

Addressing Scripture Passages That Are Difficult To Understand.



✘ The Apostle Paul's Emphasis on Charismatic Ministry.

- ✧ The New Testament confirms that women received and exercised this gift of the Spirit (Acts 2:17; 21:9; 1 Corinthians 11:5).
- ✧ The Challenge of Understanding Certain Pauline Scripture Passages (2 Peter 3:15-16).

✘ 1 Corinthians 11:3-12 – “The man is the head of the woman.”

- ✧ **kephalē** (“head”), debated widely by contemporary evangelical scholars, can mean (1) “authority over” and (2) “source” or “origin.” (Consider also John 8:42)
- ✧ Varying Perspectives: Complementarian -vs- Egalitarian
- ✧ “Historically and presently, the Assemblies of God official position on women in ministry supports the egalitarian interpretation.”⁷

✘ 1 Corinthians 14:34-36 – “Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak.”

- ✧ **sigatō** (“silent”), to hold one’s peace (See also Luke 9:36; 18:39; 20:26; Acts 12:17; 15:13).

✘ 1 Timothy 2:11-15 – ¹¹ “Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. ¹² And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.”

- ✧ **hēsuchia** (“silence”), denotes quietness / Problems in Ephesus

✘ 1 Timothy 3:1-13 – ¹¹ “Likewise, their wives must be reverent...”

- ✧ The word translated “wives” is the plural of the Greek word **gynē** which can be translated as either “woman” or “wife” depending on the context.

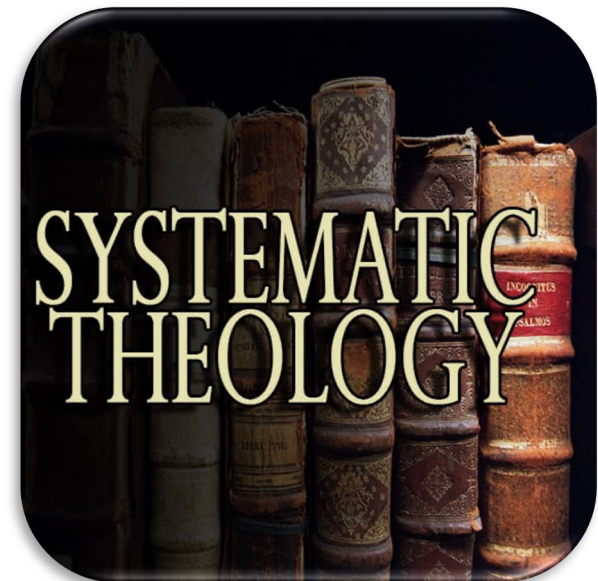
✘ Galatians 3:28 – “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

- ✧ In Christ we are truly set free from sin and its curse, which separate us from God and each other and cause us to elevate or demean according to race, social standing, or gender.⁸



MESSAGE GUIDE

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer
Sunday: May 26, 2024



Message Talk Sheet

Date: May 26, 2024

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer

SERIES: SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY
FOR DAILY LIVING

"A Practical Look at the Study of God & Elements of Biblical & Spiritual Truth"

Today's Message:

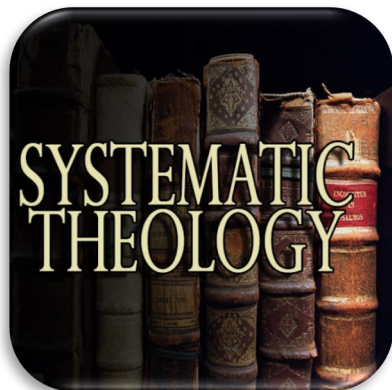
ECCLESIOLOGY (Part 16)

The Doctrine of the New Testament Church:

"The Role of Women In the Church"

[Their Involvement & Ministry]

Scriptures: Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:16-18; 9:36-43; 21:8-9; Romans 16:1-16; Philippians 4:2-3; Genesis 2:18-25; 1 Corinthians 11:2-16; 14:26-40; 1 Timothy 2:8-15; 3:1-13; Galatians 3:28



ECCLESIOLOGY ~ "The Doctrine of the New Testament Church"

Introduction

- ✘ The Essence of a Godly Woman (Proverbs 31)
- ✘ The Role of Women in the Church & Spiritual Leadership Positions

A Pentecostal Heritage

- ✘ "The History of the Assemblies of God reveals that women have been an integral part of our Fellowship and local churches from the very beginning." ¹
- ✘ Pentecostals believe that the outpouring of the Spirit begun in the early twentieth century is a true fulfillment of prophecy! (Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:16-18, 32-33)
- ✘ The Challenge: There is a wide variance of opinions on this topic and denominational expression regarding the role women are allowed to serve in the church. **What's Needed? GRACE!**



The Recent Historical Precedent

- ✘ "In the history of the church and spiritual revival, historians have observed that when spiritual fervor is high and the Lord's return is expected at any time, there is often ready acceptance of dynamic, pioneering women ministers." ²

STATISTICS

- ✘ The Assemblies of God Fellowship:
 - ↪ 1914 – Formation of the AG with 300 delegates: It was decided that women could be ordained to be missionaries and evangelists ... but not as senior pastors.
 - ↪ 1922 – E.N. Bell wrote to ordained women, stating that women could serve as senior pastors if it was an emergency — if no man was available.
 - ↪ 1935 – Women were ordained as AG pastors without restriction. ³

A Review of the OT & NT Scriptures

✘ OLD TESTAMENT

- ↪ Exodus 15:20-21 – Miriam
- ↪ 2 Kings 22:14-20 – Huldah
- ↪ Judges 4-5 – Deborah
- ↪ Book of Esther – Queen Esther

✘ NEW TESTAMENT

- ↪ Acts 9:36-39 – Tabitha (Dorcas)
- ↪ Acts 21:8-9 – Philip the Evangelist's Four Daughters (Prophets)
- ↪ Philippians 4:2-3 – Euodia and Syntyche
- ↪ Romans 16:1-2 – Phoebe (Deaconess)
- ↪ Romans 16:3-5 – Priscilla ⁴
- ↪ Romans 16:6-7, 12 – Mary, Tryphena, Tryphosa, and Persis
- ↪ Romans 16:7 – Junia (Apostle)

- ✘ "These instances of women filling leadership roles in the Bible should be taken as a divinely approved pattern, not as exceptions to divine decrees." ⁵
- ✘ "Even a limited number of women with scripturally commended leadership roles affirm that God does indeed call women to spiritual leadership." ⁶



The Role of Women in Ministry

- ✘ "Ministry" – Mark 10:45 / "Helper" – Genesis 2:18-25

Therefore We Conclude...

- ✘ That we cannot find convincing evidence that the ministry of women is restricted according to some sacred or immutable principle.
- ✘ We are aware that the ministry and leadership of women are not accepted by some individuals, both within and outside the Christian community.
 - ↳ However, we condemn all prejudice and self-promotion, by men or women.
- ✘ We acknowledge that attitudes of secular society, based on long-standing practice and tradition, have influenced the application of biblical principles to local circumstances.
 - ↳ We desire wisely to respect yet help redeem cultures that are at variance with Kingdom principles.
- ✘ The Assemblies of God has been blessed and must continue to be blessed by the ministry of God's gifted and commissioned daughters.
 - ↳ The Bible repeatedly affirms that God pours out His Spirit upon both men and women and thereby gifts both sexes for ministry in His Church.
 - ↳ Therefore, we must continue to **affirm the gifts of women** in ministry and spiritual leadership.⁹



ENDNOTES:

- ¹ Assemblies of God Position Papers – *The Role of Women in Ministry*, (Adopted by the General Presbytery in Session August 9-11, 1029) Online Resource: <https://ag.org/Beliefs/Position-Papers/The-Role-of-Women-in-Ministry> (Accessed 05-08-2024)
- ² Ibid.
- ³ Crabtree, Rev. Loralie, *Women in Ministry in the Assemblies of God*, Online Source: <https://northpoint.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/3.24.21-Rev.-Loralie-Crabtree-Women-in-Ministry-in-the-Assemblies-of-God.pdf> (Accessed 5-9-24)
- ⁴ Vail, Ian, Berean Insights, *Bible Gem 1737 – Priscilla is Placed Before Aquila for a Reason (Acts 18:1-4)*, Wycliffe Bible Translators – Online Source: <https://www.bereaninsights.org/bible-gem-1737-priscilla-is-placed-before-aquila-for-a-reason-acts-18-1-4/> (Accessed on 5-8-2024)
- ⁵ Assemblies of God Position Papers – *The Role of Women In Ministry* ⁶ Ibid
- ⁷ Wood, George Paul, *What Paul Really Says About Women in Ministry*, Enrichment Spring 2015, p.71. Online Source: <https://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/Issues/2015/Spring-2015> (Accessed on 5-8-2024)
- ⁸ Assemblies of God Position Papers – *The Role of Women In Ministry* ⁹ Ibid



✘ **MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO...**

- ❑ **Study! Study! Study!** ~ The Bereans received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so (Acts 17:11).
- ❑ **Pray for the Guidance of the Holy Spirit** ~ Rather than dogmatically adopt a personal opinion based on your own feelings, biases, comfortability or prejudice, ask God to teach you and guide you by His Spirit – leading you into all truth, even with difficult passages (John 16:13).
- ❑ **Encourage Others Who Are Sensing the Call of God on Their Life** ~ Choosing to be a supporter and promoter of the divine call and work of God, rather than an obstinate barrier and/or prohibitor of the work of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:11-13; 2 Corinthians 4:1-6; Romans 11:29)
- ❑ **Honor Mothers Today & Women In General** ~ As a beautiful and valuable gift of God to all of us here on earth (Romans 13:7; Proverbs 31).
- ❑ **Make a Faith Decision** ~ Prayerfully place my **faith** in Jesus Christ, God's Son, by **recognizing Him** as my personal **Lord** and **Savior** and by asking and receiving the forgiveness of my sins.

✘ **SPECIAL VIDEO RESOURCES:**

Northwest Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God – Network of Women's Ministers / Dr. Waldemar Kowalski Videos:

#1 *Does Scripture Restrict Women from Leadership?*

#2 *Does Paul Really Want All Women To Be Silent?*

#3 *Does the Bible Really Tell Women Not To Teach or Have Authority?*

<https://nwministry.com/Media/ctl/CategoryView/mid/9724/categoryId/152> OR <https://nwministry.com/Media>

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