature of foot binding. The practice intentionally inflicts pain and disability on young girls to conform to a male definition of beauty standards. The suffering was not incidental but integral to achieve the desired result.

“A missionary observer in the late nineteenth century interviewed 40 women over the age of 50 who reported having borne 183 sons and 175 daughters, of whom 126 sons but only 53 daughters survived to age 10; by their account, the women had destroyed 78 of their daughters.” Prenatal sex-determination has resulted in the abortion of millions of baby girls in China, largely due to the “one child” policy of the Chinese government.

In September 1997, (27 years ago, so imagine what it is now) “more than 50 million women were estimated to be ‘missing’ in China because of the institutionalized killing and neglect of girls...” A report in Bombay in 1984 on abortions after prenatal sex determination stated that 7,999 of the 8,000 abortions were performed on girl babies. The contempt and brutality that women and young girls have suffered since the fall of mankind is nearly incomprehensible. It’s been an all-out war on females, just as the Lord declared: “And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed ...” Notice that hostility was specifically put between the *woman* and Satan. Why? Because it was through a woman that the Savior of all mankind would come: the Father sent his Son, by way of the Holy Spirit, into the womb of a young woman. For this reason Satan has - from the beginning - done all he could to destroy, belittle or at the very least, relegate women to place of insignificance. And the devastating casualties of his war on women continue to stack up: 4 million women each year are sold as slaves.

Approximately 2 million girls are subjected to female genital mutilation each year. In Somalia, 98% of girls are mutilated. In 1995, India reported 7,300 “dowry deaths.” The parents of girls in this country must pay a dowry to their daughter’s new husband. A ‘dowry death’ is when the husband, or his family, murders the new bride so that he is then free to marry again, hopefully getting a better dowry. Of 130 million children not in school in developing countries, nearly two-thirds are girls. Every year 7,000 Nepali girls are trafficked to India as sex slaves. 14,000 Russian women are killed each year by their husbands or other family members. Gender violence causes more death and disability among women aged 15 to 44 than cancer, malaria, traffic accidents or war.

But there’s good news: JESUS broke every curse by becoming a curse for us. The perfect LAMB OF GOD bore our reproach, forever lifting every curse and damnation off

men and women of GOD. Why should we believe that the precious blood of JESUS is powerful enough to save our souls, heal our bodies, redeem us from a life of poverty... but too weak and ineffectual to restore women to their rightful place of equality with men? Of course nothing could be further from the truth. The good news of JESUS not only saves lost souls, but transforms and converts whole cultures as well! Naturally, it is those societies traditionally hostile to the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST that still demonstrate the most vicious brutality towards women today. In Afghanistan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and other nations opposed to Christianity, women are forced to live out the degradation of Genesis 3:16 on a daily basis. Many Muslim women are required to remain completely veiled in public, forbidden to drive cars or travel unless accompanied by a male relative, and must also endure a life of polygamy should their husband so desire. As expected, female doctors are quite rare, yet many of these women are not allowed to be treated by male physicians. And Muslim women and girls who violate any of these appalling rules are often beaten or executed as a matter of law. In fact, a favorite form of “disciplining” women in many of these nations is to throw acid on them.

In contrast, the Gospel-soaked West, with our great Christian heritage, is known the world over for guaranteeing equality to women in the workplace and in society as a whole. How ironic that much of the Church in the West is now teaching that Genesis 3:16 is the perfect will of GOD, and that the men have been chosen to dominate and control the women! Dear followers of the Lord JESUS, the fact that we are allowing worldly, fallen mind-sets to shape (Church doctrine/religious institutions) has brought the progress of the Church in the West to a screeching halt. We have permitted this principle of the “fall” to trick us into disabling half of the soldiers in GOD’s Army which are women. The devil wins “IF” we do not fix this! We need the whole body of JESUS, BOTH, men & women to win souls for JESUS, FATHER GOD & THE HOLY SPIRIT! (1 John 5:7) Help us all to not hinder anyone, whether Women or Men that are called by GOD, JESUS & THE HOLY SPIRIT to go forth and preach, teach, prophecy, or do anything else they are called to do by JESUS the CHRIST EMMANUEL!

In Closing

For the last 2000 years, there has been a massive overreach in the “Interpretation” of what the uneducated have purposed against the Truth. It would appear that once again, the Beast from the pit of hell has caused this confusion to entangle the “church” in controversy and cause division by minimizing half of GOD’s Creation. This Study was presented to dispel the incorrect assumptions that women are not to be regarded as equals, when as we have seen above, notated by chapter and verse from the Holy Bible as well as the proper Translations of the words in question from Hebrew and Greek Texts, what the correct descriptions of what the words declare if they had been translated correctly and not twisted to create an improper narrative.

Thank you for reading and understanding the “Agenda” that is being waged against the children of the Living GOD.

The devil wins “IF” we do not fix this!
Are we going to be part of the problem or part of the solution?

† *Colossians 3:17* †