

Word, Women and Authority

By David Eells

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Hello Brethren!

There are many wanting to read this book, therefore, although it is not yet available in print because the formatting and final edits have not been completed, we are posting the file(s) for those of you who might wish to read or print them out for yourselves.

Your UBM Publishing Team

Foreward

It was God Who ordained marriage, and it was God Who said, ***(Eph.5:31) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. (32) This mystery is great: but I speak in regard of Christ and of the church. (33) Nevertheless do ye also severally love each one his own wife even as himself; and let the wife [see] that she fear her husband.*** And it was God Who gave us the Marriage Manual, too, because marriage is supposed to be, and it is designed to be, a reflection of our relationship to Him.

So what happened? The enemy put a bull's eye on marriage to make it the institution most attacked by society. Demonic spirits were sent to corrupt marriage. Hollywood came against marriage. Laws were re-written. Dictionaries changed the definition of "marriage." And today almost every perversion known to man is now called "marriage" or an accepted part of what the world calls "marriage." We are warned by the Word that, ***(Pro.14:12) There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; But the end thereof are the ways of death.***

Happiness comes from being in God's Will, from fulfilling the role ordained for us from creation. We need to take back what the enemy has stolen from us, but we can't do that unless we understand God's plan. It was His plan from the beginning and it's still His plan because God never changes His eternal New Covenant, therefore we must be molded by His Word to find peace.

There is no other book on marriage I've found that answers the questions this book answers. None.

The Editor

Introduction

The devil HATES marriage, folks. He hates God's ordinance of marriage so much that it was the first thing he attacked (Genesis 3:1), because he knows that if he comes between a husband and wife or perverts their roles as man and woman, he has come between their relationship with God. *(Psa.11:3) If the foundations be destroyed, What can the righteous do?*

It is heartbreaking to look at how successful the devil has been in corrupting society from the inside out. *(Hos.4:6) My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I also will forget thy children.*

It did not take generations to do this. Eve, was led astray in the garden. *(2Co.11:3) But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve in his craftiness, your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity and the purity that is toward Christ.*

What is the answer? *(1Jn.2:24) As for you, let that abide in you which ye heard from the beginning. If that which ye heard from the beginning abide in you, ye also shall abide in the Son, and in the Father.* The answer is to humble ourselves to Word as it was originally given, because only that Word is our protection from all the lies and tricks the devil has been using against us since then.

I pray that the teachings in this book will be a blessing to you.

Your servant,

David Eells

The Word, Women and Authority

Chapter 1

The Unchanging Word of God, Part 1

Adding or Subtracting from God's Word

In this study I want to examine what is a very touchy subject for a lot of people, mostly because of tradition but also because of the society that we're in right now, which has become very, very different from the Bible. I want to examine the position of the Word on women and authority. Too many of God's people have the idea that God changes with society, but He doesn't (1 Samuel 15:29; Psalm 55:19; Psalm 89:34; etc.) The Bible says, *(Psa.119:89) For ever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven.* And, *(Num.23:19) God is not a man, that he should lie, Neither the son of man, that he should repent: Hath he said, and will he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and will he not make it good?* God doesn't change His mind, even when men do. He's the Rock that we all stand on. His Word is never-changing and He wants to bring Christians back into submission to His Word. It's sad, folks, but we've fallen a long ways from God's Will and we have to repent and change our mind, because unless we submit to the Word, we can't get back to God.

The curse is rampant all around us and people want to know why their families are falling apart. People want to know why their marriages don't last. People don't understand that God has given us the Book. It's the "Owner's Manual," and if we don't obey it, we will live under the curse (Deuteronomy 28:15-68; Leviticus 20:1-9,26:14-39). We've been told, *(Rev.22:18) ... every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto them, God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book: (19) and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, which are*

written in this book. God is warning us to come back into agreement with Him. The curses are upon multitudes of God's people because, in their thinking and in their ways, they're adding to or taking away from God's Word.

That means we have to be diligent to study His Word in order to know what it is that we're supposed to agree with. It doesn't matter what your religion says; it doesn't matter what the people you respect say. We don't have any right to our own opinion; we only have a right to repent, which means "to change your mind" and believe what God says in His Word. Of course, people get angry with you when you repent and believe the Word instead of what they believe, because they're very proud of their opinion. They sometimes get angry even if you show them from the Word how their opinion doesn't agree with what God says. They think that their little system and their little kingdom knows more than God and they hold it higher than they hold God's Word. Folks, that's idolatry, and so as we take a look at what God's position is on women and authority in this earth, most of us will probably need to repent, because although the majority of the commands in the Scriptures are spoken to men, there are also very specific commands spoken only to women.

(Mat.5:19) Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. We need to decide that the Lord is right, and not our own reasoning or traditions. If, in any point, these verses are not ruling us, then in that particular point, we do not abide in Christ. ***(1Jn.2:24) As for you, let that abide in you which ye heard from the beginning. If that which ye heard from the beginning abide in you, ye also shall abide in the Son, and in the Father.*** Our doctrine must be that which we "heard from the beginning," that which was written in the Scriptures, because if we add to the Word with modern doctrines, we will fall under the curses of the Word (Revelation 22:18-19.) ***(Gal.1:8) But though we, or an angel from heaven, should***

*preach unto you any gospel other than that which we preached unto you, let him be anathema. The Greek *anáthema* means “the thing cursed; pledged (given up) to destruction.” (9) *As we have said before, so say I now again, if any man preacheth unto you any gospel other than that which ye received, let him be anathema.**

This is true of the modern, very worldly, doctrine of “feminism” based on equality of the sexes, a doctrine which cannot be found anywhere in the Bible. And so there are multitudes of sisters in the Lord in our society’s trap of “liberated” women, and they are crying out to the Lord for someone with whom to share their life, not realizing that, if He answered, there would be two people in an unscriptural relationship unsuited to either one of them. This is true of many men also, who don’t understand what the Bible says their role is supposed to be. What they seek as a blessing would be a curse, because we cannot rebel against any point of God’s Word and be blessed in it. *(Heb.2:2) For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; (3) how shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation?* Every transgression and disobedience does receive a “just recompense of reward,” even so much more in the New Testament. We need to repent. We need to diligently read the Word to find out what is our particular job in our Covenant. We have to make sure that we’re someone that would be a blessing to a family, to a husband, to a wife, and not a curse. With that in mind, let’s look at what the Bible actually says about the role of women.

What is a Servant?

*(Gen.2:18) And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone (Why wasn’t it good for Adam to be alone? It’s because alone, he couldn’t fulfill the command of Genesis 1:28 to be fruitful and multiply.); *I will make him a help meet for him. The word translated as “help meet” is the Hebrew *ezer* and it means just what it says, “a help, helper”; it comes from *azar*, meaning “help, succor.” Here *ezer* is**

modified by the Hebrew *neged*, which is translated as “suitable” but is also translated “in front of, in sight of.” *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* says of Eve, “She is the helpmeet for him (Hebrew: *ezer keneghdo*, ‘a help answering to him.’” *Easton’s Bible Dictionary* states, “the Hebrew is ‘*ezer ke-nedgo*, i.e., a help as his counterpart, a help suitable to him, a wife.” You may say, “But...but David, that makes it sound like a wife is only a servant!” Well, then let’s look at what the Bible has to say about servants. Moses, the greatest prophet of the Old Testament, is referred to as (***Deu.34:5***) ... ***Moses the servant of God...*** at least 15 times in the Bible (Joshua 1:1,8:31,12:6,14:7; Revelation 15:3; etc.). And Paul, arguably the greatest of the apostles, referred to himself as (***Rom.1:1***) ***Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ...*** Therefore, being a servant does not make someone less valuable or important to God. Remember that Jesus Himself said, (***Mat.23:10***) ***Neither be ye called masters: for one is your master, even the Christ. (11) But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. (12) And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be humbled; and whosoever shall humble himself shall be exalted.***

Of course, God could have divided Adam right down the middle if He wanted to show total physical equality between men and women, but He chose not to do that. (***Gen.2:21***) ***And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof: (22) and the rib, which the Lord God had taken from the man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.*** Why a rib? It’s the location that makes a rib so special. The ribs surround the chest and protect the heart, so to be “carried in the bosom” (Isaiah 40:11,49:22; Luke 16:22) indicates being protected and cherished, to be hidden in the heart. (***Ruth 4:16***) ***And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom*** (The Hebrew word *cheq* is translated as both “bosom” and “cherish.”), ***and became nurse unto it.***

(1Pe.3:1) In like manner, ye wives, [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may without the

*word be gained by the behavior of their wives; (2) beholding your chaste behavior coupled with fear. (3) Whose adorning let it not be the outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing jewels of gold, or of putting on apparel; (4) but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible apparel of a meek and quiet spirit (A woman who desires to be valuable and beautiful in the sight of God cannot be overbearing and domineering, as the spirit of this perverse age is.), **which is in the sight of God of great price.** That “meek and quiet spirit” was also spoken of Moses, the servant of God. (*Num.12:3*) **Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men that were upon the face of the earth.** And that “meek and quiet spirit” is of such great value that Jesus said of Himself, (*Mat.11:29*) **Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.***

That means the man “carries” the woman; the woman never “carries” the man. (*1Pe.3:5*) **For after this manner aforesaid the holy women also, who hoped in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection to their own husbands: (6) as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose children ye now are, if ye do well, and are not put in fear by any terror. (7) Ye husbands, in like manner, dwell with your wives according to knowledge, giving honor unto the woman, as unto the weaker vessel, as being also joint-heirs of the grace of life; to the end that your prayers be not hindered. (*Gen.2:23*) **And the man 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.** Adam named Eve, but God called the both of them “Adam” because they were one flesh. (*Gen.5:1*) **This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; (2) male and female created he them, and blessed them, and called their** (Notice this is in the plural.) **name Adam, in the day when they were created.****

The Chain of Authority

You've probably noticed that very few women are named in Scripture and it seems to imply that women are a subordinate class, or even just property, however that's not the case. When the woman is not specifically named in the Bible, it's because she is "hid," carried in the bosom, protected and cherished in her husband, as a type of the Church being "hid" in Christ. ***(Col.3:3) For ye died, and your life is hid with Christ in God.*** And that means when you name the husband, then you've also named the wife because they are one.

Notice also that this creates a set chain of authority. ***(1Co.11:8) For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man: (9) for neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man: (10) for this cause ought the woman to have a sign of authority on her head...*** According to Strong's, the Greek word there for "authority" is "eksousía (from 1537 *lek*, 'out from,' which intensifies 1510 *eimí*, 'to be, being as a right or privilege') – authority, conferred power; delegated empowerment ('authorization'), operating in a designated jurisdiction." So the Word is saying a woman has delegated authority, and that authority comes through the man. If she is married, her authority comes through her husband; if she is unmarried, her authority comes through her father (Numbers 30). In the book of Esther, since Mordecai raised Hadassah his niece after she was orphaned, her authority came through him (Esther 2:7,20-22).

This is the same thing Jesus did with His disciples when He sent them forth; He gave them the privilege of using His authority. ***(Mat.28:18) And Jesus came to them and spake unto them, saying, All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. (19) Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: (20) teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.*** "Authority" is "the right to use power," and "delegated authority" is the right to use someone else's power, as in this verse. ***(Isa.40:10) Behold, the Lord God will come as a***

mighty one, and his arm will rule for him: Behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. Your arm is a good example of the right to use someone else's power. By themselves, your fingers don't have the strength of the arm, but through your hand, the fingers have access to all the strength of the arm. The fingers aren't much use without the hand, and the hand isn't much use without the fingers, even though it can access the strength of the arm.

What happens when the husband is not "giving honor to the woman"? As we just read, it says that his prayers will be hindered (1 Peter 3:7). How does that happen? It happens because the husband is supposed to be the priest of his house, but a husband and wife are supposed to be one body. If the husband has in some way cut off or mistreated his wife, if he has not honored his wife, then he has "mutilated" his body. The Hebrew word *charam* translated as "blemish" in the following passage, is also translated "to mutilate, especially the face ... to slit the partition between the nostrils, or the lip, or the lobe of the ear." Prayers come forth from our lips. (*Lev.21:18*) ***For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or anything superfluous, (19) or a man that is broken-footed, or broken-handed, (20) or crook-backed, or a dwarf, or that hath a blemish in his eye, or is scurvy, or scabbed, or hath his stones broken; (21) no man of the seed of Aaron the priest, that hath a blemish, shall come nigh to offer the offerings of the Lord made by fire: he hath a blemish; he shall not come nigh to offer the bread of his God. (22) He shall eat the bread of his God, both of the most holy, and of the holy: (23) only he shall not go in unto the veil, nor come nigh unto the altar, because he hath a blemish; that he profane not my sanctuaries: for I am the Lord who sanctifieth them.*** And if his body is mutilated, then his prayers are going to be hindered, because it says he can't come near to present "the offerings of the Lord made by fire," one type of which is prayer. Incense represents prayer, and incense needs to be lit in order to go up as smoke.

You know, folks, unless the commandments of God are ruling in us, we are not really abiding in Christ because, as the Bible says, ***(1Jn.2:24) As for you, let that abide in you which ye heard from the beginning. If that which ye heard from the beginning abide in you, ye also shall abide in the Son, and in the Father. (25) And this is the promise which he promised us, [even] the life eternal. (26) These things have I written unto you concerning them that would lead you astray.*** Why would God tell us that? He tells us that for our own protection. When Balaam didn't want to follow the limits God set for him, he nearly lost his life (Numbers 22:1-35). ***(Jud.1:6) And angels that kept not their own principality*** (This is the Greek word *arché* and it means "office given in charge," or in other words, "area of authority."), ***but left their proper habitation, he hath kept in everlasting bonds under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.*** Wow! Even the angels have limits placed on them. We need to understand that, what we in our self-will consider to be limitations, are there because He loves us and wants to protect us.

God has standards that don't change with society because, as you can see, when society changes, it just goes down the tubes. It becomes totally corrupt and swallowed up by the curse (Deuteronomy 28). What was fitting and proper 2000 years ago is still right. ***(Col.3:18) Wives, be in subjection to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*** This is not a question of interpretation. This is in black and white and a question of our obedience and respect for God and His Word. If we look at the Greek word translated there as "fitting," according to Strong's, this is "*anékō* (from 303 *aná*, "up/completing a process" and 2240 *hékō*, "come") – properly, come up to a particular standard (expectation), i.e. to what is proper (fit, becoming) to give what 'is due, suitable' (Souter); doing what is appropriately acceptable." Isn't this what Jesus did? ***(Php.2:5) Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (6) who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, (7) but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; (8) and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient***

even unto death, yea, the death of the cross. And isn't this what Jesus said? (*Mat.23:11*) *But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.* Jesus is our Example; Jesus should be our Goal.

Even as babes in the Lord, my wife and I knew we must obey these verses, and God confirmed this with a special word to her. You may recognize it from what John the Baptist said when his apostles left him so they could follow Christ. (*Joh.3:30*) *He must increase, but I must decrease.* God said to my wife, "You must decrease and he must increase." Actually, she even received the infilling of the Holy Spirit before I did, but that didn't give her the right to be the head of the family. I am sure that this is true in some of your lives, also. Now I understand that there are situations where the husband just will not take the lead, and so the wife feels that she has to, but two wrongs do not make a right. We have a clear command from the Lord, folks. If the wife will pray and believe for her husband to fill that position of authority, and then back-off so that he has to make the decisions, he will learn to take the lead. I've been asked, "So what about husbands who do take their position, but use it very legalistically?" That's still no excuse before the Lord for a wife to disobey her husband. Once again, if the wife will pray and believe for her husband to have a greater understanding of Scripture, the Lord will give him the wisdom he needs. We can trust God. He will honor our prayers for our spouse.

It's a sorry state that things are reversed in our society. We're in great corruption right now, because if the husband and wife are not one, if they are not fulfilling their God-ordained roles, then they are a "house divided." And when a society comes out of God's ordained order, that society is a "house divided" and will not stand. (*Mat.12:25*) *And knowing their thoughts he (This is Jesus speaking.) said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand.* America is falling apart because of this.

(Eph.5:22) Wives, [be in subjection] unto your own husbands...

Notice that this doesn't say "unto some women's ministry" or "unto the preacher." It has broken up a lot of families because preachers thought they had a right to exercise authority over somebody else's wife. It's not permitted, folks. There's nobody more important to the wife than her husband because the Lord is going to deal with the wife through the husband.

(Eph.5:22) Wives, [be in subjection] unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. (23) For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, [being] himself the savior of the body. (24) But as the church is subject to Christ, so [let] the wives also [be] to their husbands in everything. (25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it (It's a whole lot easier for a wife to obey her husband when he loves her, because what you sow, you reap {Galatians 6:7-8; 2 Corinthians 9:6}.) ... (28) Even so ought husbands also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his own wife loveth himself: (29) for no man ever hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as Christ also the church; (30) because we are members of his body. (31) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. (32) This mystery is great: but I speak in regard of Christ and of the church. (33) Nevertheless do ye also severally love each one his own wife even as himself; and [let] the wife [see] that she fear her husband. There it is again! There's that chain of command. The relationship of obedience and love that the Church should have to Christ is the same relationship of obedience and love that a woman should have to her husband. When the Church takes the lead, as she has in this day, judgment always comes. This is also true when the wife takes the lead. She is not abiding in the safety and blessing of Christ because she is not abiding in "that which ye heard from the beginning."

Rebellion and Making Excuses

Many wives disobey their husbands with the excuse that he is unspiritual or does not obey the Word in some way. Well, the Scriptures cover that situation, too. ***(1Pe.3:1) In like manner, ye wives, [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives.*** This clearly makes the wife disobedient to the Lord if she is disobedient to her husband and, many times, ends in divorce rather than in winning the husband. It's terrible that married couples are being advised by apostate leaders to divorce for reasons such as incompatibility, or mental cruelty, or weight gain, or substance abuse, etc. other than fornication. Even pastors are getting divorced for reasons other than fornication. But the whole point is that, if we will obey the Lord, God will bless us. In many cases, neither the husband nor the wife are obeying the Lord and so there's no blessing, no favor or grace from God, in the family.

Jesus gave us only one ground for divorce, and that is fornication. ***(Mat.5:32) But I say unto you, that every one that putteth away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, maketh her an adulteress: and whosoever shall marry her when she is put away committeth adultery. (Mat.19:9) And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and he that marrieth her when she is put away committeth adultery.*** He also warned, ***(Mat.19:6) So that they are no more two, but one flesh*** (Which is just as we learned earlier from Genesis 2:23 and 5:2). ***What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*** And, ***(Rom.7:2) For the woman that hath a husband is bound by law to the husband while he liveth; but if the husband die, she is discharged from the law of the husband. (3) So then if, while the husband liveth, she be joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress*** (That's because according to Scripture, she is joined to two men at the same time.): ***but if the husband die, she is free from the law, so that she is no adulteress, though she be joined to another man.***

Even being married to an unbeliever is not grounds enough to leave them; only if they leave are you free. ***(1Co.7:12) But to the rest say I, not the Lord: If any brother hath an unbelieving wife, and she is content to dwell with him, let him not leave her. (13) And the woman that hath an unbelieving husband, and he is content to dwell with her, let her not leave her husband. (14) For the unbelieving husband is sanctified in the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified in the brother: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. (15) Yet if the unbelieving departeth, let him depart: the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such [cases]: but God hath called us in peace.***

There are a lot of unscriptural marriages out there, and many of them have been caused because both people were rebellious. They came together and couldn't make it work, but they wouldn't repent and submit to the Lord, they wouldn't confess their sin, they wouldn't give up their bitterness and unforgiveness, and therefore they were turned over to the tormentors. ***(Mat.18:34) And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due. (35) So shall also my heavenly Father do unto you, if ye forgive not every one his brother from your hearts.*** And when the marriage became nothing but a torment, they just split up.

You may be concerned, thinking, "What can I do if I got married before I came to the Lord?" Don't worry about that, because everything we did before we came to the Lord was sin and we can't go back and do anything about it. ***(1Co.7:12) But to the rest say I, not the Lord: If any brother hath an unbelieving wife, and she is content to dwell with him, let him not leave her. (13) And the woman that hath an unbelieving husband, and he is content to dwell with her, let her not leave her husband. (14) For the unbelieving husband is sanctified in the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified in the brother: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. (15) Yet if the unbelieving departeth, let him depart: the brother or the sister is not under***

bondage in such cases: but God hath called us in peace. Just know that in the New Testament, being married to an unbeliever is not grounds to leave them; again, only if they leave you, are you free. In the Old Testament, however, if a believer married a non-believer, they demanded a divorce over that because for Jews to be married to non-Jews was fornication (Nehemiah 13:23-30; Ezra chapters 9 and 10). (***Neh.13:26***) ***Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, and he was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did foreign women cause to sin. (27) Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to trespass against our God in marrying foreign women?***

Here in our Covenant of the New Testament, we really don't know who is a Jew until they get saved. (***Rom.2:28***) ***For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision which is outward in the flesh: (29) but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.*** And since we don't know who is a "Jew" circumcised in heart before they're saved, God has said to not leave them because the unbelieving spouse is sanctified in the believing spouse. He wants to use the believing spouse to save the unbelieving spouse, and in this study of what the Word has to say about women and authority, we see He wants to use the believing wife to save the unbelieving husband.

[Important Note from the Author: Whether a husband is believing or unbelieving, he can still be very obnoxious, very overbearing, very sinful, and that's very crucifying to the wife but that's not an excuse to leave. In most cases, unless he is asking the wife to willfully sin, there can be submission on her part. However, no one should stay in a situation where their life or the lives of their children are in physical danger. We have permission in such a case to flee (Matthew 24:16; Luke 21:21; etc.) (***Gen.19:17***) ***And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind***

thee, neither stay thou in all the Plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.]

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Remember that we read, *(1Pe.3:1) In like manner, ye wives, [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives; (2) beholding your chaste behavior [coupled] with fear.* The Greek word there for “fear” is *phobos* and it is translated in other places as “respect, reverence, sense of awe.” Why does the Lord command the wife to “fear” her husband? The wife must fear her husband, that is, she must respect, reverence, have a sense of awe toward him, because the husband has the Lord’s authority. The wife should fear her husband just as the Church should fear Christ, Who is her Husband. *(1Pe.3:3) Whose [adorning] let it not be the outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing jewels of gold, or of putting on apparel; (4) but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible [apparel] of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. (5) For after this manner aforetime the holy women also, who hoped in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection to their own husbands: (6) as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord...* The wife is not to go around the authority of the husband.

Take time to study the Word and learn from the examples of the great women of the Bible. For instance, as *Ellicott’s Commentary for English Readers* points out, “Sara's usual subjection is clearly seen in the one instance to which St. Peter refers (Genesis 18:12), where Sara, though not addressing Abraham, but speaking to herself, calls him ‘my lord.’ People show their usual habits of mind more freely in speaking to themselves” (emphasis added). *(1Pe.3:6) As Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose children ye now are, if ye do well, and are not put in fear by any terror.* The *Pulpit Commentary* further explains this as, “The Christian wife might often experience cruel treatment from an

unbelieving husband, but she was not to live in a flutter of excited terror; she was to be calm and quiet, trusting in God.”

Today people think that God has put women in positions of authority in the Church because the men won't do their job, but in both the early Church and the Old Testament church, when women came into authority, it was considered a curse. (*Isa.3:12*) ***As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they that lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.*** Very much since the time of World War II, women have taken more and more authority in the Church while men have foolishly acquiesced and, proportionately, both the Church and society around them has become more and more corrupt. I was once asked, “Wasn't there a woman judge in the Old Testament, David?” Yes, there was, but even in the Old Testament it was a shame and a rebuke in Israel for women to manipulate and domineer their husbands, so let's take a look at that particular instance.

Deborah

(Jdg.4:4) Now Deborah, a prophetess (Note that “prophetess” is not listed as an office of an elder or overseer in the New Testament {Ephesians 4:11}.), ***the wife of Lappidoth,*** (And here we see that Scripture is careful to point out she is using the delegated authority of God, which comes through her husband.), ***she judged Israel at that time.*** God prophesied through Deborah that a man, Barak, would take the lead to conquer the enemy (Judges 4:6-7). No male judge listed in the same chapters ever had to go find another man to take the lead; they conquered the enemy themselves. Neither Othniel (Judges 3:9), or Ehud (Judges 3:15), or Shamgar (Judges 3:31), or Gideon (Judges 6:14) or Samson (Judges 13:24-25), called anybody else to do their job. And though Barak was the one who insisted that Deborah go with him to the war, he got rebuked and shamed for it. (*Jdg.4:8*) ***And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go; but if thou wilt not go with***

me, I will not go. (9) And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding, the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honor; for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.

For a woman to have been given the honor of killing Sisera was not honoring to the man. ***(Jdg.4:21) Then Jael Heber's wife took a tent-pin, and took a hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the pin into his temples, and it pierced through into the ground; for he was in a deep sleep; so he swooned and died.*** We can see that again in the story of Abimelech. ***(Jdg.9:52) And Abimelech came unto the tower, and fought against it, and drew near unto the door of the tower to burn it with fire. (53) And a certain woman cast an upper millstone upon Abimelech's head, and brake his skull. (54) Then he called hastily unto the young man his armorbearer, and said unto him, Draw thy sword, and kill me, that men say not of me, A woman slew him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died.***

In our Covenant of the New Testament, God says to us, ***(1Ti.2:11) Let a woman learn in quietness with all subjection. (12) But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man*** (That's the Greek *anér* meaning "a male human being; a man, husband."), ***but to be in quietness.*** Although anything a woman speaks to a man that he does not already know could be accounted as teaching, that's too broad an interpretation. For example, there's no verse that says a woman cannot witness what God did for her, as here with Anna. ***(Luk.2:36) And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher (she was of a great age, having lived with a husband seven years from her virginity, (37) and she had been a widow even unto fourscore and four years), who departed not from the temple, worshipping with fastings and supplications night and day. (38) And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks unto God, and spake of him to all them that were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.*** On the other hand, the woman is forbidden to hold the office of an Evangelist, as we'll see.

Offices of the New Testament Church

(1Ti.2:13) For Adam was first formed (Reference Genesis 2:21-23.), then Eve; (14) and Adam was not beguiled, but the woman being beguiled hath fallen into transgression. Satan knows that the woman can be more easily beguiled, and the man can be more easily tempted to follow her, just as it was with Adam. ***(Gen.3:12) And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. (13) And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.*** If you look up the Hebrew word *nasha*, translated there as “beguiled,” you find that the literal meaning is “to lend on interest, be a creditor.” What happened here? The woman was brought into bondage to the serpent; she became a debtor to him. ***(Gen.3:16) Unto the woman he (This is the Lord speaking.) said, I will greatly multiply thy pain and thy conception; in pain thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire (Strong’s says this is “from *shuwq* in the original sense of stretching out after; a longing – desire.”) shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.*** The Hebrew word there for “rule” is *mashal* and it means “have dominion, reign, gain control, govern.” This is the command of the Lord.

(Gen.3:17) And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake.

Notice the first sin that brought the curse on humanity was the man submitting to his wife instead of the Lord, and do you think it would not bring a curse today? Just as the husband should make it easy for the wife to obey, the wife should make it easy for the husband to be the head, because if he’s not, it’s going to bring a curse on the entire family. Eve eating the forbidden fruit was the first sin and that sin changed her. But

Adam and Eve were one body, so she leavened him because (Gal.5:9) ***A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.*** The Greek word for “leaven” is *zýmē* and it also means “ferment.” *Strong’s* says “(figuratively) the *spreading influence* of what is typically *concealed* (but still very dramatic). Leaven is generally a symbol of the spreading nature of *evil*, but note the exception at Lk. 13:20:21 (parallel Mt. 13:32,33)” (emphasis theirs).

Now sometimes people think they’ve found another loophole here for a woman to take authority over a man, so let’s see if that’s really the case. ***(1Co.14:33) As in all the churches of the saints, (34) let the women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but let them be in subjection, as also saith the law.*** We can know that this is not just an outdated Jewish custom, as some say, because God was speaking to the Gentiles in Corinthians. Notice that “all the churches” obeyed this, and both the Law and the New Testament gave this as a “commandment of the Lord.” ***(1Co.14:37) If any man thinketh himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him take knowledge of the things which I write unto you, that they are the commandment of the Lord.*** One sister wrote me a letter saying, “I can’t find any law in the Scripture stating this. Perhaps it was the law in the synagogue, being a Roman law.” I replied, “The Law of the Lord says, ***(Gen.3:16) ... and he shall rule over thee. (17) And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife ... cursed is the ground for thy sake.***” Notice that it was a law, with the curse as a consequence.

The Law of the Lord was before the Law of Moses and is differentiated in Scripture. ***(Luk.2:22) And when the days of their purification according to the law of Moses were fulfilled, they brought him up to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord (23) (as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord), (24) and to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.*** The Law of the Lord there was quoted from Exodus 13:2,12, while the law of

Moses was not until Exodus 20. The Law of the Lord was even in Psalms. (*Joh.10:34*) ***Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, ye are gods?*** That's from Psalm 82:6. Another one is, (*Joh.15:25*) ***But (this cometh to pass), that the word may be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.*** That's from Psalm 69:4. However, to make it absolutely clear that the Law of the Lord was given to Adam before the Law of Moses, we have the very first law He gave. (*Gen.2:17*) ***But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*** From the Law of Moses in Numbers 30, we learn that a woman was under the authority of her father, or later, under the authority of her husband, even to the extent of binding or loosing her very words. Her father or husband had the authority to disallow those words or to let them stand. The man wasn't given any such leniency. His words stood, but when the woman spoke words that could have brought a curse on their family, the man had the authority to disallow those words and the Lord accepted that because of his position.

(*1Co.14:35*) ***And if they (This is referring to wives.) would learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home: for it is shameful for a woman to speak in the church.*** Again, the husband alone is the spiritual leader of the wife, not the pastor or some women's ministry. (*36*) ***What? was it from you that the word of God went forth? or came it unto you alone?*** (*37*) ***If any man thinketh himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him take knowledge of the things which I write unto you, that they are the commandment of the Lord.*** Obviously, God knew that somewhere down the road, many people calling themselves "prophets" and "spiritual" would come along, thinking that they knew more than the Word. (*38*) ***But if any man is ignorant, let him be ignorant.*** It's true; we don't have to argue with one another over "this" or fight over "that." (*Rom.14:1*) ***But him that is weak in faith receive ye, yet not for decision of scruples.*** (According to Strong's, the literal Greek there reads, "passing judgment on reasonings.") ***... for God hath received him.*** (*4*) ***Who art thou that judgest the servant of another? to his own***

lord he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be made to stand; for the Lord hath power to make him stand. It's for our own good that we obey the Word of the Lord. It is to deliver us from the curse, so if a person wants to be ignorant, just let them be ignorant.

(1Co.14:33) As in all the churches of the saints, (34) let the women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak.

The “silence” here is prohibiting teaching and taking authority, as we can see from, *(1Ti.2:12): But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness.* Paul did say that a woman can pray or prophesy. *(1Co.11:5) But every woman praying or prophesying...* So this “silence” or “quietness” does not include praying, because that is to God and not to men. Neither does this include prophesying, because that is from God and not the woman. A prophetess has the gift of prophecy but cannot have the office of Prophet, because a Prophet is an overseer, and an overseer has authority to teach and command in the Church. Women can have many ministries but not the five-fold ministries.

Only men are permitted to be bishops, or “overseers,” which include the offices of the five-fold ministries of apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher, and evangelist, and their personal lives must be above reproach. *(1Ti.3:1) Faithful is the saying, If a man seeketh the office of a bishop ...* The Greek word for “bishop” is *episkopé* and it means “visitation (of judgment), (b) oversight, supervision, overseership.” In the modern church, and in many cases, in the non-Spirit-filled churches, a “bishop” is somebody who has authority over the pastors, but that's not Scriptural. In the early church, the overseers were the five-fold ministries of apostles, pastors, teachers, prophets, evangelists. They were overseers of the people. Also, they were called “elders”; it's just another term that emphasizes different aspects of their ministry. *(1Ti.3:1) Faithful is the saying, If a man seeketh the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. (2) The bishop therefore must be without reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, orderly, given to hospitality, apt*

to teach; (3) no brawler, no striker; but gentle, not contentious, no lover of money; (4) one that ruleth well his own house, having [his] children in subjection with all gravity; (5) (but if a man knoweth not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) (6) not a novice, lest being puffed up he fall into the condemnation of the devil. (7) Moreover he must have good testimony from them that are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Bishops at this point are separated from deacons, *diakonos*, meaning “servant” or “minister.” We’ll look at this again later.

Now, in a different attempt to locate a loophole, a man once pointed out to me that the Greek word for “man” in 1 Timothy 3:1 is derived from *ánthrōpos*, which *Strong’s* says is “the generic term for ‘mankind’; the human race; people, including women and men” (emphasis added), but he didn’t dig deep enough. The word translated “man” there is also translated as “any,” “whoever,” “someone,” “anyone,” “anything,” or “one,” because it’s actually the Greek *tis*, an indefinite pronoun, and not derived from *ánthrōpos*. The only way to find out what *tis* is supposed to mean in this verse is to keep on reading for the context. (*1Ti.3:1*) *Faithful is the saying, If a man* (That’s *tis*, the Greek indefinite pronoun.) *seeketh the office of a bishop, he* (The original Greek does not have the word, “he,” which was added-in based on the context of the next verse.) *desireth a good work. (2) The bishop therefore must be without reproach, the husband* (This is the Greek *anér* and it means "a male human being, a man, husband." A woman cannot be a husband.) *of one wife...* So when I pointed out to him that verse two says a bishop must be a “man of one wife,” he could not accept it.

Then I pointed out that this is in agreement with the verses which are just above this. (*1Ti.2:11*) *Let a woman* (This is the Greek word *guné* meaning “a woman, wife, lady ... universally, a woman of any age, whether a virgin, or married, or a widow.”) *learn in quietness with all subjection. (12) But I permit not a woman* (This is *guné* again.) *to*

teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness.

Stubbornly, he said that this spoke only of wives submitting to their husbands. I pointed out that *guné* is used 214 times in the New Testament: 1 time for bride, 84 times for married women, and 130 times for unmarried women, so *guné* in this verse does mean “woman.” Also I pointed out that women were commonly married as young teenagers in prearranged agreements, therefore most women were married, unless widowed. Using his logic would mean that any female, whether married or unmarried and no matter how young she might be, could teach and exercise authority over any man, so long as he was not her husband. This is obviously ridiculous but such reasoning did not faze him, for he was raised with the woman in authority in his house and in his church, and he had a Jezebel spirit. I told him that since he had done so much research to prove me wrong and had only come up with these desperate twistings of the Word, he had proven my point.

I also pointed out that all elders, whether apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, or bishops, had to be men. ***(1Ti.3:2) The bishop therefore must be without reproach, the husband ...*** As we read above, this is the Greek *anér* and it means "a male human being, a man, husband." Since the bishops must be men and the elders were called “bishops” in the Word, then all elders must be men. ***(Act.20:17) And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called to him the elders of the church. Here he said unto them, (28) Take heed unto yourselves, and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops, to feed the church of the Lord which he purchased with his own blood.*** Elders in the early church were not assistants to the pastors but held the offices of the five-fold ministries of apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher, and evangelist. Now you can see once more that these must all be men. Also notice the word "feed" here. That’s the Greek word *poimainó*, which means “I shepherd, tend, herd; hence: I rule, govern ... usually with a figurative sense of ‘shepherding (tending) God's flock.’ This provides Spirit-directed guidance (care) conjunction with feeding His people (teaching them Scripture).” So pastors, whether in the wider sense of the

five-fold ministries or in the narrower sense of the individual pastor's position among the five-fold ministries, cannot be women.

The Lord clearly separates the office of bishops from the service of “deacons,” which is the Greek word *diákonos* meaning "a servant." Paul separated these, too, in order to point out that the bishops have spiritual headship, while the deacons are other ministries or services that do not have this office. (*Php.1:1*) ***Paul and Timothy, servants*** (This is a different Greek word, *doúlos*, meaning "bond-slave" ... used with the highest dignity ... of believers who willingly live under Christ's authority as His devoted followers.) ***of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus that are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons.*** (*1Ti.3:8*) ***Deacons in like manner [must be] grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; (9) holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. (10) And let these also first be proved; then let them serve as deacons, if they be blameless. (11) Women*** (That's the Greek *guné*, which we've seen is used of both married and unmarried women; hence, the word means "women.") ***in like manner [must be] grave, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. (12) Let deacons be husbands of one wife*** (This is once again the Greek *guné*.) ***ruling [their] children and their own houses well*** (1 Timothy 5:14; Proverbs 31). Notice the command in both cases is to the woman of the deacon, who is the husband. ***(13) For they that have served well as deacons gain to themselves a good standing, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*** Deacons are not described as an office in any Greek manuscript. Rather than “served well,” the King James Version mis-translates this as "used the office," but the numeric pattern proves that it's wrong. [Editor's Note: The *Numeric English New Testament* is available as a PDF without charge at <https://www.ubml.org/?page=ubmbooks>.] It's wrong because there is no office of a deacon. The offices are the five-fold ministries. The word "deacon" just means "to serve," and this word is used in the New Testament to cover everything from serving in a church capacity all the way down to serving as a household servant.

Next let's look at a situation where the deacons are those who have been given an administration that could necessitate taking authority over men. ***(Act.6:1) Now in these days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring of the Grecian Jews against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. (2) And the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not fit that we should forsake the word of God, and serve (This is the same Greek word *diákonos* as a verb, *diakoneó*, meaning "to serve.") tables. (3) Look ye out therefore, brethren, from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom... Most of the people running ministries are not "full of the Spirit," evidenced by the fact that they don't have the gifts as shown in Acts. Notice also that they had to be those with a good reputation since becoming a Christian, so even a deacon, a servant, had to have a good reputation. Unfortunately, there are many ministries these days that don't have a good reputation from "them that are without" (Mark 4:11; Colossians 4:5), even though that's commanded. ***(1Ti.3:7) Moreover he must have good testimony from them that are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.******

(Act.6:3) Look ye out therefore, brethren, from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. In this case, only a man could be placed in an administrative capacity because it included taking authority over men, too, as overseers concerning the business of the church. Only where authority over men is not involved, can women be deacons. ***(Joh.12:2) So they made him a supper there: and Martha served (That's the Greek *diakoneó*.); but Lazarus was one of them that sat at meat with him.***

You know, in a larger sense, we are all called to be deacons, servants, in some capacity, but not necessarily where we have authority over someone. ***(Joh.12:26) If any man serve (Again, this is the verb *diakoneó*.) me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my***

servant (This is the noun, *diákonos*.) ***be: if any man serve*** (Here we're back to *diakoneó*.) ***me, him will the Father honor***. From menial physical laborers, such as the servants who filled the waterpots of the wedding at Cana (John 2:5,9), to our Lord Himself, Who said, (***Luk.22:27***) ... ***I am in the midst of you as he that serveth*** (And this is also *diakoneó*.), one who serves or “ministers” is a “deacon.” Even apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, and evangelists are called to be servants because they all serve. They are not supposed to be lords over God's heritage. (***1Pe.5:2***) ***Tend the flock of God which is among you, exercising the oversight, not of constraint, but willingly, according to the will of God; nor yet for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; (3) neither as lording it over the charge allotted to you, but making yourselves ensamples to the flock***. Far too many so-called “ministers” aren't ministers: they're lords. They're not interested in being servants because they like living “high off the hog” and they enjoy being rulers over servants. They've forgotten, if they ever knew, that the Lord, Himself, washed the feet of the disciples and that He was in their midst as One Who served them.

Some people say that women can be elders in the Church because the Word mentions "elder women," as in this text. (***1Ti.5:1***) ***Rebuke not an elder*** (This is the Greek male singular noun *presbýteros*.), ***but exhort him as a father; the younger men as brethren: (2) the elder women*** (This is the Greek feminine plural noun *presbyteras*.) ***as mothers; the younger as sisters, in all purity***. Although, as with the English word for “elder,” the Greek word for “elder” is used for both the physically older and the spiritually older, we can clearly see that God is speaking here of the physically older because the opposite is also mentioned, the “younger men” and “younger sisters.” We've seen that the spiritual elders were ordained in the early Church as five-fold ministers, and since a woman is not permitted to teach or take authority over the man or be an overseer, we know that this verse cannot be used in that way. Both Peter and John, who were apostles, called themselves “elders” (1 Peter 5:1; 1 John 1; 3 John 1). *Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament*

Words says of this verse: "The feminine of the adjective is used of elder women in the churches, 1 Tim.5:2, not in respect of position but in seniority of age." And *Strong's* says: "The NT specifies elders are *men*. (The feminine singular, *presbytera*, never occurs in the Bible.) ... [The feminine plural, *presbyteras*, occurs in 1 Tim.5:2. It refers to *aged women*, i.e. not women with an official church office or title.]"

Now let's look at yet one more place where people try to make a Scripture mean what they want it to mean. (*Rom.16:7*) ***Salute Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen, and my fellow-prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also have been in Christ before me.*** In another effort to prove that women can be Church elders, there are those who will destroy every other verse on the subject by saying that "Junias" was a woman apostle. *Zondervan's Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible* says, "Whether the name here is masculine or feminine is uncertain." *Strong's* says "as contracted from Junianus; cf. Winer's Grammar, 102f (97)." Well, we know that God's Word does not contradict itself, folks. If this verse is saying that "Junias," or "Junia" as it's sometimes translated, is an apostle, then Junias must be a man by every other text on the subject. And if Junias is a woman, then the verse is not saying she is an apostle, but is just being noted by them. This is the only way that this verse fits with every other verse.

Those women who are older in the Lord are called to teach the younger women about things concerning the home, children, and maintaining a right relationship to their husband; no where are they called to teach doctrine. (*Tit.2:1*) ***But speak thou*** (Paul is still addressing Titus here.) ***the things which befit the sound doctrine: (3) that aged women likewise be reverent in demeanor, not slanderers nor enslaved to much wine, teachers of that which is good; (4) that they may train the young women to love their husbands ...*** Christ, Who is our Husband, tells us that the only way we can love Him is to keep His commandments, and so it is with the woman and her husband. (*Joh.14:15*) ***If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments.***

(Tit.2:4) That they may train the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, (5) [to be] sober-minded, chaste, workers at home, kind, being in subjection to their own husbands (Notice the chain of command and delegated authority.), that the word of God be not blasphemed. Under the husband, the woman has authority over the household and the children. ***(Eph.6:1) Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. (2) Honor thy father and mother (which is the first commandment with promise {Deuteronomy 5:16}). (1Ti.5:14) I desire therefore that the younger [widows] marry, bear children, rule the household, give no occasion to the adversary for reviling.***

In God's ideal society, the women should be "workers at home," not competing with men as the breadwinners unless, of course, they are the only breadwinners. If the world would obey this, there would be many more jobs for men and far fewer homes that had no breadwinner at all. This would distribute the wealth more evenly and lead to fewer people on welfare. You may say, "Well, David, there's not anything like that out there in most churches and homes today." I agree with you, but I can tell you that the people who claim God as their Savior and Lord are going to be like it was in the Scriptures because God is going to restore all things. ***(Joe.2:23) Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he giveth you the former rain in just measure, and he causeth to come down for you the rain, the former rain and the latter rain, in the first [month].*** It's going to happen twice, with the "former rain" and with the "latter rain." God is going to pour out His Holy Spirit in order to restore all things and the true people of God are going to love to serve Him in agreement with the Word. Praise the Lord!

The Word, Women and Authority

Chapter 2

The Unchanging Word of God, Part 2

God Uses Honorable and Dishonorable Vessels

Back about 40 years ago, when I was young in the Lord, there was a woman who taught very well in our denomination, and a lot of people really respected and enjoyed her teaching. I really respected and enjoyed her teaching, too, but at the same time, I was diligently reading the Bible and I was confused. There were all these verses about how women were not to teach or take authority, and I was wondering, "What's wrong here, Lord? This doesn't seem to agree with Your Word." And the Lord answered me. He told me that He would use anyone who put themselves in a position of authority. Whether for good or whether for bad, whether the vessel is right or whether the vessel is wrong, He uses them.

(Rom.9:21) Or hath not the potter a right over the clay, from the same lump to make one part a vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor?

Folks, all vessels belong to the Lord and God can use people like He used a donkey in the Old Testament (Numbers 22:21-28). We once prayed for a man in a mental institution to be saved. The next day, two mentally-deranged people came up to him and were suddenly in their right mind. One said, "Take this Bible and read it." The other one brought him about 20 Scriptures to read and told him she didn't know why she was to give him this message. As soon as they did this, they both went right back to being crazy and hugging the wall or cringing in the corner. That man we prayed for was saved. He went to thank them for their kindness but they didn't know what he was talking about. The man said he didn't own a Bible. The lady said she had never spoken to him. There was no sign that they were even believers. Excerpted below

is his testimony, with my comments in italics [Editor's Note: From page 174 of *The Real Good News*, David Eells, UBM BOOKS, 2014].

“I had two people, both vessels of dishonor, approach me in the hospital. The first was my roommate. He would talk to himself and babble utter nonsense all day, but he turned to me and said very clearly, ‘Take this Bible and read it.’ (*Here's a guy he never heard say anything coherent or intelligible the whole time he'd known him and suddenly he said this very clearly: 'Take this Bible and read it.' Awesome! You know, God can speak to you through a donkey, if He wants to. But nothing can stop God from bringing to pass what you can believe Him for. Nothing! Nothing in this world! It doesn't matter where you are. Terry was where there was no minister of the Gospel to preach to him. His family wasn't there. There was nothing but the same kind of people like that all around him, but that didn't stop God.*) Within minutes, he returned to his old self. The same day, an elderly lady who had, in many ways, the same problems as my roommate, came up to me and gave me about 20 Scriptures to read. She told me she didn't know why she was to give me this message.

“The next day, I wanted to thank my two messengers. (*I mean, Terry had a real experience that night studying the Scriptures. The Lord moved on his heart mightily that particular night and so he wanted to go thank these messengers that the Lord had sent to him.*) But they didn't even know what I was talking about. My roommate said he didn't own a Bible and the lady said she had never even talked to me. Well, this amazed me. (*I can imagine it would have amazed anyone.*) Soon, I was released from the hospital and I went to go live with my sister, but I was still on the medication. I attended the Unleavened Bread Ministries Bible Study and the Lord did something wonderful for me. He laid it on my heart to repent and to confess my sins. The group laid hands on me and prayed for my deliverance from the medication and the evil spirits that had consumed my body, my heart and my soul. The next day, I took a leap of faith and stopped taking my medicine all at once. (*The doctors had told Terry that if he ever did this, it would kill him. They had pretty*

well convinced him. This brother knew more about medicine than any layman I've run across. He could tell you the name of it, tell you what it did, just everything, you know. He really studied up on this stuff.) Look, several of these medicines that I took, if you get off of them cold turkey and you don't have the power of God on you, you are just going to die. *(That's what the doctors told him, too.)* But I thank the Lord for that healing every day. *(The Lord gave him a total and complete deliverance.)* Without the Lord's intervention, I would not be alive today. Since then, I've devoted my life to try to understand God's Word with the ability the Lord gives me and I'm very thankful."

So you see, just because God uses people does not mean that they are in His Will, nor does it mean that they even will be saved if they are in personal disobedience. *(Mat.7:21) Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven.* Yes, there are many people who call Him "Lord," but if they're not obeying in their own life, then He's not their Lord. *(22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*

These people were doing all kinds of mighty works by the Hand of the Lord, and yet the Lord said, "I never knew you." What does that mean? What it is to "know"? I dug into this one time and I discovered it was talking about when Adam "knew" Eve. *(Gen.4:1) And the man knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man with the help of God.* It is a personal relationship between a man and a woman. When God sows His Seed in us, that's when He knows us. In The Parable of the Weeds (Matthew 13:24-30,36-43), the Greek word there for "seed" is actually *sperma*. And in The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3-8, 18-23; Mark 4:1-9,13-20; Luke 8:4-15), the "seed" is the Word of God. *(Luk.1:34) And Mary said unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know* (This is the Greek *ginóskó*

corresponding to the Hebrew *yada*.) ***not a man?*** When God “knows” us, it’s because we’re receiving, in fertile ground, His Word. That means we are humbly submitting to His Word.

God can use you mightily, but that doesn’t mean that you are saved. We can preach, teach, cast out demons, and prophesy, but if we are not sent by God and just doing our own egotistical will, we are building our house on sand (Matthew 7:26-27). Even the great apostle Paul said, ***(1Co.9:27) But I buffet my body, and bring it into bondage*** (He kept his body in submission.): ***lest by any means, after that I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected*** (That’s the Greek word *adokimos* and it means “reprobate; counterfeit; failing to pass the test; not approved.”). God’s people need help and God will use whomever they submit to, but that does not mean those “ministers” are personally submitted to God.

There are many churches today with women pastors and women preachers and women in all kinds of positions, including positions where they’re taking authority over men. These women are disobeying God’s Word; they’re in rebellion and they need to repent. I’m not denying that some of those women may be very good at what they’re doing, even though it’s unscriptural. They may lay hands on the sick and the sick may recover. They may preach to the lost and the lost get saved. All that has nothing whatever to do with whether or not those women are going to enter the Kingdom. ***(Mat.7:26) And every one that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand: (27) and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and smote upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall thereof.*** Notice in the text the Lord is saying you have to build your own “house.”

The Warning is in the Word

You may ask, "David, wouldn't God speak to these women to warn them against exercising authority over men?" My answer is that all you have to do is read the New Testament one time and you'll find we've been warned over and over, many times. For instance, in The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, the rich man in Hades wanted Father Abraham to send the beggar Lazarus, who was in Abraham's bosom, to warn his family. ***(Luk.16:29) But Abraham saith, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.*** In other words, the rich man's family already have the Word with all these commands, and they are responsible to obey them. ***(30) And he*** (This is the rich man speaking.) ***said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one go to them from the dead, they will repent. (31) And he*** (This is Abraham answering.) ***said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, if one rise from the dead.*** How true! Jesus rose from the dead and yet even that's not enough for some people to repent. Folks, we still have His truth in the written Word today and we are still responsible to that Word.

Those who hear God's Word and go on to willfully rebel will have judgment. Their house will fall. ***(Heb.10:26) For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more a sacrifice for sins, (27) but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which shall devour the adversaries.*** These women taking authority need to stop shrugging off God's warnings and repent while there is time, while God is being merciful. God is not going to change His Mind to agree with the whims of society, and people who disagree with the Word of God will find they're going to receive less and less grace.

I am not saying everybody who is ignorant of these verses, or ignorant of their true application for our day, will be lost, but they certainly may not be as great in the Kingdom as they were thought to be on earth. ***(Mat.5:19) Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so...*** Here "men" is the Greek

anthrōpos which is “the generic term for ‘*mankind*’; the human race; people, including *women* and men.” I have seen this happen with women who were taking a position of authority and teaching men, while they justified themselves with all manner of feeble excuses, but then, all the excuses I’ve ever heard are paper thin. For example, I’ve actually been told, “Well, I’m doing this in obedience to my husband.” That’s plain ridiculous and it’s nothing but a lie, too, because we just saw what our spiritual Husband said about this. I’ve also had more than one woman say to me, “Well, there’s no man to do the job,” but that doesn’t matter, either. I always tell them, “Nope, you’re breaking the Word.”

(Mat.5:19) Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven... Oh, they might be famous in the world, but remember what Jesus said, ***(Joh.15:18) If the world hateth you, ye know that it hath hated me before it hated you.*** All you have to do is agree with this Word, which is so contrary to the people of this world, and they will hate you. So when you find religious leaders who are acceptable to the masses of the world, know that there’s something wrong there.

(Mat.5:19) Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. What we’re going to see in the Kingdom of Heaven, folks, is how reversed everything there is from the kingdom of this world. In this world, those people who are considered “spiritual” and “great” are nothing like the people they think that they’re going to be in the Kingdom, and they’re going to be surprised at the humbleness and submissiveness of those people who are truly great in God. People who are not great on this earth, not liked on this earth, persecuted on this earth, those are the people who are going to be called “great” in the Kingdom.

God's Word Does not Contradict Itself

Now it does appear that both Priscilla and Aquila were instructing Apollos concerning the "Way" and people will regularly point this out to me to try and change my mind about women being allowed to teach men, so let's look at that. (*Act.18:24*) ***Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by race, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the scriptures. (25) This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spake and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, knowing only the baptism of John: (26) and he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more accurately.*** Back under the Old Testament Law, ignorance was not an excuse (Leviticus 4:2,13,27; 5:15; etc.) (*Lev.5:17*) ***And if any one sin, and do any of the things which the Lord hath commanded not to be done; though he knew it not, yet is he guilty, and shall bear his iniquity.*** Over in the New Testament, which is our Covenant, ignorance is an excuse. (*Luk.12:48*) ***But he that knew not, and did things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few [stripes]. And to whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required: and to whom they commit much, of him will they ask the more.*** So notice that it only says they "expounded unto him ... more accurately," not "perfectly." Even the apostle Paul was receiving Words of Knowledge and Wisdom concerning correct doctrine during these days and afterward, when he was writing his epistles. We have the benefit of all this to study and restudy but most of his contemporaries did not.

The Scriptures teach that the responsibility of sin is not imputed until after one receives knowledge of the truth, for example, (*Jas.4:17*) ***To him therefore that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.*** Also, (*Rom.4:15*) ***For the law worketh wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.*** (*Rom.5:13*) ***For until the law sin was in the world; but sin is not imputed when there is no law.***

(Rom.7:8) But sin, finding occasion, wrought in me through the commandment all manner of coveting: for apart from the law sin [is] dead. And we have, (Heb.10:26) For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more a sacrifice for sins, (27) but a certain fearful expectation of judgment. Jesus said of the Pharisees, (Joh.15:22) If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no excuse for their sin. We really shouldn't condemn individuals for disobeying the command, "I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness," until we have explained from Scripture that their actions are wrong. However, this clear command and all the others cannot be overthrown by any testimony of what Priscilla did. The Scriptures testify of both good and evil things that people did, but the commands must be obeyed.

Well, we haven't run out of arguments yet, folks. Even after all these other verses that we've looked at which define the role of women, some people say that this next verse, which was given through Paul to the Galatians, cancels out every one of them. *(Gal.3:28) There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, there can be no male and female, for ye are all one man in Christ Jesus.* What they don't understand is that this text is not talking about the differences of the ministrations or the differences of the sexes and so on. It's pointing out that there is no division in the Body of Christ. We are not separate; we are one in Christ Jesus because we *(Col.3:10) ... have put on the new man, that is being renewed unto knowledge after the image of him that created him: (11) where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bondman, freeman; but Christ is all, and in all.*

Paul isn't telling us that a man and woman are not distinct one from another. A man and his wife are "one" but they are certainly not the same, just as Jews are not Greeks and the bond are not free. People who have a lust to rule will go to great extents to twist and pervert the

Scriptures, but this text clearly does not mean that the woman need not obey the man, any more than it means that the children need not obey the woman. ***(Eph.6:1) Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. (2) Honor thy father and mother (which is the first commandment with promise), (3) that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.*** Nor does it mean that bond-servants need not obey their masters. ***(Col.3:22) Servants, obey in all things them that are your masters according to the flesh; not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but in singleness of heart, fearing the Lord.***

The same man wrote all of these verses, folks. How can he mean one thing over in Ephesians and Colossians, and a different thing in Galatians? It would be making both Paul and God schizophrenic to use that verse that way, but people still try to use one verse to annul all the verses in the Bible that have to do with the woman submitting to authority, and the woman not teaching or taking authority over the man. How can they do that when it makes no sense? It's because people with a lust to rule will do whatever they need to do to have a position of authority. They think nothing of perverting and twisting the Word. Paul, by the Lord, wrote those other verses, too. Do you think the Lord was schizophrenic? Do you think Paul was schizophrenic? The Lord, through Paul, made it plain that even though they are one, there is a difference between a man and a woman. ***(1Co.11:3) 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.*** There are many who would destroy this distinction, many who would destroy society and bring us under the curse, but God is not going to change His Mind. ***(1Co.11:9) For neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.*** You may have noticed that when giving their reasons as to why this is no longer true, people like to say it was only for that day, "Oh, all that passed away with the apostles." But it's still true that the woman was made for the man. The woman is still "for the man" today, so this is still in effect. God is not budging from this verse.

One scripture cannot annul another because Scripture does not contradict itself. Any place we think we've found a contradiction, what we've really found is that there's something we don't yet understand, but those who want to live after the flesh will pick and choose verses which allow them to live after the flesh. That men and women are "one in Christ" does not mean we are one in the flesh, for the flesh is not "in Christ." Rather, the Scriptures say, ***(Rom.8:6) For the mind of the flesh is death; but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace: (7) because the mind of the flesh is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can it be: (8) and they that are in the flesh cannot please God.***

In order for us to be one "in Christ," we must obey the commandments put upon our bodies, whether man or woman. ***(Luk.9:23) And he said unto all, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.*** If we do not submit to these commandments, we do not abide "in Christ." ***(1Jn.3:6) Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither knoweth him.*** If we do not obey the commandments, then we are not taking up our cross of death to self or flesh. If we do not obey, then we will not lose our old life so that the spirit man, who is "in Christ," can be victorious to bear fruit in our life. If we choose to walk after the flesh instead, we must die. ***(Rom.8:12) So then, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh: (13) for if ye live after the flesh, ye must die; but if by the Spirit ye put to death the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*** I am only asking you to believe the Word so you don't get deceived by what this perverted society wants you to think.

Scriptural Examples of the Jezebel Spirit

You know, folks, as I was working on this study, I wrote, "Not one elder in our New Covenant was a woman. None of the 12 apostles (Luke 6:13) or the 70 others Jesus appointed (Luke 10:1) or those elders who followed after them were women," and immediately the Lord spoke to

me. He said, "Except Jezebel." She was mentioned to be an elder in the church, but that was one I had not thought of, so I was thankful to the Lord for that correction. And we have two Jezebels in the Bible, which are two witnesses of what "Jezebel" actually represents.

In the New Testament, Jezebel illegally exercised authority in the Church. (**Rev.2:20**) *But I have [this] against thee, that thou sufferest* (This is the Greek *aphiémi* meaning "allow; permit; tolerate.") *the woman Jezebel, who calleth herself* (Notice she took this office for herself.) *a prophetess...* A prophetess who is sent by the Lord is never going to lead people astray, but this is not a prophetess from the Lord. Neither can a minister who is sent by the Lord go out and lead people back under the Law. Jesus was very particular with His ministry. He made sure that the apostles taught the truth before He sent them out, as in Peter's vision of the sheet with the unclean animals (Acts 10:11-16), which gave him the revelation (**Act.10:28**) *... unto me hath God showed that I should not call any man common or unclean.* And it's the same today, folks. Maybe Bible colleges will send out ministers who are lacking truth and full of error, but the Lord's not doing that; man is doing that.

(**Rev.2:20**) *But I have [this] against thee, that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel, who calleth herself a prophetess; and she teacheth* (We've seen that's forbidden.) *and seduceth my servants to commit fornication* (To receive the "seed," or word, of the world is "fornication" for a Christian.), *and to eat things sacrificed to idols.* It is idolatry to obey a Harlot religious system, rather than the Word, on this matter. If you respect men more than the Word of God, if you respect some pet doctrine or religion more than you respect the Word of God, then you have an idol. You should be repenting and changing your mind to agree with the Word. (**Rev.2:21**) *And I gave her* (This is Jezebel.) *time that she should repent* (The same is true today, folks. God is giving us time to repent. If God doesn't judge you immediately, that should not say to you that you're okay. Be quick to change your mind when you read the

Word.); *and she willeth not to repent of her fornication*. Again, spiritually-speaking, fornication would be if we received a “seed” not of our Husband, Who is Christ. You tell me, “Oh, but this is the way they do it today, David, and besides, women have been teaching in our church for years.” Nonsense! That’s the seed of the world. You’re departing from the Word because that’s not God’s Seed. That’s not the eternal truth of the Word.

(Rev.2:22) Behold, I cast her (Still speaking of Jezebel.) into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation... That’s a type and shadow for the last seven years, those seven years of the Tribulation. *(Mat.24:21) For then shall be great tribulation, such as hath not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever shall be.* (See also Ezekiel 5:9, Daniel 12:1, Joel 2:2, Matthew 24:29; etc.) *(Rev.2:22) Behold, I cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of her works.* So you see, it’s not only Jezebel, it’s those in the church who listen to her, those who submit to a woman in the church, who are going into great tribulation if they don’t repent quickly. A woman cannot be a teacher or a prophet or an elder or so on. It doesn’t matter how correct she might appear to be in her teaching or how good she might appear to be in some other role, any woman who takes a position in the Church that gives her authority over a man has a “Jezebel” spirit. That’s what the Bible says.

(Rev.2:23) And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he that searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto each one of you according to your works. Notice God is going to judge the people of God according to what they do, not according to what they say, not according to their faith, or anything else, but according to what they do. It’s not an accident that this rebellious woman “elder” is threatened, along with those who submitted to her, with great tribulation.

In the Old Testament, there's another Jezebel that gives the exact same type and shadow of a woman taking authority over a man, only this time it's in the home. Ahab and his entire house was destroyed because he followed his wife, Jezebel. The Lord said to him through Elijah, ***(1Ki.21:21) Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will utterly sweep thee away and will cut off from Ahab every man-child*** (What should have been his spiritual fruit was rejected.), ***and him that is shut up and him that is left at large in Israel: (22) and I will make thy house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and hast made Israel to sin. (1Ki.21:23) And of Jezebel also spake the Lord, saying, The dogs*** (We're going to see this again in a minute. The "dogs" here represent the corporate Beast body.) ***shall eat Jezebel by the rampart of Jezreel.*** (This is repeated in Revelation and we're going to see that below, too, where the corporate Beast ate the corporate Harlot.) ***(24) Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field*** (The "field" represents the world {Matthew 13:38}.) ***shall the birds*** ("Birds" represent unclean spirits {Revelation 18:2}.) ***of the heavens eat. (25) (But there was none like unto Ahab, who did sell himself to do that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.*** There it is again: the man obeying the wife. When Adam obeyed Eve (Genesis 3:6), it brought a curse upon the whole world (Genesis 3:17-19), and it's still that way today, folks.

Now there is yet another type and shadow hidden in "Jezebel," and that's the Harlot, who was destroyed by the Beast. ***(Rev.17:3) And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness: and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet-colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.*** ***(4) And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and decked with gold and precious stone and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations, even the unclean things of her fornication, (5) and upon her forehead a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE***

HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. (6)
And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I wondered with a great wonder. In a perfect parallel, the corporate body of the Beast, which is typed by the “dogs” in the Old Testament, devours the corporate Harlot. ***(Rev.17:16) And the ten horns which thou sawest, and the beast, these shall hate the harlot, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and shall burn her utterly with fire.*** And the “birds” devour the corporate “scarlet-colored beast” that she rode (Revelation 18:2).

Notice that both Jezebels were women who illegally took authority over men, but we have been warned many times by Scripture that this is forbidden. There are women with Jezebel spirits out there today, who rule their husband, who rule the church. They may even appear to be humble in the eyes of men, but they’re not being humble to the Word because they have no foundation in the Scriptures to do what they’re doing. It is forbidden, folks. You may say, “Well, God has blessed them,” and I agree that in some cases, He has blessed them, but it’s because they haven’t been faced with this knowledge. Let me point out to you what Jesus said about the Pharisees. Remember we saw that, up to a point, ignorance is an excuse. ***(Joh.15:22) If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no excuse for their sin.***

You see, once He faced them with the Word of God, they were responsible, and the same thing’s going to happen in our day. The Man-child ministry is going to face the people of God with the true Word of God. Yes, God has been merciful up to this time, but we’re coming to the last seven days when the Man-child’s ministry begins. The latter rain is going to be manifested first in the corporate Man-child body, and then in the middle of the Tribulation, it will be manifested in the disciples, just as it was in Jesus’ day. The Truth is going to be shared, and we’re all going to be without excuse. We’re all going to be responsible because

we've been warned, yet I can tell you that many are eager to twist and pervert the Scriptures. They don't realize that it could cost them their life. *(Rev.18:4) And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come forth, my people, out of her, that ye have no fellowship with her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.*

Revelation Concerning Women's Ministries

I woke up one time about 2:00 a.m. and just began talking to the Lord, and one of the things I spoke to Him about was the Scriptural foundation for what we call "women's ministries." I had noticed that some women were becoming more self-willed and rebellious against their husbands after associating with various women's ministries, ministries that were supposedly helping women to learn to love their husbands. And the Lord spoke to me. He told me there were a lot of independent and divorced women in those ministries and, if the commands to women are not taught to them, that they would leaven the whole body. He said that if the elder women did not teach these commands, all of them would be in rebellion.

Peter tells us that, *(1Pe.4:11) If any man speaketh, [speaking] as it were oracles* (That's the Greek *lógion* from *lógos* and it means "a divine declaration; a statement originating from God.) *of God; if any man ministereth, [ministering] as of the strength which God supplieth: that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, whose is the glory and the dominion for ever and ever. Amen.* That means if we're going to glorify God, we should teach what God teaches in His Word, and we should say what God says in His Word. The Lord said that if the women were teaching other doctrines, other than how to love and obey their husbands, that they were out of order. That's what He told me. These other doctrines were to be taught by the elders or the husbands at home (1 Corinthians 14:35). This is probably because the woman was beguiled (Genesis 3:13; 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:14).

Then He told me to take my concordance and to survey the commands in the New Testament that were specifically spoken to women, so I did. I took my Concordance and looked up “woman,” “women,” “wife,” and “wives.” Under the word "wife," there were six commands all of them concerning submission to the man. Under the word "wives," there were six commands. Five were clearly concerning submission to the man and one was commanding her to be "faithful in all things" which, of course, has to include submission. Under the word "woman," there were 12 commands, all of them concerning submission to the man. One more command was given to Timothy to tell the women to take care of their widows. Under the word "women," there were seven commands: six were concerning submission to the man and one was concerning modesty, so that she would not tempt the man. All of these are, of course, for the sake of both the woman and the man.

Actually, I was kind of shocked after I did this. I had no idea that there wasn't a much wider span of commands given to women, so I went back to the Lord in prayer. I said, "Lord, all of these commands are concerning the woman's submission to the man or else not tempting the man by dressing immodestly." He said, "The reason that I gave the woman no other commands than these is because all other commands were to be given through the man. Even these Scriptural commands were given through men. The woman is under the man's authority; he is her head. I will not go around him. I have not done so, even in the Scriptures." God is showing us, folks, that He's being careful not to undermine the authority of the man. ***(1Co.11:3) But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man.***

The Extent of Man's God-given Authority

If you're wondering, "Well, then how much authority does God give to the man," let's briefly look at that. ***(Num.30:1) And Moses spake unto the heads of the tribes of the children of Israel, saying, This is the***

thing which the Lord hath commanded. (2) When a man voweth a vow unto the Lord, or sweareth an oath to bind his soul with a bond, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth. (3) Also when a woman voweth a vow unto the Lord, and bindeth herself by a bond, being in her father's house, in her youth, (4) and her father heareth her vow, and her bond wherewith she hath bound her soul, and her father holdeth his peace at her; then all her vows shall stand, and every bond wherewith she hath bound her soul shall stand. So if the father permits the daughter to say something that will bind her soul, if the father says nothing but just lets it go, then it's done. But if he annuls it, then God will not count it against her.

Folks, I've done this in my own house with my own children when they've said things that were contrary to the blessings and the commands of God. As the Bible says, *(Pro.18:21) Death and life are in the power of the tongue; And they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.* Your children can sometimes speak things that will bring a curse on them. Whenever that happened, I've just said, "Nope, I don't believe that" or "I don't allow that" or "I don't accept that" or whatever. And this applies to wives, too, which we're about to see. *(Num.30:5) But if her father disallow her in the day that he heareth, none of her vows, or of her bonds wherewith she hath bound her soul, shall stand: and the Lord will forgive her, because her father disallowed her.* Notice the authority that God invests in the man, in this case, the father.

(Num.30:6) And if she be [married] to a husband, while her vows are upon her, or the rash utterance of her lips, wherewith she hath bound her soul... You know, there are a lot of rash utterances that are spoken out the mouths of both men and women, because we need to learn how to speak. The Lord says, *(Num.14:28) As I live ... surely as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you.* When the Israelites complained that Moses brought them into the wilderness only to die (Numbers 14:2-3), God agreed with what they said and He told them, *(Num.14:32) ... your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness.* So we have to be

careful to agree with the Word of God, we have to speak as an oracle of God (1 Peter 4:11) and when we don't, then we need to repent quickly. ***(Ecc.5:2) Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thy heart be hasty to utter anything before God; for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.*** Be careful what you say. Don't bring the "sacrifice of fools" before Him, which is what He calls a "rash utterance." ***(Ecc.5:1) Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God; for to draw nigh to hear is better than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they know not that they do evil.*** When my wife has said things that were contrary to what we had claimed, or things contrary to the good confession that we were supposed to be making in the sight of many witnesses, or things that could anger God because they don't prove you to be a true believer, then I have used my authority as husband to annul those words. (Job 2:10)

(Psa.39:1) I said, I will take heed to my ways, That I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, While the wicked is before me. So a father or husband has authority from God to be a "bridle."

(Num.30:6) And if she be [married] to a husband, while her vows are upon her, or the rash utterance of her lips, wherewith she hath bound her soul, (7) and her husband hear it, and hold his peace at her in the day that he heareth it; then her vows shall stand, and her bonds wherewith she hath bound her soul shall stand. (8) But if her husband disallow her in the day that he heareth it, then he shall make void her vow which is upon her, and the rash utterance of her lips, wherewith she hath bound her soul: and the Lord will forgive her. (9) But the vow of a widow, or of her that is divorced, [even] everything wherewith she hath bound her soul, shall stand against her. So we see there is an advantage to a wife in being submitted to a husband, instead of having her own authority, as is the case of the divorced woman or the widow. Single women are under the authority of their father when young and still living at home (1 Corinthians 7:34-38), or under the authority of the elders if they are widowed or divorced (1 Timothy 5:1-16). However,

note that it is only proper when elders counsel women, that this should be done while in the presence of other company, such as another married couple (1 Thessalonians 5:22). While widowed or divorced women are responsible for their own words and actions, the married and younger women have a covering in their husband or father, as Moses taught.

(Num.30:10) And if she vowed in her husband's house, or bound her soul by a bond with an oath, (11) and her husband heard it, and held his peace at her, and disallowed her not; then all her vows shall stand, and every bond wherewith she bound her soul shall stand. (12) But if her husband made them null and void in the day that he heard them, then whatsoever proceeded out of her lips concerning her vows, or concerning the bond of her soul, shall not stand: her husband hath made them void; and the Lord will forgive her. (13) Every vow, and every binding oath to afflict the soul, her husband may establish it, or her husband may make it void. (14) But if her husband altogether hold his peace at her from day to day (This is the Hebrew *charash* and is also translated as “makes no response,” or “turns a deaf ear to.”), then he establisheth all her vows, or all her bonds, which are upon her: he hath established them, because he held his peace at her in the day that he heard them. (15) But if he shall make them null and void after (This is the Hebrew *achar* meaning “after some period of time has elapsed; a delay; to linger.”) that he hath heard them, then he shall bear her iniquity. In other words, if the wife brings a curse upon the house because the husband let it go, then so be it. The husband has authority and he’s supposed to use it. He’s been given the command of God to use it.

We are taught by the Word not to make vows or promises (Ecclesiastes 5:4-5; Matthew 5:34). ***(Jas.5:12) But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by the heaven, nor by the earth, nor by any other oath: but let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay; that ye fall not under judgment.*** I have disallowed my wife or daughters when they did make rash statements that were against the promises, or that would bring a

curse if they were not disallowed. (*Num.30:16*) ***These are the statutes, which the Lord commanded Moses, between a man and his wife, between a father and his daughter, being in her youth, in her father's house.***

Why didn't they need more rules than that? You know, folks, today we have an awful lot of single women, and an awful lot of divorce, too, but it doesn't appear, to look at the rules in days that the Lord gave these, that there were very many unmarried women. It seems they all got married. The widows were even given a command to re-marry.

(1Ti.5:14) I desire therefore that the younger widows marry, bear children, rule the household, give no occasion to the adversary for reviling. And that command was also extended to divorced women.

(1Co.7:8) But I say to the unmarried (The Greek is *agamos* and it means "unmarried, of a person not in a state of wedlock, whether he or she has formerly been married or not.") ***and to widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. (9) But if they have not continency*** (That's the Greek *egkrateuomai* meaning "to exercise self-control."), ***let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.*** Also, it appears that elders have some authority in the life of widows and divorced believers, too.

(1Ti.5:16NENT) If any believer hath widows, let her relieve them, and let not the church be burdened; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed. I do want to repeat that any elder who is counseling single women has to have others present.

Let me say here that I have fellowshiped with many churches and many sisters in ministry who do not have this conviction about women exercising authority over men, and I do not feel under the Law to correct them. I teach the Bible and the Bible only. I try to be led by the Holy Spirit. It is God's business to correct His people. It is my job to obey Him. I have done so. I will not judge you but the Word of God will.

(Joh.12:48) He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my sayings, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I spake, the same shall judge him

in the last day. The truth is that when we speak only the Word of God, the Word of God will judge people.

God's Strict Warning!

Please be sure you are on the right side of this subject. We've seen straight from the Scriptures what the Word of God has to say. We've seen that it's not the modern, corrupted and reprobate faith of our day. No, it's the faith that was "once ... delivered unto the saints." (*Jud.1:3*) ***Beloved, while I was giving all diligence to write unto you of our common salvation, I was constrained to write unto you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints. (4) For there are certain men crept in privily, [even] they who were of old written of beforehand unto this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.*** We have to go back, folks; we have to go back and pick it up again. (*Isa.30:21*) ***And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it; when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.*** The truth is that we are hearing a word behind us. The truth is that we've gone on and departed from it.

Remember that the Bible says, (*2Jn.1:9*) ***Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God*** ... Did you "hear" that? "Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching ... hath not God." There are a lot of people that start out with you in the Kingdom, but not everyone sticks with the teaching. So how do we get back to the faith that was "once ... delivered unto the saints"? We have to repent. The Greek word *metanoëó* means, "I repent, change my mind, change the inner man (particularly with reference to acceptance of the will of God)." I want to warn all of you who love the truth, that once you see what God's Word says, you must repent and begin to submit to that truth. God will bless you if you'll do it.

Our Father wants to develop different traits in women than He develops in men, and that's why women have their own commands in the Scriptures and men have their own commands in the Scriptures. If we don't obey the individual commands that were given to us, then we're just building our house on the sand. The storm and the winds are coming fast and that house is going to fall, so right now, folks, we have to get prepared. Build your house on the only Rock we have, which is the Word. Build your house on the eternal Word of God and it will stand.

The Word, Women and Authority

Chapter 3

Holiness and Apparel, Part 1

Modesty and Legalism

Father, in Jesus' Name, please bless us today. Give us understanding, give us grace. Help us to find a balance in the things which we're talking about. Thank You so much, Lord. Please give grace to those who read this study so that they can hear and obey Your Word and find that balance. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Well, I'm going to take a look at something that's controversial, although it really shouldn't be controversial. I want to talk about holiness and apparel, because there is so much legalistic teaching out there, especially about women's apparel. I went through this about 45 years ago and I learned a lot from my experience, including some things that God really doesn't like, so I want to share some of those with you.

(1Ti.2:9) In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel... Of course, "modesty" is an opinion, but we know that modesty is something that won't cause temptation to the man, such as something too tight, or showing too much of the form of the body, or showing too much skin. Now that doesn't say what the apparel looks like, because women wear different kinds of apparel around the world, but the main thing that this is talking about is modesty, because you don't want to cause somebody to stumble. ***(Mar.9:42) And whosoever shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it were better for him if a great millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.*** Causing someone to stumble will cause you to stumble, and we don't want to do that.

(1Ti.2:9) In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness... "Shamefastness," or your Bible may say

“shamefacedness,” is the Greek word *aidós* meaning “downcast eyes,” which is symbolic of not being flirtatious or forward towards the opposite sex, and especially the opposite sex that is not your husband. Now there are flirtatious people, and everybody knows who they are because they can’t hide it, but God is saying, “No, this is not right, you’ll cause someone to stumble.”

(1Ti.2:9) In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness and sobriety (That’s the Greek *sóphrosuné* and it’s also translated as “soundness of mind, self-control, discreetly, with self-restraint.”); ***not with braided hair***... Let me stop and say something here about braided hair. Normally speaking, I think there are those who go overboard with the doing-up of their hair because there’s a lot of vanity involved. But there are some ladies, and I know this because I feel peace from God with them, who braid their hair because their hair is unmanageable and they don’t want to spend time on it every day making it look decent, so to them, it’s not a vanity. We have to be careful, folks, not to be so dogmatic and legalistic that we don’t understand what’s really going on. God is against vanity. Does that mean a wife has to look like a prude? No, not if it doesn’t please her husband, and we’ll talk about that further on.

(1Ti.2:9) In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness and sobriety; not with braided hair, and gold or pearls or costly raiment. Fancy hairstyles and expensive clothing, these things are not the things that make women look beautiful to men. I know most women think that they do, but they really don’t rate, not to the kind of men we’re talking about here. Actually, it seems to be more of a competition with the women than it is with the men, but true beauty does not come that way. I will tell you one thing that makes a woman a hundred percent more beautiful than “gold or pearls or costly raiment,” and that’s a smile. In most cases, men have no idea what women’s clothing costs, no idea if it’s expensive or not. If it’s expensive, then it becomes vanity because you’re spending money on something

you don't have to. And if you're wondering about rings because of verses like this, I once asked the Lord if a wedding ring was wrong and the Lord told me, "No." He said He actually liked wedding rings because they identify a woman as "taken" and all the men around her don't have to "try the door" so to speak, to find out if this woman is taken or not. They can just look at her finger. So there's good common sense in what God is saying here.

He's not making a hard and fast rule but, of course, you can overdo anything. With jewelry, there might be something that's valuable and sentimental to you, but you don't have to have a ring on every finger. There's a place that's called "gaudy" and it sticks out like a sore thumb. ***(1Ti.2:9) In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness and sobriety; not with braided hair, and gold or pearls or costly raiment; (10) but (which becometh women professing godliness) through good works.*** Now this makes a woman beautiful! This is the woman that the Lord wants! In a type and shadow, we can see her as the Shulamite in the Song of Solomon, or Esther, the woman who was chosen by the King. And in the case of Esther, they spent about a year getting her primed (Esther 2:12), but I have to tell you that those preparations represent spiritual things in a woman. A woman "professing godliness through good works" is beautiful to the Lord and to a Scriptural man. This is true even though not all husbands are Scriptural and we've seen that the Lord wants to use the believing wife to save her unbelieving husband (1 Corinthians 7:13-14), so the wife still has to please even an unscriptural husband. ***(1Pe.3:1) In like manner, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives.*** We'll get to that a little later.

(1Ti.2:11) Let a woman learn in quietness with all subjection. Here, again, God is saying that it's not the outward things, it's not the gold, silver and pearls that make a woman beautiful in His eyes, but He's not being legalistic and making a law that you can't wear a ring or you can't

wear a necklace, just know that if you overdo on them, it's all vanity. The point is these are not the things that make a woman beautiful. A woman learning "in quietness with all subjection" is what makes a woman beautiful. Any woman in the church who wants to be loud, or exerting a lot of authority, or taking a position of an elder, which is totally forbidden in the New Testament, that woman has a Jezebel spirit. No, she is not beautiful to the Lord, and in fact, she's not even beautiful to most men. Jezebel has to go.

(1Ti.2:12) But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness. Folks, it's still true. These people that are doing this or allowing this are totally out of order. They are not being obedient to the Scriptures and if they'll tweak and twist this Scripture, they won't hesitate to do the rest of them the same way. Paul gave us a reason why the woman couldn't teach or have dominion over a man, and it's still the same reason today. ***(1Ti.2:13) For Adam was first formed, then Eve*** (Now, is that not still true? Yes, it's still true.); ***(14) and Adam was not beguiled, but the woman being beguiled hath fallen into transgression...*** Is that not still true? Yes, it was true back then; that was the reason He didn't permit it then, and it's the same reason He doesn't permit it now.

(1Ti.2:14) And Adam was not beguiled, but the woman being beguiled hath fallen into transgression: (15) but she shall be saved through her child-bearing... Women are known for loving and taking care of their babies, and if they really love their child, they're going to ***(Pro.22:6) Train up a child in the way he should go, And even when he is old he will not depart from it.*** To do that, of course, you can't just speak it, you have to demonstrate it. A godly mother wants to be a good demonstration and a good witness to her child. She's not going to be a loud-mouthed, cursing woman, who is loose with her tongue and loose with her words and her actions. A mother is going to be the best example that she can be for that child so, in that way, a child can be a good

influence on a woman, and I think that's what the Lord is talking about here.

(1Ti.2:15) But she shall be saved through her child-bearing, if they continue in faith and love and sanctification (This is the Greek word *hagiasmós* and it is “the believer being progressively transformed by the Lord into His likeness (similarity of nature).”) ***with sobriety***. She's putting faith and love into that child. She's showing them what love is like and what godliness is all about. You know, back then, all the women wanted children, but today a lot of women are almost obsessed with being independent and they just want to do their own thing, they just want their own pleasure. But God, in the Scriptures, teaches us that He wants a godly seed. He seeks a godly seed, and if a godly woman continues “in faith and love and sanctification with sobriety,” this will help her to seek the betterment of her children and her husband and so forth. God is so good!

Now let's go a little bit in a different direction here. I mentioned earlier that God wasn't making a law about what jewelry a woman is allowed to wear, but there are lots of people who do like to make their own laws about that, and not just about jewelry, but hairstyles, and clothing, and shoes, and on and on. Now that's legalism and it's going beyond the Scriptures, which we're warned not to do. ***(1Co.4:6) ... That in us ye might learn not to go beyond the things which are written; that no one of you be puffed up for the one against the other.*** Remember that there's a curse for going beyond the Scriptures (Revelation 22:18-19). ***(Gal.5:1) For freedom did Christ set us free: stand fast therefore, and be not entangled again in a yoke of bondage.*** You know what that “yoke of bondage” was because, if you look at the text, Paul is talking about the Law, Law, Law. It's bondage: “You have to do this, you have to do that.” “You're justified by doing this, you're justified by doing that, and if you don't do this, well, you're going to get in trouble.” Paul is telling them, “Don't go back under the Law. This is not making you pleasing unto God.”

(Gal.5:2) Behold, I Paul say unto you, that, if ye receive circumcision, Christ will profit you nothing. Why? Because it was the Law, and no one will be justified by the Law. Those Galatians were claiming to be justified because of the Law. They didn't understand that the Law was just a tutor and it came in because of lawlessness to control men until "the seed should come to whom the promise" is due. ***(Gal.3:19) What then is the law? It was added because of transgressions*** (That word, the Greek *parábasis*, "in the NT refers to the willful disregard {breaking} of God's law which defies His drawn-lines {boundaries}; an arrogant "over-stepping."), ***till the seed should come to whom the promise hath been made; and it was ordained through angels by the hand of a mediator.*** And, of course, that Seed was Jesus Christ and He brought grace. This is how God wants to change you, through grace, not through rules, regulations, and so on.

Folks, a person who loves the Lord, when they read things that are good, they want to do them. They want to be pleasing unto the Lord; it's not a rule held over their head. A different relationship with God is what it teaches here in Galatians. And you could replace circumcision with any other ceremonial law, and you would still be in the same situation. For instance, if you receive the Old Testament Sabbath and you have to do that to be justified, or the tithe and you have to do that to be justified, you're doing the same thing. You're taking an Old Testament Law and dragging it into the New Testament because you're seeking to be justified by your own works, and you're using that to look down on your brother or sister who's not doing it. That's a stench in God's nostrils.

So Christ will "profit you nothing" if you seek to be justified by the Law. ***(Gal.5:3) Yea, I testify again to every man that receiveth circumcision, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.*** That means if you make a law about something in order to feel justified by keeping that law, and then you put everybody else under that law, you are in error. You're bringing a curse on yourself and everybody else under that law, because if you're

going to be justified by the Law, you have to keep the whole Law. You have to keep every single point of the whole Law. That's what the Bible says. ***(Gal.3:10) For as many as are of the works of the law*** (That word "the" is not in the original manuscript, so in this case, it could be any works of man's laws, too.) ***are under a curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one who continueth not in all things*** (There it is: you have to keep every "jot and tittle.") ***that are written in the book of the law, to do them. (11) Now that no man is justified by the law*** (Again, that "the" is not in the original manuscript, either.) ***before God, is evident: for, The righteous shall live by faith; (12) and the law is not of faith; but, He that doeth them shall live in them.*** So now we can return to chapter 5. ***(Gal.5:4) Ye are severed from Christ, ye who would be justified by the law; ye are fallen away from grace. If you're under laws, you're not under grace. (5) For we through the Spirit by faith wait for the hope of righteousness. (6) For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith working through love. (7) Ye were running well; who hindered you that ye should not obey the truth? (8) This persuasion came not of him that calleth you. (9) A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.*** That's very true!

The second church I went to called themselves a "Holiness Pentecostal" church, and "Pentecostal" means those people believe in the gifts, which they rightly should believe in because everybody needs the gifts. However, we don't need to be legalistic for self-justification, nor should we be looking-down on anybody else if they don't have the gifts, but these people made it a law that you had to speak in tongues. Of course, I believe in speaking in tongues and I believe that when you get baptized in the Holy Spirit, the most common evidence, if not totally common in all things, is speaking in tongues. It's a very important gift so I'm not disputing what they say there, but I am coming against their Pharisaical attitude.

When I first went to this church, I went there because I wanted to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and they believed in that, and they did pray

with me for that. I wanted to know more about God and I was ready to please God in any way I could please God, so I paid attention to these folks and, at first, I didn't realize what I was seeing. These people were "holy," except they didn't know what "holy" was. "Holiness," which is the same word for "sanctification," is "separation from sin unto God," and "sin" is delineated by the Bible. We can't go above or below that. Sin is described by the Bible, and we've seen if you add-to or take-away from what the Bible says is sin, you're in error. For one thing, you're in self-justification because you're going under legalism. Now there are a lot of people who will tell you what is "holy," but if they tell you more than what the Bible tells you is holy, they're wrong, and if they tell you less than what the Bible tells you is holy, they're wrong. And if they describe "holiness" as something that you wear, they're wrong again. "Holiness," the Greek *hágios*, is defined as "*likeness of nature with the Lord; set apart; different from the world.*" It's separation from sin. Can what you wear be sin? Of course, it can, because you could be tempting everybody with what you're wearing and causing people to stumble. If you have any love for the brethren, you don't want to do that.

(Gal.3:1) O foolish Galatians, who did bewitch you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was openly set forth crucified? (2) This only would I learn from you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law (And again, there's no numeric pattern in the word "the" so it shouldn't be there.), or by the hearing of faith? Yes, faith is what gives you everything from God, not, "I'm going to show you how good I'm going to be, God. I'm going to pick myself up by my boot straps and You're going to be proud of me and You're going to accept me." No, that's pure legalism and it is a stench in God's nostrils. It separates you from Christ because you're not going to get grace by your self-works, but the Law was based on self-works, which is only the strength of man. You see, the Law was just a symbol that led to grace. God's plan all along was grace. His plan was born-again people of God, born-from-heaven people of God; this was His plan all along. The letter of the Old Testament was not God's plan. No, that was just a "meantime thing," according to what Galatians says,

until the “seed should come to whom the promise” is due. That’s all it was.

*(Gal.3:3) Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit are ye now perfected in the flesh? Paul is talking about law here, because that’s what it is: being perfected by your works through the strength of your flesh. “Oh, I do this and I do that.” And, “Look at me, I’m holy.” (4) *Did ye suffer so many things in vain? if it be indeed in vain. (5) He therefore that supplieth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (6) Even as Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned unto him for righteousness.* So Abraham was reckoned to be righteous apart from his works because he believed God; he believed in the sanctification that’s freely given by God.*

(Gal.3:7) Know therefore that they that are of faith, the same are sons of Abraham. (8) And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all the nations be blessed. (9) So then they that are of faith are blessed with the faithful Abraham. (10) For as many as are of the works of the (This is another place where “the” was added but is not in the original.) law are under a curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one who continueth not in all things that are written in the book of the law, to do them. (11) Now that no man is justified by the (“The” is not in the original.) law before God, is evident: for, The righteous shall live by (The literal translation should be “from.”) faith; (12) and the (That’s not in the original.) law is not of faith; but, He that doeth them shall live in them. (13) Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us; for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree. Then Paul goes on to talk about the self-justification of law, which can be the Law of the Old Testament and includes the Law as mentioned in the Psalms (John 10:34), even though some people don’t think Psalms comes under the definition of “law.”

*(Gal.3:23) But before faith came, we were kept in ward under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. (24) So that the law is become our tutor to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. (25) But now that faith is come, we are no longer under a tutor. (26) For ye are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. So “sons of God” are people who are justified by faith and not law, while people that are under the law are not sons of God, but children. *(Gal.4:1) But I say that so long as the heir is a child, he differeth nothing from a bondservant though he is lord of all...* In other words, these people are “servants.” A “child” is a “servant” because, *(Pro.29:21) He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child Shall have him become a son at the last.* That’s the desire of God, to raise up a son of God in the Image of the Son of God. If you’re a child, you’re just a bondservant. You’re under the law, you’re under rules and regulations. You have to tell children what to do and what not to do and they just obey you because you’re mom or dad. You tell your child, “Don’t touch that, don’t do this, don’t do that.” But when they grow up, they do it naturally, and it’s not a law for them, they just do it naturally, and they end up being like you. It’s grace.*

(Gal.4:1) But I say that so long as the heir is a child, he differeth nothing from a bondservant though he is lord of all; (2) but is under guardians and stewards until the day appointed of the father. (3) So we also, when we were children, were held in bondage under the rudiments of the world: (4) but when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, (5) that he might redeem them that were under the law, (Did Jesus come to redeem you from being under law? Yes, He did!), that we might receive the adoption of sons. The whole purpose of your redemption is that you would become a son of God.

Poor Jesus! He drank wine and they jumped on Him (Luke 7:34), and He ate corn in the fields and they jumped on Him (Mark 2:23-24), and they jumped on Him for all the laws (Matthew 15:2-3; Mark 7:5) and

complained, “You’re not keeping the Sabbath,” and so on. But Jesus said ***(Luk.6:5) ... unto them, The Son of man is lord of the sabbath.*** That means if you’re following in Jesus’ footsteps, you are separating yourself from the Law and you are keeping the Sabbath because you’re ceasing from your own works. So Paul rebuked these “children” for going back under the Law. ***(Gal.4:17) They zealously seek you in no good way; nay, they desire to shut you out, that ye may seek them.*** This is happening today. There are lots of churches with people who want you to follow in their steps. “You have to be like us!” They want you to look like them, talk like them, dress like them, and if you don’t, they’ll ostracize you.

That first church I went to was Baptist, and I could see that they weren’t believing all the Word of God. They were picking and choosing and they had no real grace to enter in to all that God wants to give. So I quickly left and went to a full-gospel church, which taught the gifts of the Spirit and so on. I was a baby Christian but I was reading the Bible day and night. Nobody had to tell me God was a miracle-working God because I experienced that before I even went to any church, but I wanted to go see what my brethren were doing, and some cases, that was a mistake! Anyway, when I went to this church, they spoke about holiness, but it wasn’t a holiness of the heart and of coming into alignment with the Scriptures. It was, “I do this and I do that, and I don’t do that.” Some said, “Oh, we don’t drink coffee.” Some said, “We don’t drink Cokes.” Some said, “We wear long dresses because they’re modest,” but back in the times of Jesus, women didn’t wear dresses like these Pentecostal women did. That was their mistake, folks, because they described what modesty was, outside of the Scriptures.” Not that a long dress isn’t modest, it is, but when you make it a rule, you’re adding to the Word of God. The Scriptures do say “modesty,” but when you tell people what modesty is, that’s when you’re getting legalistic. The Word of God was designed to go around the world, in every culture, and for that reason we don’t see set rules in the Scriptures about what modest dress is.

“Modesty” is just that you’re not trying to show-off yourself; you’re not trying to show off your body to somebody else for a bad reason.

At this full-gospel church, I found out just how “holy” these people were. First of all, they swore off practically everything except for eating; they ate a lot and that was their big sin. Also, most of the women dressed rather prudishly but, though they wore long dresses, you could see everything, for goodness sake! Their clothing was too tight to be modest; even when it reached the floor, it wasn’t modest. And there was a Pharisaical attitude there that demanded you had to be like them. They shut you out so that you would seek them. You had to come under their terms to come into their assembly, and their terms were that you had to look like them.

You know, when the Bible says that women should wear long hair, it means exactly that, but when some church tells you how long, that’s getting out of line. And when they tell you that you can’t ever cut your hair, when the Bible doesn’t say that, that’s legalism. They have basically shut you out until you conform to them so that you can come into their inner circle. This is the way legalism works, and that’s why it’s written here, “They zealously seek you in no good way; nay, they desire to shut you out, that ye may seek them.” They want you following after them to find out what holiness is. They want you to ask them, “Show me what holiness is.” Read your Bible! They didn’t. What these people had, rather than holiness, was the self-righteousness of the Pharisees. And right down the road, there was a church of another denomination that believed exactly everything this denomination believed, except for one thing: their men were more holy because they wore long-sleeves everywhere. How ridiculous! I can’t imagine any fishermen of Jesus’ time, wearing long sleeves out there on the boats. Jesus didn’t say that and Jesus didn’t teach that, and He didn’t preach “long dresses to the ground,” either. Are long dresses modest? Yes, generally they are, but it was their attitude that made it wrong and evil and self-righteous before God.

Now I'm going to tell you what the Lord said to my wife when we came out of that church. First we received a dream about going to Galatia, and we figured-out that the Lord was warning, "Legalism! Legalism!" My wife was conformed to the church at that time. She looked just like them, just as prudish as they looked, and then the Lord spoke to her. He said, "I want you to change the way you dress." She said, "Why, Lord?" And He said, "For My people." So she asked, "Oh? What does that mean, Lord? Show me." And the Lord told her He didn't want her wearing those dresses to the ground, and especially not when they matched her head-covering. That looked really prudish and like she belonged to some cult.

Honestly, folks, a lot of women in America are vain. If they see a woman dressed like a member of some extreme cult, she can't say to them, "I want to teach you the Scriptures but first you need to look like me," because when they look at her, they're going to say, "Oh, my God! I'm getting out of here!" And the husband is going to agree, "Yeah, let's get out of here!" That's what we learned when God was saying, "For My people." He didn't want my wife looking so prudish because she was scaring the women and the men. He didn't want that. It's what Paul preached, *(1Co.9:22) To the weak I became weak, that I might gain the weak: I am become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some.* We are to be weak to the weak, without being weak to God. He said that the reason we do this is for all men, for their sake. We get down on their level.

I'm not talking about being unholy. I'm talking about not preaching over somebody's head, but getting down on their level and then lifting them up slowly, gradually. It's not possible for them to take it in all at once; they'll choke on it. Well, some people like self-justification. They're looking for something that they can do to be acceptable to God, which is a false gospel, and all those people talked about at that full-gospel church was what they do. Some of them were holier than the next person

because they didn't drink soda pop. There are even some groups like that where the women don't shave under their arms, and quite a few of them don't shave their legs. That's one reason they wear long-dresses; it's because as they become more and more "holy," they become hairier and hairier.

(Gal.4:17) They zealously seek you in no good way (Paul was saying that this wasn't a good thing.); ***nay, they desire to shut you out, that ye may seek them.*** And if you do follow after them, you'll end up looking like as big of a Pharisee as they looked. ***(18)But it is good to be zealously sought in a good matter at all times, and not only when I am present with you. (19) My little children, of whom I am again in travail until Christ be formed in you...*** Why, as Christians, were they separated from Christ? It's because they were going back under the Law and we just read that when that happens, ***(Gal.5:4) Ye are severed from Christ, ye who would be justified by the law; ye are fallen away from grace.*** It's the same today. If you seek to be justified by the Law, or by any law of man, you're separated, you're cut off, from Christ.

(Gal.4:19) My little children, of whom I am again in travail until Christ be formed in you— (20) but I could wish to be present with you now, and to change my tone; for I am perplexed about you. (21) Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? (22) For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, one by the handmaid, and one by the freewoman. So you're going to end up bringing forth the fruit of either Ishmael or Isaac. ***(23) Howbeit the son by the handmaid*** (The handmaid was Hagar.) ***is born after the flesh;*** (Yes, Abraham was seeking to be justified by God through his own works. Instead of waiting for God to do it in him, he was going to do it himself. That's the law right there.) ***but the son by the freewoman*** (Sarah was the freewoman.) ***is born through promise.*** ***(24) Which things contain an allegory: for these women are two covenants; one from mount Sinai, bearing children unto bondage*** (The law was bondage.), ***which is Hagar.*** If you go into bondage to these people, to their rules and regulations and laws,

they'll make you worse and worse. They'll make you a stench in God's nostrils because you're seeking to be justified by doing this and by doing that, instead of accepting that you're justified by what God did at the Cross.

(Gal.4:25) Now this Hagar is mount Sinai in Arabia and answereth to the Jerusalem that now is: for she is in bondage with her children. In other words, natural Jerusalem was in bondage with her children in that day, and natural Jerusalem is still in bondage today. They're not the chosen people of God. In the New Testament, you have to be born-again to be the chosen people of God. Jesus told Nicodemus, a Jew, (***Joh.3:3***) ... ***Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*** You must be born-again.

(Gal.4:26) But the Jerusalem that is above is free, which is our mother. So that born-again Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from God, is being born in the life of the people. (***Rev.21:2***) ***And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven of God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.*** This New Jerusalem is being born in the life of the people and She is the Bride, as God told John. If you want to be in the Bride, you can't go under the Law. It doesn't matter if it's man's law or the Law of the Old Testament, which does not exist anymore because it was done-away in Christ as the Bible plainly says. (***2Co.3:14***) ... ***for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remaineth, it not being revealed to them that it is done away in Christ.*** You can choose to put yourself under law if you want to do that, but you will not be in the Bride of Christ.

(Gal.4:27) For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; Break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: For more are the children of the desolate than of her that hath the husband. It's still that way today. People justify themselves because they're a Methodist, or a Baptist, or a Pentecostal, or they don't shave their legs, or whatever.

They're making their works their law, and then they're using all their works, using all these things that they do to try and please God, to justify themselves because they don't have any faith. They do not believe that Christ redeemed them from the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13). **(28) Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. (29) But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, so also it is now.** That was my experience. I was persecuted as soon as I went into that church: "You're not dressed right, you don't look like us...and your wife isn't dressed right, either...this is not holy... you have to be holy. Come on and be holy." Folks, a person that's holy from the heart isn't going to dress immodestly, but people who are using works to justify themselves always like to tell you what modesty is. That's a dangerous thing to do because they're adding to the Word, so if you ask them, "Well, can you show me where that is in the Bible?" They'll tell you, "Well, we can't do that, but look at us, we're holy."

(Gal.4:30) Howbeit what saith the scripture? Cast out the handmaid and her son: for the son of the handmaid shall not inherit with the son of the freewoman. You better believe it! If you go under law, seeking to be justified by how you look or what you wear or whatever, you are going to be a "son of the handmaid" and not of the free-woman, and you will not inherit with the free-woman and her child. Remember that Abraham had to send off the handmaid Hagar, and her son Ishmael (Genesis 21:10). ***(Gal.4:31) Wherefore, brethren, we are not children of a handmaid, but of the freewoman.***

So returning to what the Lord told my wife about how He wanted her to dress, she asked, "Well, Lord, what would be good, what would be a righteous thing for me to wear in my dress?" And, you know, the Lord sent her an angel to show her a measurement from the floor to the bottom of her dress. "This would be good." He wasn't making a law, because the Lord pointed out, "Look, this only fits one person, it's for you. You can't put this on anybody else; everybody's different heights."

The Lord was saying, “You don’t make a law for other people. Now this is good for you.” The angel gave her a measurement from the floor, and the dress wasn’t to the floor. It was below the knees, but it wasn’t to the floor. And the Lord said, “For My people, you don’t have to look like everybody else.”

Now there’s a splinter group of Amish people here where we are in Tennessee, although that’s not what they call themselves, but they live the same Amish lifestyle. They all wear the same hats, the same trousers, and don’t have zippers on the trousers because that’s considered too vain and fancy, so they use buttons. Well, the Amish say, “You can’t have electricity. You have to cut your wood with a cross-cut saw.” So I was surprised to see chainsaws in their barns when we drove past their property. And when we stopped at the auto parts store to get a battery, the salesman commented, “We sell a lot of these to the Amish.” Of course I asked him, “What are they using them for?” He said, “Solar.” Wow! You mean their “simple” life is all just for looks? Oh, they didn’t use automobiles, but they hired the pagans to drive them places. And I found out that they use propane to cook. And that those who run businesses have a cell phone, supposedly only for business, but they watch baseball on their cell phones. So it’s all just for looks. That’s nothing but legalism and legalism is a stench in God’s nostrils. Get away from it, and the people who do it. This is not the way to holiness. This is not the way to be in the Bride. It’s disgusting.

Let me tell you more about that particular holiness Pentecostal church. They said you’re lost if you don’t speak in tongues, which is not true. They said you didn’t know God if you didn’t speak in tongues and that is not true, either. What they were doing was putting people under the law by saying, “You must receive tongues,” and because of that, they all, even the little children, sought to be filled with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Their whole church spoke in tongues because it was so important to them. When I went there, I was the only one who didn’t speak in tongues, and they made sure that I was seeking

to be filled with the Holy Spirit. It's good to have the Holy Spirit, to speak in tongues, and have the gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:8-10), but most of them stopped at tongues. They weren't filled with any of the rest of the gifts and they didn't emphasize that, so they didn't go any further. But I sought diligently to receive the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues, and I learned how to do it by faith. You just ask the Lord for the gift of tongues, and you believe you have received, and you let the tongues come. Not them. They'd stand around you all day at the altar until you spoke in tongues. They were very legalistic about it because they didn't know how to do it by faith. They'd grab your arms and hold them up in the air, and they'd be speaking in tongues, and they'd be waiting for you speak in tongues, just waiting. They got the work, again, ahead of the gift and of faith. It was a symptom of legalism. I learned that, no, you just ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit, and these gifts and the tongues will come; they will be manifested.

At first, I was taken in by their works, and I remember a brother who was trying to pray me through to receive the Holy Spirit. He said, "Well, David, read this verse: "All things whatsoever ye pray and ask for, believe that ye received them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24). He asked, "Did you pray and ask for the Holy Spirit?" I said, "Yeah." Then he asked, "Did you receive it?" I told him, "No, I haven't spoken in tongues." So he said, "Let's do this again." Finally, I caught on. They had works ahead of faith. And I eventually got filled with the Spirit there, after about a year of going down to the altar every time they had an altar call for the gift of tongues. In some churches, the altar call is to "accept Jesus as your personal Savior," but for this church, it was to speak in tongues. And I went down there every time and they'd pray with me and pray with me and they'd say, "Well, stand up," "raise up your hands," "step up on the altar," you know, all sorts of different things. They always wanted you to do something to receive the gift.

I did have some wonderful experiences down there at the altar. One time I had a vision of a light coming from the distance, like a train, coming

right straight at me. I thought, “Oh, boy! I’m about to be filled with the Spirit!” And that light came, and it went right inside my head and lit up the whole inside of my head, and then it went out the other side and kept on going. That’s because I was seeking Him by works. He came, but I didn’t grab Him. He came, and He kept on going. I thought, “Oh, my goodness! What does this mean?”

Another time, I was standing up there praying with them to receive the Holy Spirit, when I stepped outside of my body and I walked right through them while they were huddled around me, like a football huddle. I walked right through their bodies. I turned around and looked at myself back there, slumped over the altar, while they were all around me, praying. And then I walked back through them, right through their bodies again, and got back in my body. The Lord just wanted to show me that the spiritual realm is real, but these holiness Pentecostal people weren’t entering in to a whole lot of that. To them, everything was legalism and self-righteousness.

When I did finally get separated from them, it was because I got revelations from God regarding the truth about the rapture, and they couldn’t receive them. The Lord put it all together in my head in a sudden revelation. I had never received a Word of Knowledge like that before. I even asked God, “God, I’ve never received anything like this before, and they won’t believe me, so please send somebody to me to confirm what You told me.” And He did; He sent a man to me who told me exactly what the Lord told me, and that’s what “sprung me” out of their church. Also at the same time, there were two more brothers who had each received revelations, too, and this man brought the confirmation that each of us needed. So we were all three “sprung out” of that church.

These were our friends and we weren’t against them; we loved them. In fact, we wanted to go back over and fellowship with them and bring all this revelation to them, but suddenly, because we didn’t agree with them,

they didn't love us anymore. And I realized that this was wrong, this was not Christianity. Well, I had another brother in that church who was close to me when the three of us had just received these revelations, and he wasn't able to accept the revelations, either. So when this brother got home, he stretched out face down on his carpet to pray for me and his wife was sitting in the chair next to him. He said, "Oh, Lord, don't let Dave be deceived, don't let him be deceived!" And he told me that the Holy Spirit picked him up off of the floor while he was prostrate and held him just like that in the air in the middle of the room. The Holy Spirit held him in the air and He spoke in his ear, and said, "I'm teaching him the true relationship of a Father to his son." You see, this church had the problem of not understanding the relationship of the Father and the Son, Jesus Christ, but He was also speaking about my personal relationship to Him as a son. You cannot be a son of God if you are under the Law, as we've seen, and people who are under the Law will not inherit with the sons of God.

(1Co.4:6) Now these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes; that in us ye might learn not to go beyond the things which are written; that no one of you be puffed up for the one against the other. What I saw at that church was that they were puffed-up against the whole Christian world, even against those who did speak in tongues. They believed that their tongues were of God, but since these other people speaking in tongues didn't believe the same doctrine that they believed in, then these other people weren't walking in wholeness and their tongues weren't of the Holy Spirit. Let me tell you, that is dangerous! I told one of them that, after I had been set free. He said to me, "Those people's tongues are not of God." But I let him know, "You're blaspheming the Holy Spirit. And if you're not, you're very close to it. I would shut that up." And he did; he stopped talking and walked off. Folks, Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for doing that. They said, ***(Luk.11:15) ... By Beelzebub the prince of the demons casteth he out demons.*** They accused Jesus that the works done by through Him by the Holy Spirit were of the devil (Matthew 12:31-32), but blasphemy against

the Holy Spirit is an unforgiveable sin. (*Luk.12:10*) ***And every one who shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Spirit it shall not be forgiven.***

What does legalism do? (*1Co.8:1*) ... ***We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up*** (That's the Greek word *phusioó* and it means "arrogant, proud."), ***but love edifieth*** (The Greek there is *oikodomeó* and it means "encourage; literally, 'build someone up,' helping them to stand {be strong, "sturdy"}). ***(2) If any man thinketh that he knoweth anything, he knoweth not yet as he ought to know; (3) but if any man loveth God, the same is known by him.*** There is no love in legalism, it just puffs people up. You can see how puffed-up they are because they've done this and done that and done the other, but, "You're not doing what we do; you're not like us." Well, you know what? I thanked God that I wasn't like them, after I saw through their legalism and overcame it. That's why Paul warns us "not to go beyond the things which are written." It's so we don't become "puffed up."

When the Bible just says to dress with "modesty," but some church or fellowship wants to tell you specifically what "modesty" is, they're going "beyond the things which are written." They want to shut you out so that you'll chase after them in an effort to be righteous by doing what they do. All they're proving is that they're puffed up. One of the things they said at this particular church was, "Let us tell you what the Bible means when it says a woman should have long hair: it means a woman doesn't cut her hair." Oh? So the women there had to wrap a big, tall bun on top of their head because their hair was so long from growing it for years and years. But when they would "shout in the Spirit," because that was one of the things they really liked to do, that beehive would fall off the top of their head and onto the ground. I told them more than once, "You know, I don't believe the Lord likes that, because when you get in the Spirit, He shakes it down. Maybe something's wrong here?" Well, they'd just look at me like I was funny, or like I was ignorant. And, you

know, those poor young girls, since they couldn't cut their hair, they would actually gnaw it off with their teeth and then tell you, "No, I haven't cut my hair." "I don't cut my hair." That's how stupid legalism makes you. Or like that splinter Amish group, "We use a crosscut saw." "Well, then what's that chainsaw doing in your barn?" Demons make people stupid.

The Word, Women and Authority

Chapter 4

Holiness and Apparel, Part 2

Pride and Legalism

It puffs people up when they go beyond the Word, and, “Let me tell you what ‘modesty’ is: ‘modesty’ is doing things our way,” is a perfect example. Does it say that in the Bible? “Well, not exactly, but look at us; we’re modest.” No, you’re adding to the Word, and you’re proud because you’re doing something that other people aren’t doing. You’re proud, even though the reason nobody else is doing it is because they couldn’t find it in the Word, either, just like you couldn’t find it in the Word. ***(1Co.4:7) For who maketh thee to differ? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? but if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory as if thou hadst not received it?*** If God gave you a revelation and you’re doing it, it was God Who did it, and it would have to be God Who gives that revelation to your brother or sister. So why would you be puffed-up? You didn’t do this before you did do this, so if you’re looking down on them, you’re looking down on yourself. If you’ve received a revelation, it’s from God. If you’ve “received” a revelation because you’re adding to the Word and you’re all puffed-up about it, it’s not a revelation from God.

(1Co.4:8) Already are ye filled, already ye are become rich... They were proud, but *Elliot’s Commentary* says, “it argues a childish mind to imagine from just the beginnings that you have attained the whole; and for men who are not even yet in the prelude of a matter to be highminded, as if they had laid hold of the end.” ***(1Co.4:8) Already are ye filled, already ye are become rich, ye have come to reign without us*** (Well, except for one thing; at that Pentecostal church they really didn’t know what “holiness” is. “Holiness” is coming into conformity with the

Scriptures, and that includes what the Word says about modesty.): *yea and I would that ye did reign, that we also might reign with you.*

We don't want to add-to what God says because if we do, we will miss the Kingdom. *(Rev.22:18) I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto them, God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book.* If some church tells you, "This is how long your hair must be," or, "This is how long your sleeves must be," or, "This is what you must look like and, of course, you can't have any makeup," you need to tell them, "Show me where it says that in the Bible." Churches like that scare away people, and thank God they do! They'll make you as big of a Pharisee as they are. So it's a good thing for them to scare people, but it's not a good thing for you who love God, and want the truth, and are not going to add to the Word. It's not a good thing for you to scare people. You want them to hear the Gospel from you without letting their vanity about how they would look as a Christian getting in the way. *(Rev.22:18) I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto them, God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book* (And there were a lot of sick people in that church, by the way.), *(19) and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, which are written in this book.* So don't take away from the Word, because when we add-to the Word, we're also taking-away from the Word. We're taking-away from the Word when we depart from grace and go under law. And anybody that you take with you, you're separating them from Christ. How dare we? How foolish!

(1Pe.4:11) If any man speaketh, speaking as it were oracles of God; if any man ministereth, ministering as of the strength which God supplieth: that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, whose is the glory and the dominion for ever and ever. Amen. So if you speak, you should speak as an "oracle" of God, which means, of course,

say what God says and don't say what He doesn't say. But these churches add-to and take-away-from the Words of the Book and bring themselves under a plague. In some cases, they lose eternal life.

I was, of course, wanting to know lots of things in those days when I was first learning about God. I was reading the Word of God day and night and kept on doing it. Well, I went for a drive with the preacher one afternoon in his Lincoln and he asked me something about my Cadillac, because I had a Cadillac at that time. Then he said to me, "I think I'm going to buy a Cadillac next." I told him, "I think I'm going to go to something that's not nearly so expensive, because I can't see myself preaching to poor people, driving around in a Cadillac." He didn't say anything, and I don't think it really sunk in, but that was the way I felt. I thought, "Wait a minute, if you've got a Cadillac, you can sell that and buy two Chevrolets and somebody else can have a car." That's the way I felt, and that's the way I lived.

I didn't think that you were supposed to make yourself special, over and above everybody else, but that's the spirit that was in that church and it started from the top down. This preacher was at war with his wife, who was also Pentecostal and had one of those big buns on top of her head. He didn't treat her right and sometimes she came to church crying. I thought, "Uh oh, something's wrong there," and when I was visiting him in his house, I discovered what it was. He was very legalistic, domineering, and overbearing. He wasn't treating his wife right and she was just miserable. I realized, "Oh, no! That's not good, and this man is supposed to be our leader?"

You know, the Bible says, *(Isa.8:20) To the law and to the testimony! if they speak not according to this word, surely there is no morning for them*. In other words, if they don't speak as an oracle of God, they will have no "dawning of the Light." *(21) And they shall pass through it, sore distressed and hungry; and it shall come to pass that, when they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse by their king and*

by their God, and turn their faces upward. So they're looking for light but they're not finding any, because we need to speak according to this Word and not add-to it or take-away from it. Every denomination out there wants to prove to you that they're better than every other denomination out there. They're better because they do "this" and they believe "that" and so on and so forth. What they're doing is judging their brothers and sisters, which creates divisions. That right there is their biggest problem. There's no holiness in that and there's no righteousness in that, but they don't know or care how much it displeases God.

Women's Head Coverings and Veils

(1Co.11:2) Now I praise you that ye remember me in all things, and hold fast the traditions, even as I delivered them to you. Paul wrote this by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gave us traditions that we're supposed to follow. So since the Holy Spirit wrote this and spoke it to Paul and he just passed it on to us, we have to pay attention. ***(3) But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ...*** Notice that there is no "preacher" in the middle of that verse. Preachers are supposed to lead you to Christ so you can learn to follow Christ; that's what they should be doing, not making disciples of themselves, but making disciples of Christ because "the head of every man is Christ." So since Christ is your Head, you should find out what He said and then don't add-to it and don't take-away from it.

(1Co.11:3) But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man... The Greek word translated "woman" here is the word *guné*, and it's used in speaking of both married and unmarried women. In this case, it's referring to married women so we're talking about headship in the family. We need to remember that, because people do go beyond the bounds of what's being stated here. When a married woman has a head, that's her husband. Sometimes the preacher thinks he's the head of the woman. No, it's her husband. She should be doing what the Scripture says, ***(1Co.14:35) And***

if they would learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home: for it is shameful for a woman to speak in the church. Of course, if a husband wants the counseling to come from a preacher, he probably ought to be there with his wife. Never should a preacher be counseling a woman without someone else in the room. He will get in trouble. Sooner or later, some liar will come against him and say, “You did this and you did that.” I’m telling you, it happens.

*(1Co.11:3) 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. (4) Every man praying or prophesying (Notice this is a man being conspicuous by saying something or doing something in the church.), having his head covered (And that word is the Greek preposition *kata* meaning “[anything] down upon”; i.e. “covered, covering.”), *dishonoreth his head*. So the man doesn’t need a hat or any kind of physical covering on his head in church because doing that dishonors his Head, Who is Christ. *(1Co.11:5) But every woman praying or prophesying (Now this is a woman doing the same thing.) with her head unveiled...* That’s a completely different Greek word, *akatakalyptos*. It means “unveiled” and not “uncovered.” When they translate it to be “covered,” as in the previous verse, people get confused. And it’s wrong to translate the same word in two joining sentences differently.*

Let me say here that a “veil” is not a “head covering.” That came from the false translation. It’s a veil, so what’s the difference between a veil and a head-covering? I think this is a good place for us to stop and look at what each of them represents in scripture.

First of all, “hair” represents “thoughts” and long hair represents having thoughts in submission (Numbers 6:5; Acts 18:18). *(Rev.1:14) And his head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow* (He is completely submitted to the light. All His thoughts are pure.); *and his eyes were as a flame of fire*. Long hair is given to a woman as a natural

head covering to indicate that she is submitted to the authority of a man. That man is her father when she is young, and her husband when she is married.

The actual head-covering showed that a woman was married. That's why leaving her hair loose was so shameful; it's because it indicated that a woman was an adulteress or a harlot. *(Num.5:18) And the priest shall set the woman before the Lord, and let the hair of the woman's head go loose, and put the meal-offering of memorial in her hands, which is the meal-offering of jealousy: and the priest shall have in his hand the water of bitterness that causeth the curse. (19) And the priest shall cause her to swear, and shall say unto the woman, If no man have lain with thee, and if thou have not gone aside to uncleanness, being under thy husband, be thou free from this water of bitterness that causeth the curse.*

Now think about what a veil is. Both the Hebrew and Greek word for "veil" always mean something that covers the face, and you may be surprised that a "veil" symbolizes "death." *(2Co.3:13) And are not as Moses, who put a veil upon his face, that the children of Israel should not look stedfastly on the end of that which was passing away.* Also we have, *(Est.7:8) Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the couch whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he even force the queen before me in the house? As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.* The king's guards put a veil on Haman, meaning that the king had ordered his execution so he was as good as dead. That was a common practice back then because the king wasn't supposed to look upon death. *(Hab.1:13) Thou that art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and that canst not look on perverseness, wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy peace when the wicked swalloweth up the man that is more righteous than he.*

Of course, the most important veil that the Word talks about is the Temple veil, and that symbolizes death-to-self by the crucifixion of the flesh. (*Luk.23:44*) *And it was now about the sixth hour, and a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, (45) the sun's light failing: and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. (Heb.10:19) Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holy place by the blood of Jesus, (20) by the way which he dedicated for us, a new and living way, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; (21) and having a great priest over the house of God; (22) let us draw near with a true heart in fulness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience: and having our body washed with pure water.* This is foreshadowed in the Old Testament. (*Gen.20:16*) *And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy brother a thousand pieces of silver (That's the metal of redemption.). Behold, it is for thee a covering of the eyes ("Covering" there is from the Hebrew *kacah*, which means "figuratively, a veiling.") to all that are with thee. And in respect of all thou art righted.* We are justified. Christ redeemed us; we are covered by the Blood.

So with that background, let's return to our verse. (*1Co.11:5*) *But every woman praying or prophesying with her head unveiled dishonoreth her head...* If her head is unveiled, she is saying, "I am not under my husband's authority because I am my own authority." And Paul goes on to say that's the same thing as being an adulteress or a harlot, and that she might just as well proclaim it to the world by throwing away her head covering and even shaving off her hair. We just saw that "hair" represents "thoughts" so a bald woman would be someone in rebellion to any authority. In today's society, this would be a "feminist."

*(1Co.11:5) But every woman praying or prophesying with her head unveiled dishonoreth her head; for it is one and the same thing as if she were shaven (That's *xurao*, and it means "to shave."). (6) For if a woman is not veiled (The word there is not "covered," it's "veiled."), let her also be shorn (That's the Greek word *keiró* and it means "cut short*

the hair of,” as “in shearing sheep.”): ***but if it is a shame to a woman to be shorn*** (That’s *keiró* again.) ***or shaven*** (And that’s *xurao* again), ***let her be veiled***. That’s the Word of the Lord, folks. That’s the tradition passed on to us from the Holy Spirit through Paul, and no, it hasn’t changed over the centuries; it’s just that people want to change it to suit themselves. (7) ***For a man indeed ought not to have his head veiled*** (He’s already told him that he shouldn’t have his head covered; now He’s saying a man shouldn’t have it veiled.), ***forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man.*** (8) ***For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man***. Which came first, the “chicken” or the “egg”? He’s telling you right here. (See also Genesis 2:22 and 1 Timothy 2:13.)

(1Co.11:9) For neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man (The woman completes the man, and God even says it is not good for a man to be alone {Genesis 2:18}. The woman is for the man, and she should honor the man, just as the man should honor Christ, his Head.): ***(10) for this cause ought the woman to have [a sign of] authority on her head, because of the angels***. The veil is a sign of the authority of her husband over her. When a wife veils herself, she is saying, "I am dead. I have no glory of my own," but she does have the glory of her husband since they are one flesh and she is submitted to him. So her life is hid in her husband, whose life is hid in Christ (Galatians 2:20), and her prayers are even more powerful because her husband is “the image and glory of God.” Now we know a woman cannot be a priest, but the Word says, ***(Rev.1:6) ... He made us to be a kingdom, to be priests unto his God and Father; to him be the glory and the dominion for ever and ever. Amen***. It’s not legal for a woman to be a priest but the husband, as the priest, is “carrying” her since they are one flesh, making it legal for her to enter the Holy of holies.

(1Co.11:11) Nevertheless, neither is the woman without the man, nor the man without the woman, in the Lord. So they are one in the Lord, the man “carries” the woman, and we just saw how important that is.

(12) For as the woman is of the man, so is the man also by the woman... Yes. Of course, the very corrupt and evil government would like to make no difference between the man and the woman. In fact, they would just as soon everybody be bi-sexual, and then we wouldn't have all these babies and we could do away with a lot of the population.

(1Co.11:12) For as the woman is of the man, so is the man also by the woman; but all things are of God. (13) Judge ye in yourselves: is it seemly that a woman pray unto God unveiled? "Seemly" there is the Greek word *prepó* and it "refers to acting appropriately in a particular situation, i.e. as it is seemly to God and therefore 'conspicuous amongst others; hence eminent, distinguished.'" This is asking, "Is it appropriate for a woman 'to stand out, *be conspicuous*' while she is praying 'unveiled.'" I believe he's talking about speaking out loud in prayer, just like prophesying. Prophesying, of course, is spoken; it goes out where people hear it. ***(14) Doth not even nature itself teach you*** (Now he's talking about a natural teaching; not the teaching he just gave.), ***that, if a man have long hair, it is a dishonor to him?*** That's right; he's rebelling against what his proper role is. He's saying, "I don't want to fulfill the responsibility that's mine as a man." I've seen a lot of preachers, especially after they get on television, who wear long hair. They don't honor the Word of God by doing that and they're just glorifying rebellion.

Hair Lengths for Men and Women

I remember way back in the 1960s when the hippie movement came, men started wearing long hair. It was a sign of rebellion because they were into drugs and sex and all these things: "I'm cool! I'm a rebel! Look at me, I've got long hair." Some of them grew up and got out of that, but recently men started going back to the long hair. I guess for some reason they think it's fashionable. I don't think so, because my conscience is formed by the Word of God, but I also don't think we should strain out a gnat and swallow a camel (Matthew 23:24). It may

not be the first thing we need to talk about to a long-haired man. Maybe we should gain their trust first and talk about some things that are important to them, some problems that they have or whatever, and then maybe the Lord will make a way for you to show him, “Hey, look at what the Bible says here.”

That happened with a brother who used to come to our assembly here. He had a rig that let him play the guitar and the harmonica for us at the same time. Well, he also had a ponytail that I don’t think he ever took down. He came from being a hobo, and he enjoyed listening to the broadcasts, so he came here to see about us. The day came when I felt good about showing him the verse about a man having long hair, but nobody thought he’d be able to accept it. People were telling me, “Hmmm...I don’t think that will work for him, Dave.” I showed it to him anyway, and you know what he did? He went and cut that ponytail off. It was his pride and joy but he cut it off after I showed him, “Hey, this is what honors God.” Praise the Lord! I thought, “Wow!” And everybody asked me, “What happened to him?” “Well, I told him what the Bible said that ‘if a man have long hair, it is a dishonor to him.’”

(1Co.11:15) But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her...

“Glory” there is the Greek *dóksa* and it “literally means ‘what evokes good opinion, i.e. that something has inherent, intrinsic worth’”; it’s also translated as “praise, honor, renown.” Yes, but how long is long enough? The Pharisees will tell you how long, because they add to the Word.

(1Co.11:15) But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her for her hair is given her for a covering.

He says that nature itself teaches you the lesson that the woman is given long hair as a covering. You ask, “How long, David?” Well, I can’t say, but I can tell you, I know the difference between “short” and “long.” As a woman, you need to build on that and do what God tells you to do about the veil. By the way, after my wife and I learned this from the Scripture and we were doing it, we found out that it was pretty common in other countries. In Mexico, it was common for a woman to go to church with a veil on, and in other

countries like Ukraine it was, too, but not here in vain America. So we kind of stood out, but, we didn't mind standing out a little bit if it was to be obedient to what the Bible does say, not to what it doesn't say.

(1Co.11:16) But if any man seemeth to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God. He's saying, "I don't want you to be contentious about this tradition that the Holy Spirit passed on to us and expected us to keep." That's what He's saying. Oh, God, You're so good! We thank You for Your mercy and Your grace to us. Please help us to understand these things. Amen.

I do want to point out again that this seems to be talking about, very plainly, the woman who has a husband. It doesn't seem to be talking about little girls wearing a veil. I'm not saying it's bad for children to do that, I'm just saying that's not what the text is saying. It's not talking about children or virgins wearing a veil. He's not talking about the unmarried, He's talking about the married woman. I know, in some cases, churches have made it a law for all females to wear a head-covering, but I'm just looking at the text and I'm seeing what it says and you can do the same thing. So, again, we don't need to go beyond the things that are written because then it becomes legalism.

Pleasing Your Spouse

(1Co.7:32) But I would have you to be free from cares. He that is unmarried is careful for the things of the Lord (In other words, they're not divided in their attention. However, people don't have to be divided in their attention, they can be celibate.), ***how he may please the Lord:*** ***(33) but he that is married is careful for the things of the world, how he may please his wife*** (Well, if a man is married it's necessary for him to please his wife, but not to the extent that he lets her be the head of the house; that's bad, very bad. That's Jezebel and Ahab there.), ***(34) and is divided***. It seems Paul was a little bit prejudiced because he wasn't married, and so he said, ***(1Co.7:7) Yet I would that all men were even as I myself***. ***Howbeit each man hath his own gift from God, one after this***

manner, and another after that. If you're not married then you won't be distracted, but not everybody has this gift to be celibate, and we're told, ***(Pro.18:22) Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, And obtaineth favor of the Lord.*** Paul also says, ***(1Co.7:28) But shouldest thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned.***

(1Co.7:34) ... [So] also the woman that is unmarried and the virgin is careful for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married is careful for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. Now, is this a bad thing? No. No, it's commanded, as a matter of fact. It's not a bad thing, it's just that your ability to have your total attention on the Lord without being distracted by family situations is going to be limited. God created the family, so He's not against families. He's against families where they're not married, obviously, but He's not against families. What Paul is saying is that if a woman is married, she has to please her husband. ***(1Co.7:35) And this I say for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is seemly, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.*** Paul doesn't want somebody to stumble because they can't get married. He's not making that some kind of a rule like certain religions do. He's not saying that you can't get married because a few verses earlier, he said, ***(1Co.7:9) But if they have not continency, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.***

Now when it comes to the balance about what the wife does about her hair, her clothing, her makeup, her jewelry and all that, the husband has something to say about what he prefers. If he's a Scriptural husband, he'll want his wife to be Scriptural, but the wife has to pay attention to his opinion. ***(Eph.5:22) Wives, be in subjection unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.*** You say, "But, David, he doesn't know the Lord." Well, we'll get to that, but here he says to obey your husband "as unto the Lord." ***(23) For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church*** (He's talking about a Christian husband here, but I'm also going to talk about unbelieving husbands below.),

being himself the saviour of the body. (24) But as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives also be to their husbands in everything. (25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; (26) that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word. So a husband's job is to sanctify his wife with the Word, but many Christian husbands don't believe this. Anyway, they're not going to try it because they'd probably get their head bitten off unless they have a wife that's not a Jezebel. A wife who is obedient to the Word will do this. She will seek to do this because she's holy and beautiful before God and only that kind of a wife will be in the Bride.

The Unbelieving Husband

People ask me, "Well, what if your husband doesn't believe and doesn't obey the Word? Do I still have to obey him?" The answer is, "Yes, to a good extent, you do." He can't lead you into fornication and things like that, of course. You have to bow out if it is a moral sin. (*1Pe.3:1*) ***In like manner, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word,*** (Some women think because their husband doesn't obey the Word, or doesn't know the Word, or doesn't know the Lord, "I don't have to obey him."), ***they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives;*** (This happens a lot. When women discover that they really should do this, their husbands are not afraid to come into the Kingdom.) (*1Pe.3:2*) ***beholding your chaste behavior coupled with fear.*** This next verse is almost the same as 1 Timothy 2:9 that we read earlier. (*3*) ***Whose adorning let it not be the outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing jewels of gold, or of putting on apparel;*** (So the adorning that you do to be pleasing to God is not these things. However, some of these things might please your husband.); (*4*) ***but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible apparel of a meek and quiet spirit*** (It's a little bit different than Timothy, but you can see that the expansion here is good. So "a meek and quiet spirit" is what makes a woman really beautiful before

God.), *which is in the sight of God of great price*. But a meek and quiet spirit is not necessarily the adorning that the world likes, so even if he doesn't obey the Lord, a husband still has some input concerning what his wife looks like. Hopefully he doesn't like the gaudy stuff, but you can pray for him and he can be changed by your godly behavior. Every man, even if they don't obey the Word, appreciates a loving wife who is submitted.

(1Pe.3:5) For after this manner aforetime the holy women also, who hoped in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection to their own husbands. (6) As Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose children ye now are, if ye do well, and are not put in fear by any terror. (7) Ye husbands, in like manner, dwell with your wives according to knowledge, giving honor unto the woman, as unto the weaker vessel, as being also joint-heirs of the grace of life; to the end that your prayers be not hindered. So husbands, you should be respectful of your wives and their desires and so on, but you are the head, and especially you are under the Head, which is Jesus Christ, Who is under the Head of the Father.

Being Weak to the Weak

(Rom.14:21) It is good not to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor to do anything whereby thy brother stumbleth. If you're not being weak to the weak so that we may gain some (1 Corinthians 9:22), as the apostle Paul taught us to do, then you're not being obedient to the Word. Instead of reaching people, you're going to drive them the other way. We should meet people in the place of their need first because, as the old saying goes, "You can't clean fish until you catch them." And a person needs to be caught. They need to be desiring more of the Word, and they need to be respectful of the Word, before you can show them more truth. If not, they won't be able to receive what you want to share with them and you're just going to drive them away. We don't want to do anything that will cause our brother to stumble. We don't want to strain out a gnat and

swallow a camel (Matthew 23:24). A lot of times, lost people know more about what's right than some of the church people. They can see that the church people are under all kinds of rules and regulations and laws, but lost people know those rules aren't right and they aren't going to obey them. Now, of course, there are people who have a spirit of rebellion. They're going to be against anything you say, so don't waste your breath. Don't cast your pearls before swine (Matthew 7:6).

Religion Vs. Common Sense

When I was dating my wife many, many years ago, I told her right off, "I really don't believe in a wife being the head of a house." I didn't know the Bible, I had never read the Bible, but I saw what I didn't think was right. When I asked her to marry me, I said, "You know, I don't want to do this unless I'm going to be the head of the family because I've seen what happens when a wife is running the show and I don't like it. It looks bad." And she agreed with me. That was before I was a Christian, before I had ever read the Bible.

A lot of people, if they just use a little bit of intelligence, see that there's something wrong with that because a man is not made to work that way, and a woman is not made to work that way, either. The world sees it. Jesus said the same thing. (*Luk.16:8*) ... ***for the sons of this world are for their own generation wiser than the sons of the light.*** The world sees some things before the church does; religion really ruins a lot of people. Be careful whom you respect. There are some women out there that have made themselves teachers, even teachers over men, and if you just pay a little bit of attention to their life and to their husband, you'll find that they are totally out of line. Do you think they're going to have a reward for what they're doing? No. Some of them like the respect, they like people looking up to them, they like being in charge. They're Jezebels. And they don't have the meek and quiet spirit that the Lord says is so beautiful to Him. I've noticed that women who become preachers and elders, which is totally contrary to Scripture (1 Timothy

2:12), become more and more manly, even their voices become deeper. I saw some of this, too, before I was saved and ever read the Bible. I thought, “This doesn’t look right, something just doesn’t feel right.” Folks, I’m not trying to offend anybody. I’m just trying to bring a balance here because we do have to respect all of the Scriptures. We can’t pick and choose. It’s not a buffet.

Father, we love You. We’re not making rules and regulations, we’re studying what the Scripture says and we’re trying to put it all together, the big beautiful puzzle that You’ve given us, without disobeying any of it. We ask that You bring everybody out there to a balance, that they be honest with the Scriptures and, of course, there are many more Scriptures than those I’ve pointed out here. Father, we just ask You to help us with this. In Jesus’ Name.

Man’s Rules Vs. God’s Word

In the Pentecostal church, they pointed out the Scripture, (*Deu.22:5*) ***A woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment; for whosoever doeth these things is an abomination unto the Lord thy God.*** Of course, what this is really talking about is transvestitism, which is a woman trying to be a man or a man trying to be a woman. So they said at that church men ought to wear pants and women ought to wear dresses but, technically, Jesus wore a “dress.” If you were to take it off a man and put it on a woman, you probably wouldn’t be able to tell the difference. It just might have been a little longer. So again, we can’t make rules that the Bible doesn’t make. If you say, “A woman shouldn’t put on pants because they pertain to a man,” well, a woman’s pants won’t fit a man because they’re not made for men. What you have to be careful about is pants that are immodest on a woman, but a dress can be immodest on a woman, too. And, you know, in much of the world, men wear “dresses.” I’m calling it that, just jokingly, but they’re wearing something that looks like a dress

and in this country, it would be a dress. So we don't need to be both stupid and legalistic about this.

The Pentecostal people say that women shouldn't wear pants. They say, "Oh, look back at World War 2; that's when women started wearing pants." But I'm going to tell you, folks, that if a woman is in the business of working at a man's job, it's not modest to wear a dress.

Where could she go and do mechanic's work or construction or anything like that where she could wear a dress? When I worked out at the Exxon plant, if you wore a dress, you'd be in trouble. If you got around spinning equipment, or a lathe, or a drill-press, or a pump, it would pull you right into it. You couldn't wear anything loose around the machinery and Exxon wouldn't let you wear anything loose there. We couldn't even wear rings, because if you were working on rotating machinery, it would snatch your finger off. So you have to use a little bit of common sense. How can you make a rule for men that they can wear pants but women can't wear pants, when the women's pants weren't made for men, they were made for women. Now, if a man goes out there as a transvestite, dressed up to look like a woman, wearing women's clothes, he's a pervert. I can't say it any other way; he's got a problem. The Bible says that's an abomination.

Folks, we can't twist and pervert the Scriptures so that we think something we're doing makes us more holy than other people. If the Bible doesn't say something, then the Bible doesn't say it. And it's dangerous to say what the Bible doesn't say because when people do that, it's usually for the purpose of puffing-up themselves. That way they can be better than you, and that way you have to seek them. It's all for the purpose of keeping you in bondage. "We do this, and we do that, and we're justified by our works." It's all Phariseeism. Those Pharisees had a legalistic reason for everything they did. And, oh, my goodness! They were so "holy" that you didn't even want to question them. A man with some common sense, whom Jesus had healed said, (*Joh.9:30*) ... ***Why, herein is the marvel, that ye know not whence he is, and yet he opened***

mine eyes. (31) We know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and do his will, him he heareth. (32) Since the world began it was never heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. (33) If this man were not from God, he could do nothing. (34) They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out. They kept questioning Him and questioning Him and He made more sense than they did, so the Pharisees got mad at Him. They said, “You were altogether born in sin and you’re going to teach us?” As if they weren’t born in sin!

Father, we thank You for teaching us. We want to know truth. We want to be right, we don’t want to be legalistic, and we don’t want to look down on anybody, or put what we feel is our conscience onto someone else. It’s like what happened to my wife, who was shown by an angel what would be modest “if you wore a dress.” He didn’t say he wanted her to always wear a dress, He didn’t say that at all because sometimes pants are more modest than dresses depending on the things that you’re doing. So, thank You Father, that we can use a little bit of common sense, and if we learn to not go beyond the things that are written, we won’t be puffed-up one against another. So we thank You, Father, for helping us and giving us grace that we can be well-pleasing in Your sight.

Lord, we love You. We want to know the truth and we want to be well-pleasing unto You. Show us, Lord, that it’s the inner-things that mostly make You glad about us: a meek and a quiet spirit, a humble spirit, not seeking to be domineering over our brethren, not forcing them out in order to make them seek us in order to find out what is acceptable in our church. Lord, we let people grow at their own rate. We can give suggestions and be supportive. We don’t have to make war on them because they’re not a “perfect fit” with us. We can leave some things to the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit will convict them and they will change, and it will be of God. Thank You, Lord, for this grace. We hope

that we always get this grace and we hope that we always give this grace.

Thank You, Father, for your mercy towards us and through us. Teach us how to be merciful, Lord. Teach us how to be graceful. Teach us how to pray, rather than speak, because sometimes that's best. Some people think they always have to bring correction, but sometimes we can just pray and watch the Lord do it. Thank You, Father.

Thank you so much for reading this study today, friends. God be with you. I pray that we will continue to grow in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with man, as the Scriptures said about Jesus.

The Word, Women, and Authority

Chapter 5

Jezebel's Divorce

A House Divided

Folks, this may be a hard Word, but it's something the Lord wanted to share with you. I didn't choose it. I will remind you, though, that Jesus said, *(Mat.5:19) Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.* And none of that has changed. *(Heb.13:8) Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and to-day, yea and for ever.* *(Psa.89:34) My covenant will I not break, Nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.* What God knows is best for man doesn't change, either. That means we can accept only what was said and written to us from the beginning if we want to abide in Jesus Christ. *(1Jn.2:24) As for you, let that abide in you which ye heard from the beginning.* (In other words, we can't accept some apostate "modern day" doctrine.) *If that which ye heard from the beginning abide in you, ye also shall abide in the Son, and in the Father.* We need to humble ourselves to the Word of God, folks. It's a rock to stand on because it's never-changing. We need to submit to the Lord or else quit calling Him "Lord."

Well, if you know who Jezebel was in the Scriptures, then you know that she's famous for not submitting, either to her husband or to the Lord, and this revelation is concerning Jezebel. It was sent to us by S. L. and it's a very good exhortation for everyone because the Lord has a demand of us, as disciples, to submit to Him. We can't just make up things that we want to believe, things that let us live the way we want to live as we

go along, like a lot of the church is doing, and of course, that's the Jezebel church. The Jezebel church does that because she doesn't submit to her Husband, but we have a Husband, the Lord Jesus Christ, and we have to submit to Him.

She said, *I listened to David's message about division of the land of Israel. Then I went to bed, staying overnight at my son's apartment in a small town. At midnight, we were awakened by angry voices from the apartment above, with much fighting. So, I got up and prayed, doing spiritual warfare and pleading the Blood of Jesus over us. We prayed for our neighbors. The battle subsided temporarily, then it heated up again. I went back to bed and prayed in the Spirit fervently. I stayed awake most of the night thinking about the division, and how the Lord is using this to separate the wheat from the tares. Amen. We know that's true. Our Lord said, (Mar.3:24) **And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. (25) And if a house be divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.** He also told us that He was going to do this in these days. (Mat.13:30) **Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather up first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn.** You see, He wants a holy body, and so there's going to be division. We just have to make sure it's not our fault.*

I believe that this is a refuge city, so the tares are going to be evicted out of this land. Well, whether it physically is a refuge city or whether it physically isn't, we know that the tares are going to be evicted out of God's land, which is the land of abiding in Jesus Christ. The tares will be evicted from that because we're warned of a great falling-away that's coming (2 Thessalonians 2:3) and we don't want to take part in that, obviously.

Let me just say that a corporate assembly of the wicked will be divided and divorced from the corporate assembly of the righteous. We're told, (Psa.1:4) **The wicked are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind**

driveth away. (5) Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. (Yes, God will cleanse His congregation worldwide.) (6) For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous; But the way of the wicked shall perish. And also, (Pro.10:30) The righteous shall never be removed; But the wicked shall not dwell in the land. There you have it, folks: The Lord will evict from His land those that don't obey His Word.

Now when we repent, confess our sins, and walk by faith, then it's not hard to be obedient because the Lord gives us grace. The Lord said, (Mat.11:30) *For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.* He is able to make us able to be partakers of all the inheritance that He has given to the saints. (Col.1:12) *Giving thanks unto the Father, who made us meet* (This is the Greek word *hikanoó* and it means "reaching the place of sufficiency and hence making someone qualified.") *to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.* And so it is by His grace, but He still corrects us. If we continue to be willfully disobedient or to justify ourselves so that we can live according to the old flesh, then the Lord has to do something. You see, we can't let the old man live; he has to go to his cross.

*The landlord has a policy of quiet hours from 10:00 p.m til 8:00 a.m. and they violated that edict. Early in the morning, I fell asleep or was in the Spirit, and had this dream. I saw that we were in a large Roman church auditorium. This represents the worldwide corporate assembly of those who believe that they are the true church, but they're really not. I was in a Roman church when I was born and when I got to be a teenager, I decided it wasn't for me. They had a lot of "hocus pocus" there, but very little of anything that actually edified or pointed you to the way of salvation. However, this is not talking about the physical Roman church, because this is a parable of the spiritual mother of the harlots (Revelation 17:5), if you will. These are those we are commanded to come out from among and not partake of their sins so that we will not be judged with them. (Rev.18:4) *And I heard another**

voice from heaven, saying, Come forth, my people, out of her, that ye have no fellowship with her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

*I saw a woman in a red evening gown. Well, this is the Jezebel spirit that is ruling in that assembly. All over the world, there's a Jezebel spirit ruling in that assembly of the unrighteous, of those that claim to be the church but are not, because the church is obviously those people who have come out from among them. That's what *ekklésia*, the Greek word translated as "church" means: "(from *ek*, 'out from and to' and *kaléō*, 'to call') – properly, people called out from the world and to God, the outcome being the Church (the mystical body of Christ) – i.e. the universal (total) body of believers whom God calls out from the world and into His eternal kingdom." *The gown had the back open or exposed, showing her skin*. So her sin is revealed to others but not to her. In other words, this is the show of nakedness, which is a symbol of sin. We are naked before God when we walk in sin. We're not covered with the works of righteousness. ***(Rev.19:8) And it was given unto her that she should array herself in fine linen, bright and pure: for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.****

*She was wearing gold ornaments dangling from her hair. Notice her gold is on the outside; it's only a decoration, something that you can put on or take off. This is just a show on the outside of something valuable, but it's not on the inside as a nature of something that is valuable. ***(Rev.18:16) ... Woe, woe, the great city, she that was arrayed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and decked with gold and precious stone and pearl!*** The gold and the silver and the precious stones we're supposed to have, represent the nature of Jesus Christ. ***(1Co.3:11) For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*** ***(12) But if any man buildeth on the foundation gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, stubble;*** ***(13) each man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire itself shall prove each man's work of what sort it is.****

(14) If any man's work shall abide which he built thereon, he shall receive a reward. (15) If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as through fire. People can hang all kinds of things on themselves and be very religious as a show but ultimately, that's not going to count. And that's the showy church today; they put on all kinds of extravaganzas, but basically there's nothing there.

She took the throne on the stage, with her back to us. The Jezebel spirit rules over the rebellious men and women among us, in that they do not submit to our husband, Who is Jesus Christ. That means they do not submit to His Word, even though He is the Word of God. Also, in the Scriptures, this spirit is typed by the woman ruling over her husband and them both being destroyed. The husband who submits to a Jezebel spirit in the wife in order to please her, is in rebellion against the Lord. I know a lot of husbands have not thought about that, but they're really following a spirit that is ruled by the devil when they seek to please their wife at the expense of pleasing the Lord.

Jesus told us, ***(Mat.6:24) No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other.*** If you're holding to a Jezebel spirit because that seems to be advantageous at the time, then you're despising God because you're following a spirit that is a spirit of anti-Christ. Now we know that Jesus applied this principle to serving the master of money, but it's also true of serving any master other than Jesus, even a wife.

Husband, you can make an idol out of your wife if it's more important to you to serve her than to serve the Lord, if it's more important to you to do what she wants than to serve the Lord. You're in idolatry to a Jezebel spirit if you're being led by a woman. Remember that God cursed Eve for leading her husband astray, and He cursed Adam for hearkening unto the voice of his wife and not His own voice. ***(Gen.3:16) Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy pain and thy conception; in pain thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy***

husband, and he shall rule over thee. (17) And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in toil shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. (18) thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field.

It was Jezebel who taught Ahab how to usurp the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite (1 Kings 21:7-25). “Naboth” means “the fruits that God will sow,” but they usurped it for growing their own rotten fruit, which is a type and a shadow of what happens today. If you obey Jezebel, you have given your vineyard over to her to sow her own rotten fruit in there. Don't obey Jezebel or anyone in whom she lives, because they're under the curse of death, along with their children. *(1Ki.21:17) And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, (18) Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who dwelleth in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to take possession of it. (19) And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, Hast thou killed and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine. ... (23) And of Jezebel also spake the Lord, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the rampart of Jezreel. (24) Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the birds of the heavens eat.*

Jezebel would like to rule your house so that she can then rule the Church, as she ruled in the church of Thyatira. God said, *(Rev.2:20) But I have this against thee, that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel, who calleth herself a prophetess; and she teacheth and seduceth my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed to idols.* Well, this is obviously an abomination to the Lord. He has spoken so much about it through the Scriptures and it has caused so many to go astray. That's in direct rebellion to His Word here. *(1Ti.2:11) Let a*

woman learn in quietness with all subjection. (12) But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness. (13) For Adam was first formed, then Eve (And the reason for this was the same reason from the beginning for why He didn't want this to happen. Adam was first formed and then Eve, and that's still true today.); ***(14) and Adam was not beguiled, but the woman being beguiled hath fallen into transgression.*** So this is God's opinion and our opinion has to be God's opinion. What is beautiful to God must be beautiful to us, otherwise we're in trouble.

Jesus said, ***(Joh.14:15) If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments.*** "If you love Me, you will walk in obedience to My commandments." And if you obey someone else, then you love them more than you love Him. That can't happen, ever. That's idolatry. Folks, we're to be transformed by the renewing of our mind with the Word of God. ***(2Co.3:18) But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit.*** We submit our mind to the Word of God because we love and worship Him. ***(Joh.4:24) God is a Spirit: and they that worship*** (This is the Greek *proskynéō* and it literally means "to kiss towards.") ***him must worship in spirit and truth*** ("Truth" is the Greek word *alétheia* meaning "'reality' as the opposite of illusion, i.e. fact.>"). Obeying the Scriptures is a true form of worship because it's an act of love towards God. If you love Him more than you love others, you're going to keep His commandments and you'll even suffer in order to do it. Many people don't think they ought to suffer in order to obey the Lord, but obeying the Lord will cause you to suffer. It will cause you to suffer the death of self. Self, the ego, is anti-Christ, and God knows all the heroic sisters who have fought off this demon of Jezebel and are suffering a death to self because of their love for Him and their family.

Jezebel, in the New Testament, is going to get the same treatment that she got in the Old Testament for rebelling against God, and for leading

her husband in the wrong way. ***(Rev.2:22) Behold, I cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation*** (That obviously means the Church is going into tribulation.), ***except they repent of her works. (23) And I will kill her children with death...*** Her “children” are all those that are considered members of her body. Now this is a spiritual parable, so it could be spiritual death, and that’s not good. God is going to reprobate, to “divorce” the Jezebel body out there, which is spread throughout the church. Jezebel has taken over the churches, along with “TV Christianity.” It’s not hard to see. If you’ve read the Scriptures one time, you can see that’s what’s been happening. It’s not a deep teaching, it doesn’t take much understanding. Jesus said, ***(Joh.7:17) If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God, or whether I speak from myself.*** Of course, it’s hard to find out the truth when all you want to do is your own will. I tell you, folks, when you see a self-willed person, don’t think they can know the truth. They can’t know the truth.

(Rev.2:23) And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he that searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto each one of you according to your works. He means that our works better line up with His commands because if they don’t, we’re going to pay a heavy, heavy price. ***(24) But to you I say, to the rest that are in Thyatira, as many as have not this teaching*** (These are the people who do not have the teaching of Jezebel.), ***who know not the deep things of Satan, as they are wont to say*** (Notice Jezebel's teaching is called by God "the deep things of Satan." She is not the bride of Christ, as she thinks. She is the bride of Satan.); ***I cast upon you none other burden.*** He’s speaking to the church of Thyratira, he corrects them for having Jezebel as a teacher, and he says, “If you don’t have this problem, I’m not casting upon you any other burden.” In other words, they had one major, major problem in God’s eyes, and it was Jezebel, but they were permitting her to do this. They were permitting her to seduce them into following another god.

In the Parable of A House Divided, Jesus said, *(Luk.11:18) But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house falleth. 18 And if Satan also is divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast out demons by Beelzebub. (19) And if I by Beelzebub cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? therefore shall they be your judges. (20) But if I by the finger of God cast out demons, then is the kingdom of God come upon you. (21) When the strong man fully armed guardeth his own court, his goods are in peace: (22) but when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him his whole armor wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. (23) He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth.* So “another god” is Satan here, or you could also say “self” since they’re almost synonymous. That’s because if you follow self, you’re following Satan, and if you’re following Satan, you’re following self. We came here to die, folks, we came here to lose our life. Praise God we can do that by His grace! [Editor’s Note: The book *How Shall We Die?* By David Eells may be downloaded from <https://www.ubm1.org/books/pdf/HSWD.pdf> without charge.]

Once you’ve fought off that demon of Jezebel, you certainly can recognize it in others. It can’t hide in an assembly of Godly people. A person who has the Jezebel spirit may think that they can hide it but everybody sees it. Godly people know that someone with a Jezebel demon controlling them will act one way that’s acceptable among the saints, but they don’t act that way when they go home. They act totally different with their husband. We need to be interceding in prayer for these sisters because they’re in bondage. And we know that, *(Rom.10:17KJV) ... faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* You need to have ears to hear from the Lord, and correcting your mind with the Word of God is a good way to have ears to hear the Voice of the Lord, otherwise, you just might hear the voice of Jezebel. We don’t want that! The Bible says the wife must obey her husband, and the

husband must love the wife to make this easy for her, but his job description does not include obeying Jezebel demons. Becoming an Ahab is not part of a husband's job description. That's not what love is. That is hatred for the Lord. That is going into the "deep things of Satan."

(Eph.5:22) Wives, [be in subjection] unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. In other words, just the way you're supposed to obey the Lord, obey your husband. That will be pleasing unto the Lord. ***(23) For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church*** (In the same way that Christ is the Head of the church, the husband is the head of the wife, so if a wife rebels against her husband, she is rebelling against the Head of the church, Jesus Christ.), ***[being] himself the saviour of the body. (24) But as the church is subject to Christ, so [let] the wives also [be] to their husbands in everything***. (So it's not how the church is subject to Christ, it's how the church is supposed to be subject to Christ. In that way let the wife be subject unto her husband in everything.) ***(25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it...*** So a husband is a self-sacrificing person for the sake of the wife. Again, the job description here does not include obeying Jezebel. You have to obey the Lord because the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is the man, and so you have to keep that in correct order, or else if you get out of order, you'll be missing God.

(Eph.5:25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; (26) that he might sanctify it (That's part of your job description there, husband, to sanctify the submissive wife. So wife, obey your husband and let him do this job, because in obeying your husband, you're being sanctified.), ***having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word*** (Yes, the Word of God needs to be number one in your home. It has to be your law, it has to be your rock to stand on.), ***(27) that he might present the church to himself a glorious [church]*** (May all husbands be able to present to themselves a glorious wife! Amen!), ***not having spot or wrinkle or any***

such thing (If you've wondered about those "spots" and "wrinkles," spots are new sins and wrinkles are old sins.); ***but that it should be holy and without blemish***. Wow! These verses are comparing what Jesus does for the church to what the husband does for the wife. We see that if the husband loves the wife, he can sanctify her. And we see that if the wife obeys her husband, she will be sanctified through this. Praise God! So there's a really good reason, wife, why you should submit to your husband, and there it is, right there. You'll never come to maturity, you'll never be that beautiful bride for the Lord, unless you obey your husband.

But, what if the wife says, "I can't obey him until he loves me like Christ loves the church"? If that happens, folks, she will never be sanctified. The Lord says that she must obey her husband whether he is perfect or not. (*1Pe.3:1*) ***In like manner, ye wives, [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word*** (So the husband doesn't have to be perfect, in fact, he can be not obeying the Word, and God still says to obey him.), ***they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives*** (Notice, even when they're not obeying the word, they'll be gained by their wives. So God can use the wife to save her husband.); (2) ***beholding your chaste behavior [coupled] with fear***. Wives, it's to your advantage to obey your husband so he can be sanctified. And husbands, it is to your great advantage to love the Lord, meaning obey Him, and love your wife, and in that order.

Some of you would say, "I'm not a Jezebel, Dave!" Or, "I do love my wife, Dave, but I'm just offended." Well, let me tell you that if you are offended, you are always wrong because you are not forgiving. And if you are not forgiving, then you are therefore not forgiven by God, nor are you eligible for grace, according to Jesus in the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:21-35). (*Mat.18:32*) ***Then his lord called him unto him, and saith to him, Thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou besoughtest me: (33) shouldst not thou also have had mercy on thy fellow-servant, even as I had mercy on thee? (34) And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the***

tormentors, till he should pay all that was due. (35) So shall also my heavenly Father do unto you, if ye forgive not every one his brother from your hearts. So if you're offended, you're just plain wrong. No matter what, you're wrong. You're not exercising faith, and what's coming out of your mouth when you're offended is everything but what needs to come out of your mouth, because you're criticizing, you're judging, you're unforgiving, you're bitter. All these things are coming out of your mouth and you're cursing yourself because you're cursing your mate. You've forgotten that a husband and wife are one body.

(Pro.18:21) Death and life are in the power of the tongue; And they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. It's a dangerous thing to speak contrary to the Word. The Lord said, (Num.14:28) ... As I live ... surely as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you. We're warned not to add-to or take-away-from God's Word. (Rev.22:18) I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto them, God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book: (19) and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, which are written in this book. That's what He says. It's a dangerous thing. (Mat.12:37) For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned. Do you believe the Word of God? Then it needs to come out of your mouth, and you need to be obedient. You can't wait for somebody else to be obedient first, before you're obedient, everybody else is accountable to the Lord themselves. Your husband is accountable to the Lord himself. Your wife is accountable to the Lord herself. Don't wait for them to be obedient. You have to be obedient. Your life is in your hands.

And moving on, she said, *After seeing this woman on the throne, I heard the words, "One stone will not be left on another."* You know, at one time, God's holy city was called a harlot. (Isa.1:21) *How is the faithful city become a harlot! she that was full of justice! righteousness lodged*

in her, but now murderers. That's the same as the harlot of our day, folks. It's not apostate Jerusalem this time, it's apostate Christianity and not one stone will be left upon another; it's all going to be torn down. God has cursed the house of Jezebel, both individual and corporate. That means your home, if there's a Jezebel there and she's being obeyed by an Ahab there. There's a curse on that, the same curse that was upon the original Jezebel and Ahab. And there's a curse on the corporate body of Jezebel which is spread throughout the church. Everywhere she is there is a curse and the biggest curse is going to be on her. He says, "One stone will not be left upon another," meaning he will tear it down stone-by-stone or individual-by-individual or fake church-by-fake church. He will tear it down. And when we disobey His commands, folks, we're doing the same thing. We're tearing down our own house with our own hands.

The next scene was a repeat of the first scene in the church auditorium. I was standing in the pews facing the stage/altar area. Only this time, I noticed there were fewer people in the audience, very few remaining in this large, megachurch building. That's because the Lord is tearing it down. (Mar.13:2) And Jesus said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left here one stone upon another, which shall not be thrown down. And what did He do? He raised up the beast to come and tear it down to the ground. The building that they thought was holy, it was torn down to the ground. Now there's a "building" today that's thought to be holy by religious people, who are putting on a pretty good show, but they really don't have it on the inside, and that's going to be torn down by the Lord, stone by stone. He's going to raise up the beast to totally conquer the fake church. They're going to be given into the beast's hands to be destroyed.

A Spiritual Sacrifice

As I meditated on this passage, I realized that the "stones" Jesus is talking about are people, as we are like living stones in His Temple.

(1Pe.2:5) Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. So if we, as these living stones are the New Testament priesthood, which we are, we are to offer up spiritual sacrifices, which we should be doing. The major one, of course, is the sacrifice of burning flesh. It's called the "continual burnt offering" (Numbers chapter 28). If there's not a continual burnt offering, then your religion is in vain. The Jews no longer have a continual burnt offering because they have been broken off of the olive tree and the Christians have been grafted in through their faith (Romans chapter 11).

So what is this continual burnt offering today? It's the offering-up of our old flesh on the altar of the fiery trial. You do that when you submit to the Lord and deny yourself permission to live and act the way you want to do (Ephesians 4:31; Colossians 3:8). This submission is crucifying, and it puts to death the old self. ***(Eph.4:22) That ye put away, as concerning your former manner of life, the old man, that waxeth corrupt after the lusts of deceit. (Rom.13:14) But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to [fulfil] the lusts [thereof].*** But in the midst of the trial, folks, the wife can't suddenly take the reins in her own hands and say, "Well, I'm just going to take care of this myself. Let's do it my way." It's doomed to be cursed and you're tearing your own house down with your own hands. It's in the midst of the trial that you offer up that old flesh as a sacrifice, as ***(Col.3:20) ... an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well-pleasing to God.*** This is what's "acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." This is the acceptable life.

I felt the presence of a strong man, (Jesus), come into the church, next to me on the right. He then stepped up behind me and wrapped his arms around me in a big embrace. After the separation of the fruitless tares from among the wheat, the Bride and the true church will be made manifest. I felt safe and warm in his arms. I was surprised! He seemed fat and as I thought it, he said, "Shall I lose five pounds for you?" And

this is what came to me, (Pro.28:25) ... But he that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be made fat. I was puzzled by what five pounds could mean. I thought later to look up “five pounds” and found this verse: (Luk.19:18) And the second came saying, Thy pound, Lord, hath made five pounds. The Lord left his servant with a pound and he brought forth five more pounds. That’s bearing fruit. (19) And he said unto him also, Be thou also over five cities. So we see here that five pounds given up for the Bride represents the Lord’s reward for the fruitful.

We have to bear fruit, and bearing fruit is to come into His likeness. You come into His likeness through obedience to the Word of God. The more of the Word you obey, the more fruit you bear. In the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3-9,18-23; Mark 4:1-9, 13-20; Luke 8:4-15), Jesus sowed the Word of God into their hearts and they brought forth fruit. (Mat.13:23) *And he that was sown upon the good ground, this is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; who verily beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

It’s being obedient to the Word that brings forth fruit, and God expects to find fruit when He returns. (Mat.25:24) *And he also that had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art a hard man, reaping where thou didst not sow, and gathering where thou didst not scatter; (25) and I was afraid, and went away and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, thou hast thine own. (26) But his lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I did not scatter; (27) thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the bankers, and at my coming I should have received back mine own with interest. (28) Take ye away therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him that hath the ten talents. (29) For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not, even that which he hath shall be taken away. (30) And cast ye out the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth. You’re going to find a lot of so-*

called “Christians” are not bearing any fruit because they’re not reading the Word of God, and they’re not seeking to be a disciple of Jesus Christ by being in obedience to it. **(Mat.22:14) For many are called, but few chosen.**

Then I saw an ocean liner on the sea and I knew this man who held me strongly and securely in his arms is the captain of this large ship. (Jesus is the captain guiding the ship to revival.) Then I woke up as the church bells in the town rang at 9:00 a.m. for services to begin. It was Sunday morning! What you must know about this small town is it has a very small population and it is situated on a chain of lakes. It is a popular resort town in summer, but now it’s winter there. I came to help my son move into his apartment from a temporary apartment where he had stayed down the hall for one month prior. There are many divorced women with children living in this building, and the fight was between two men and a woman. Immediately when I read this, the thought came to me that the soul of the apostate woman is in the balance. Two men have fought for her obedient submission: Jesus and Satan. The only hope of her children is to come out of her, and to not have any fellowship with her sins. The divorced are a symbol of the divisive spirit operating in the land. I prayed for this woman to come to the knowledge of the truth as she was walking in her apartment overhead all night. She had no rest, but I did, finally, in my Savior’s arms where I am safe. Amen.

*I asked the Lord for a passage of Scripture for this dream and He gave me Job chapter 22. I see the first section, Job 22:1-11, about division. Job 22:12-18 is about the Harlot church, and 22:19-30 is about the Man-child. Then, this verse for those who are in the refuge of Jesus, safely in His arms: **(Job.22:23) If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, If thou put away unrighteousness far from thy tents.** So if you repent, the Lord will be with you, He will bless you, He will provide for you. If iniquity is not removed from the individual, God will remove the individual from among His body, so that a little leaven does not leaven the whole lump. **(1Co.5:6) Your glorying is not good. Know***

ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? (7) Purge out the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, even as ye are unleavened. For our passover also hath been sacrificed, [even] Christ: (8) wherefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness (Malice and wickedness is the very nature of Jezebel.), but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth ... (11) but as it is, I wrote unto you not to keep company, if any man that is named a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such a one no, not to eat. This is true. Jezebels are covetous, in that they lust for a position God has not given them. They are revilers, in that they speak abusively against their head, instead of speaking faith and encouragement to him. And they are extortioners, in that they use their position to manipulate gain for themselves.

(Co.5:13) But them that are without God judgeth. Put away the wicked man from among yourselves. So we see that either we divorce the sin, or God will divorce us. *(Isa.50:1) Thus saith the Lord, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, wherewith I have put her away? or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities were ye sold, and for your transgressions was your mother put away.* Well, our mother is the apostate church. All religions, all of the daughter harlots came out of the mother harlot. As the Lord divorced the Jezebel of Israel, so will He divorce the Jezebel of the Church. *(Ecc.1:9) That which hath been is that which shall be; and that which hath been done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.*

I heard the Lord say, as I prayed about this dream and its interpretation, "Because they have divorced themselves from Me, I will divorce myself from them." (Mat.10:34) Think not I came to send peace on the earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. (35) For I came to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law: (36) and a man's foes

[shall be] they of his own household. God will separate those who consider His Kingdom more valuable than any kingdom of this world from those who don't. Am I saying it will be hopeless for those who don't? No, because God can bring them in if you're faithful to Him. He will honor a husband's faith for his wife and He will honor a wife's faith for her husband.

Spiritual Warfare for those in Deception

*I was troubled in my spirit that even though I did spiritual warfare and prayed, the fighting continued off and on throughout the night and I had to persevere in praying in the spirit. We must pray and do spiritual warfare for those who are captive to the Jezebel spirit, both corporate and individual. Ask God to put it in you and give you a gift to pray for those you know are caught up in this deception. Then the Lord reminded me that it could have been much worse had we not prayed to intercede for the other tenants and especially the children. Scripture says, **(Jas.4:2) ... Ye have not, because ye ask not.** You've been given authority in the earth. Jesus promised, **(Mar.11:24) Therefore I say unto you, All things whatsoever ye pray and ask for, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.** Your prayers mean something. The world can't do that. You need to pray for people, and believe when you pray.*

*This verse seemed to fit from the passage that the Lord gave me in **(Job.22:29) When they cast [thee] down, thou shalt say, [There is] lifting up; And the humble person he will save. (30) He will deliver [even] him that is not innocent: Yea, he shall be delivered through the cleanness of thy hands.** Notice that if your hands are clean, if you're obedient to the Lord, He will hear your prayers for other people. Praise God! If not, if you're an Ahab who's submitted to Jezebel, don't expect Him to change things. If you're a Jezebel, you need to be praying for the Lord to grant you repentance because that's the only prayer He's going to hear from you. Those of Jezebel who do not repent will be divided*

from the church and the Bride, and be divorced of the Lord. They will be reprobated, just like Esau.

In the natural, my son is now aware of the need to pray for others in his apartment building! I am reminded of how much we need to pray for our neighbors, too. Yes, we need to pray for our neighbor as much as we pray for ourselves. (Gal.5:13) For ye, brethren, were called for freedom; only [use] not your freedom for an occasion to the flesh, but through love be servants one to another. (14) For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, [even] in this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. You will be blessed when you pray for your neighbor.

(Luk.6:38) Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, shall they give into your bosom. For with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again. Give of your time, give of your prayer, give of your sacrifice for those around you. If there's anybody in your assembly that needs prayer, remember them. God will remember you.

(Gal.5:15) But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. Spiritual "cannibalism" happens, too. How? *Strong's Pulpit Commentary* says of this verse: "It points to another sphere of hurt ... the utter laying waste of the inward life of piety. The orthodox opinion may survive, and perhaps be even made clearer and more accurate; but the kernel of filial love and joy in God, and of love towards our brethren, may by the φιλονεικία, the bitter antagonism, of controversy have got to be altogether eaten out. A Christian disciple who has ceased to love, Christ teaches us, is salt which has lost its savour - utterly refuse and hopeless of recovery (Mark 9:50)." [Emphasis added.] That's a complete tragedy. No one recovers from that, so go to God in faith for those that you love, because I'll tell you one thing about Jezebel: Jezebel only loves Jezebel. But we have to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, mind, and soul. *(Mar.12:28) And one of the scribes came, and heard them questioning together, and knowing that he had answered them well, asked him, What*

commandment is the first of all? (29) Jesus answered, The first is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God, the Lord is one: (30) and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. (31) The second is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. Amen.

Jezebel and Ahab Cannot be Among the Bride

I would say from this exhortation that the Bride is being chosen, so move quickly, for there will not be a Jezebel, nor an Ahab, among the Bride. God bless you and keep you. Father, in the Name of Jesus, Lord, I ask You to give grace to anyone out there that wants to escape this trap, Lord, of either a Jezebel or Ahab. Let them become obedient to Your Word. Let them put their faith in Jesus Christ, Who gave His life, Who bore this sin of the Jezebel and Ahab life upon the Cross and gave them His life, His holy life, and gave them the correction of the renewed mind through the Word of God. Father, I pray that anyone who is caught up in these sins would be granted grace by You to devour Your New Testament, Lord, to be filled with your New Covenant, Lord, and the words that give freedom, the words that set free. Thank You so much, Father, for words that bear fruit. The sower sowed the seed, which was the Word of God, into the hearts and they brought forth fruit, 30- 60-, and 100-fold. Praise God! The sad thing was that there were three other groups there that didn't bear fruit. And so it is today. Many, many are not bearing fruit and they don't know that that's what God expects of them. This is the manifestation of your salvation in the earth, it's to manifest His fruit, His Word in us, which is Christ in you, the only hope of glory. Amen.

The Word, Women, and Authority

Chapter 6

Jezebel is a Destroyer

The Lies of Jezebel

I know that many of you brethren have a hope of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, and that you want to *(Php.3:14) ... press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.* You want to come into submission and right relationship to the Word of God so that you can be in the Bride of Christ. We've seen from the Scriptures the great promises for that, the guidance, the provision, the protection, and I pray you all make it, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

The Lord has given me understanding that a Jezebel spirit is covertly putting to death the brethren. Now I know that's not just happening in UBM; it's happening around the world because too many people don't know the real danger in a Jezebel spirit and what its tactics are, so I'd like to share just a few things with you about that. First of all, we need to understand that "mixture" is from the Pit. If you put even a speck of black paint into white paint, that paint is gray. It may be imperceptible to the eye but it's still gray. That's what Satan does. Satan uses mixture; he will surround a lie with enough truth to hide it and make it seem reasonable. We need to put on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:11) so *(2Co.2:11) that no advantage may be gained over us by Satan: for we are not ignorant of his devices.* The Jezebel spirit wants to rule, it wants to control, so it feeds the ego in a person. They think, "Of course I should be in charge because I'm smarter," or "because I know what's best," or "because you're a lazy, good for nothing," or whatever. It tells you what you want to hear and then you're ready to receive the lie.

Jezebel hates God's line of authority and has been attacking it at every turn. Why is there a plague of homosexuality and lesbianism and every

other kind of perversion? It's because of Jezebel's lies to those who will listen to her. For example, where the Word says that, as the corporate body of the Bride, we are to receive the spiritual seed of our Husband, Christ, Jezebel takes that spiritual revelation and twists it. Jezebel turns that revelation into a fleshly parable about man receiving the physical seed of man. That destroys a link in God's ordained line of authority. It's the same thing Jezebel does to the woman. When that line of authority is destroyed, when the man is no longer the head of the woman, it creates lesbianism and feminism and all these perversions and so forth. These perversions bring nothing but spiritual death when people let themselves be deceived by giving place to Jezebel.

You know, folks, we have to first be in right relationship with one another in order to be in right relationship with the Lord. The Lord gives us commands. He doesn't give us suggestions. We don't have a choice in what we are to do. There is a numeric pattern going through the Scriptures as a proof to us that this is God speaking: ***(Rev.22:18) I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto them, God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book: (19) and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, which are written in this book.*** When men depart from the Word by adding-to or taking-away-from it, they fall under the curse (Deuteronomy 28:15-68). It's for their own good that they let the Word of God put to death the old man. ***(Eph.4:22) That ye put away, as concerning your former manner of life, the old man, that waxeth corrupt after the lusts of deceit.*** ***(Jas.1:22) Wherefore putting away all filthiness and overflowing of wickedness, receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.*** The Word of God is the "washing of the water with the Word". ***(Eph.5:25) ... Even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; (26) that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word.*** It's the real fulfillment of our baptism that puts to death the life of the old man (Colossians 3:9) and

brings us all into complete unity with the Lord. The Bible says, ***(Rom.8:14) For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*** Now the Spirit of God wrote this Word, therefore we have to come into submission to this Word in order to be in right relationship with the Lord, and to be sons of God. If you don't want to obey this Word, you can't be a son of God. You can be a servant, but you can't manifest sonship. So remember that when we read these words, because this is God speaking; it's not me. I'm just the messenger boy.

Apostle Paul said, ***(1Co.11:1) Be ye imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ. (2) Now I praise you that ye remember me in all things, and hold fast the traditions, even as I delivered them unto you.*** Notice he was just a delivery boy, like me. It was God Who wrote these things to us. If you want to know why you're going through the troubles you have, I can guarantee it's because of a wrong relationship to the Scriptures, but God loves us, so He's going to fix that. Praise God!

(1Co.11:3) But I would have you know (This is important, obviously.), that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. Now, give some thought to this because the Lord is not going to change His Mind. ***(Heb.13:8) Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and to-day, yea and for ever.*** Some people say, "Oh, the more modern Christ is the One I believe in, and not that guy, Paul." Well, that's the spirit of Jezebel talking and the spirit of Jezebel hates Paul, but that doesn't let Jezebel off the hook since Peter said the same thing, John said the same thing, Elijah said the same thing, Isaiah said the same thing, Samuel said the same thing, Malachi said the same thing, and on and on. So if you get rid of Paul, then you have to get rid of the rest of the Bible, too. Jezebel is the one that is not in right relationship with God, because Jezebel is not under God. Jezebel is under the devil.

Unauthorized Authority

“I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ.” Yes, and no one should come between that headship of Christ over the man. Christ is the head of the man because man is a part of the body of Christ. Christ is the male figure and we are to be, we should be, the Bride of Christ in that we are those who receive His seed, His life. He is the Head. If that relationship is reversed as, for instance, when a man usurps authority over Christ, or over the body of Christ, that is a Jezebel spirit in the man. He has spiritually joined himself to a harlot. **(1Co.6:15)** ***Know ye not that your bodies are members of Christ? shall I then take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid.*** When someone takes authority that’s not given to them by the Lord, then they didn’t come through the door, Jesus said, they came up some other way (John 10:1). Everyone who actually is in the body of Christ, is subject to Christ. Christ is the Head.

“And the head of the woman is the man.” This is just as true; the head of the woman is the man and God’s not going to change His mind about that, either, because He created it this way. He tells you in the Book why He created it this way (Genesis 2:18). It’s not our choice. And it’s not a competition, which some people make it out to be. When a woman doesn’t want to be submitted to the man, there’s self-will there, there’s rebellion there, and there’s quite often Jezebel there. The woman has cast off all restraint; she has shaved off her “hair.” **(1Co.11:5)** ***But every woman praying or prophesying with her head unveiled dishonoreth her head; for it is one and the same thing as if she were shaven. (6) For if a woman is not veiled*** (This is speaking of a sign of her submission to her husband.), ***let her also be shorn: but if it is a shame to a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be veiled.*** This spirit is a destroyer of families. And men, if you step outside the submission that you have to Christ, outside from being the body of Christ, just as the woman is the body of the man, you’re following a Jezebel spirit, which will give you an Ahab spirit. You’re not following the Spirit of God and you’ll never be a son of God if you follow a Jezebel spirit. Jezebel spirits want to bring confusion into the family. It can be the spiritual family of

the people of God, which is the church, and also the physical family. Jezebel spirits do that in order to destroy the family and to bring people out from under subjection to the Head, Who is Christ.

It's confusion when God's ordained chain of authority becomes broken in any way, and we're seeing a lot of confusion these days. For instance, wife, if you're not submitted to your husband, then you're not submitted to Christ. Christ does not accept you taking authority over your husband. If you seek to take authority, you are not following Him, and you will not manifest your sonship. That's witchcraft, as the Bible says.

(1Sa.15:23) For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as idolatry and teraphim. ("Teraphim" were small idols usually set up in household shrines. They were "gods" that people made for themselves. That's what any idol is.) ***Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.*** If the Lord would reject King Saul for rebelling against His Word, don't you think you would be rejected for doing the same thing?

If you want to submit to Christ, then you'll grow into His Image more and more and He will bless you. But if you don't want to submit, you need to get out of the church for your own good because you're going to be destroyed. The Lord is coming to destroy the Jezebel spirit, and anybody who lets a Jezebel spirit into their house, man or woman, is inviting destruction to their family. And many families are destroyed. Children who are raised up under that spirit go on destroy their own families. Know also that a husband who is willingly taking part in a woman that is taking headship, is an Ahab. He's going to meet with the same end that Ahab met (1 Kings 22:37-38). I know from experience that when a person cannot give up this dominion that they're not supposed to have, be it a man or a woman, it's a demon spirit that they love more than they love being a disciple of Christ. They're in idolatry.

Now, it's not your job, wife, to make sure the husband obeys Christ. It's your job to back away and pray for him and believe for him and not

distract him from having all of his attention on Jesus Christ. He doesn't have to be perfect. This relationship is still true. You can't overthrow him, wife, because he isn't doing what you want him to do. Instead, you're to go to the Lord for him.

(Eph.5:22) Wives, be in subjection unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. Notice the relationship there, it's "as unto the Lord." If a wife doesn't want to obey the Lord, then she is not going to obey her husband. If she obeys her husband, that's the best way for her to obey the Lord. I did a survey of the commands given to women in the New Testament and overwhelmingly those commands have to do with her obeying her husband. And I found that for the husband, his most important responsibility is to lead his family. Of course, he is to do that in submission to the Lord, and the Scriptures are to guide us in this.

(Eph.5:23) For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church (You wouldn't say that Christ is not Head of the Church, but if a wife rebels against her husband, that's what she's saying. The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the Head of the Church; it's the same parallel.), ***[being] himself the saviour of the body***. A husband who is following the Lord is the savior of his body, which is his wife, just as Christ Who's Head is God, is obeying in order to save His body, which is the Church.

(Mat.16:25) For whosoever would save his life shall lose it: and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it. We're sanctified through our obedience to the Word of God. If you truly want to gain your life, you have to lose whatever is contrary to this Word. If you don't want to be sanctified and you don't want to grow in God and you don't want to manifest your sonship, just disobey this. Just don't submit to the Word and let your self-will destroy your family, too. A lot of people may read what the Word says, but these are not people that believe the Word of God. They're people that think they can be in rebellion to the Word and still call themselves "Christian." The Jezebel

spirit has taken over the church in America because it's so worldly, so corrupt. There are lots of churches being ruled over by women, and they give you the dumbest excuses for why they're doing it, but it's witchcraft because it's rebellion and it's idolatry (1 Samuel 15:23).

Self-Will Hates the Word

What is the idol of Jezebel? It's self-will. Some people inherit that self-will through a parent but some people are just plain self-willed. And you know, folks, a spirit can take you over. Jezebel is one, right there, and it can take you to hell. If you're obeying Jezebel, you are not obeying the Lord. You are not under the Lord. Don't call yourself a Christian until you repent. Ask the Lord to grant you repentance.

Remember that Jezebel in the Old Testament cut off all the prophets of the Lord that she could find (1 Kings 18:13,19:10). Jezebel spirits hate the Word of God. They'll do their best to weasel their way out of it by twisting it, perverting it any way they can, so they can rule, but this is a destroyer of family bodies and the corporate body church. You must get rid of it. You must repent and cast it out. Don't let the devil rule your house. If Christ is not ruling your house, then the devil is ruling your house. Jezebel is from the devil. She has brought great corruption to the church, great rebellion against the Word of God, great destruction of the doctrines of the church. Husbands, don't submit to that thing for a minute, but ***(Eph.5:25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it.*** So love your wives, just as Ephesians tells you right here, but don't love them more than you love the Lord because that's a perversion. Don't give in to that.

(1Pe.3:1) In like manner you wives [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that even if any obey not the word... And, of course, some wives use the excuse, "Well, my husband doesn't obey this" or "He doesn't obey that," but you see right here, in black and white, that's not an excuse. They need to obey their husband. ***(1Pe.3:1) In like manner***

you wives [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may be without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives. Now even though we're just reading it here, right out of the Word, some of you still might have some arguments, some "What if's?" Don't worry about them. Just do what the Word says, obey to the very best of your ability, and one day you'll figure all those "what if's" out.

(1Pe.3:1) In like manner, ye wives, [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives; (2) beholding your chaste behavior [coupled] with fear. (3) Whose [adorning] let it not be the outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing jewels of gold, or of putting on apparel; (4) but [let it be] the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible apparel of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. Now this is what God says that wives, Christian wives, should put on: "the incorruptible apparel of a meek and quiet spirit." It is so beautiful in a woman, especially here in America. For goodness sake! What a sick country and a bunch of sick Christians here, too! They don't believe the Word of God and they have allowed their foolish leadership, who have a Jezebel spirit, to take positions over Christ and over the body. So "a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price," is what God calls beautiful; this is what His Bride is going to look like.

*(1Pe.3:5) For after this manner aforetime the holy women also, who hoped in God, adorned themselves (Notice: They adorned themselves with subjection to their own husbands. This made them beautiful.), being in subjection to their own husbands: (6) as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose children ye now are, if ye do well, and are not put in fear by any terror. Abraham and Sarah are a good example. She honored his headship; she called him "lord." And a lot of people call Jesus "Lord," but He said, *(Luk.6:46) And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?* That's very clear.*

(1Pe.3:7) Ye husbands, in like manner, dwell with [your wives] according to knowledge, giving honor unto the woman, as unto the weaker vessel (So it's not that the husband is ruling obnoxiously and demanding his authority. It's through love and peace.), as being also joint-heirs of the grace of life; to the end that your prayers be not hindered.

(1Ti.2:10) But (which becometh women professing godliness) through good works. So if you're a woman professing godliness, then you'll do good works, and you'll obey these next verses. (11) Let a woman learn in quietness and with all subjection. (12) But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness. You ask, "David, then what can a woman do in the church that's 'legal'?" The Bible says she can pray and she can prophesy, because these are things that you do in the Lord, not in your flesh. He's restraining the flesh here, you see. The Lord wants to hear more from the men, from the husbands, from the leaders in the assembly. A lot of husbands are very quiet, you know, but they let their wives get up and make a lot of pronouncements and so forth that aren't necessary. "But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over the man, but to be in quietness." Who said, "I permit not"? The Lord God spoke this through His apostle Paul, and we have proof of that because there's a numeric pattern in the Scriptures that no man could have put in here.

And here's a reason that's still the reason today for why women shouldn't teach or have dominion over a man. Some people claim, "Oh, it's different today." No it's not! If this next verse is wrong today, then I'm wrong, but it's still true today. ***(1Ti.2:13) For Adam was first formed, then Eve (Is that still true? Yes.); and Adam was not beguiled, but the woman being beguiled hath fallen into transgression. (Is that still true? Yes, and what the Lord is saying is that this could happen again.), but she shall be saved through her child-bearing if they continue in faith and love and sanctification with sobriety. Oh, praise the Lord!***

(1Co.14:32) And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets; (33) for God is not a God of confusion (It's Jezebel that brings confusion to God's ordained line of authority.), but of peace. As in all the churches of the saints... Notice, apostle Paul is not departing from the Word, as some women say about him. It was a custom of all the churches of the saints, and it was a custom in the Old Testament, too. Today we're in the New Testament, so we know we have to obey it.

(1Co.14:33) ... As in all the churches of the saints (34) let the women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak (I believe that a woman can share a testimony if she is invited to do that by the leadership, or by her husband, but she can't speak outside the bounds of leadership.); but let them be in subjection, as also saith the law. I've heard people say, "Oh, Paul was just trying to drag them back under the Law." No, this is true in both the Old and the New Testament. Who could argue with this? Women with that spirit of Jezebel, who have such a lust to rule and to take a position of authority in the church, they will argue. They will twist and pervert God's Word. Don't you sit under them for a minute when they do such things.

(1Co.14:35) And if they would learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home: for it is shameful for a woman to speak in the church. So we see God is protecting His ordained line of authority in the in the family. If a wife has a question, she should ask her husband, make him dig a little deeper, because it's good for him to search it out. This is what the Lord's command is and it's a very good command. He's not letting the church rule over the headship in the family. He's got the husband for that.

(1Co.14:36) What? was it from you that the word of God went forth? or came it unto you alone? Here Paul is obviously talking with somebody wanting to argue with this, but he has a good answer: Are you the one that the word of God came to? And are you the only one?

(1Co.14:37) If any man thinketh himself to be a prophet, or spiritual,

let him take knowledge of the things which I write unto you, that they are the commandment of the Lord. Paul is saying these are not just his traditions, but they are the commandment of the Lord. If you rebel against what Paul is saying here, you're rebelling against the Lord. (38) *But if any man is ignorant, let him be ignorant.* In other words, he's going to bear his own curse. Folks, we need to humbly, humbly submit to the Word of God and not rebel against the Lord.

Whenever the people rebelled in the Old Testament, the Lord rebuked them for it. A good example of that is here. (*Isa.3:11*) *Woe unto the wicked! [it shall be] ill [with him]; for what his hands have done shall be done unto him. (12) As for my people, children are their oppressors...* In other words, people that are immature are ruling over the church. That's crazy, but that's what we have today. Whenever denominations can turn-out preachers by sending them to school for a couple of years, and then give them authority over a church, that's totally ridiculous. The Bible says, (*Rev.2:26*) *And he that overcometh, and he that keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give authority over the nations.* That means a person needs to overcome sin first. There are pastors out there counseling others but they haven't overcome their own sin. Don't sit under somebody who is in immorality. Don't let them counsel you because their spirits are going into you; their rebellion is going into you. Don't sit under them.

(*Isa.3:12*) *As for my people, children are their oppressors and women rule over them.* (He's rebuking them for this.) *O my people, they that lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.* Well, I would say that the church ignores a lot of the Word of God in the New Testament because the women preachers have totally perverted the rule of authority in the church. Jesus didn't raise up women as teachers and preachers. He raised up only men and He wanted it to be that way because the man is the head of the woman. He doesn't depart from the Word and He's demanding that you don't depart from the Word there, either. We need to submit. People have tweaked the Word in as many

ways as possible but, so far, I haven't seen anything that allows us to depart from these words. If you think God is schizophrenic and that there's some word that's against these words that are written in black and white, well, then you need to go back and examine that. Or do you just really want to listen to only what you really want to hear? A spirit of Jezebel is like that.

Jezebels have risen up in our ministry, seeking to take authority, seeking to demand that I don't preach against Jezebels. We had a woman do that, she got angry because I preached straight out of the Word, just reading what the Word says. I did come to find out later that this woman was the preacher for her little family group, and so I asked her, "Now can you show from the Bible where I'm wrong? Let me see the verse that's wrong here." She didn't answer, didn't even want to talk about it. Then I said, "Okay, show me something contrary to what I'm preaching." She didn't want to talk about that, either. She could not defend her position but that didn't make any difference, because she was so self-willed that she was going to do what she wanted to do, and so we parted company. Praise God!

This has happened a few times, where people have risen-up and demanded this, and demanded that, and tried to take authority where they didn't have any legal right to do that. A Jezebel spirit in men or women, when they take authority that's not theirs, they're taking authority over Christ, Who is the Head, and they're seeking to have authority over the sheep. These are demons trying to take over the church. Three different groups have tried to take over UBM: The false revival group, the Jezebels, and the factious people. All these tried to take over our ministry and tried to compel us to change our mind about things that were totally scriptural. Their rebellion, of course, has been rewarded by the Lord but there's even greater judgment coming because God is about to judge those rebellious movements that are against Him.

The New Testament speaks about Jezebel being in the church at Thyatira. (*Rev.2:20*) ***But I have this against thee, that thou sufferest***

the woman Jezebel... In other words, “You permit this to go on. Don’t be a sick church. Don’t permit this to go on.” We had one of the men who was actually the head of the faction movement try to install his wife as an assistant pastor, but some of the brethren rose up and said, “Oh, no you don’t! You can’t do that. That’s contrary to the Word.” And he backed down. Glory to God! Those brethren didn’t “suffer” the woman Jezebel.

(Rev.2:20) But I have this against thee, that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel, who calleth herself a prophetess... Now let me point out to you that there is no prophetess that has an office in the church. ***(Eph.4:11) And he gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.*** In the offices of the five-fold ministry, there is one office called “Prophet.” There is no office called “Prophetess” because a prophet is a man in every case. There are women who call themselves “prophet” but no, they’re a “prophetess” and that’s not an office in the church. Women can prophesy, of course, when God is using that vessel to speak through them. A prophetess doesn’t speak for herself. It’s God using that vessel and everything that you receive that way should be held in the light of the Word. Any woman that’s trying to take a position of authority over men to teach, or take authority over men through this prophetess office, that is a Jezebel spirit in every case, because Jezebel wants to take over the church. And the prophets who stood up to her in the past either died as martyrs or they were successful.

(Rev.2:20) But I have this against thee, that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel, who calleth herself a prophetess... She calls herself a prophetess. In other words, is she right? No, not necessarily. She’s just a domineering woman. The problem here is the domineering spirit, the self-will, the rebellion, the Jezebel spirit. These want to take-over the church because the devil wants to rule the church. He said that he wants to exalt his throne above the stars of God. ***(Isa.14:13) And thou saidst in thy heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the***

stars of God; and I will sit upon the mount of congregation, in the uttermost parts of the north; (14) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. He's still trying to do it. But the prophets stood up to these Jezebels, whether it be man or woman, they stood up to these Jezebels, and many of them lost their lives defending the church.

(Rev.2:20) But I have this against thee, that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel, who calleth herself a prophetess; and she teacheth and seduceth my servants to commit fornication... It's fornication for a woman to sow the seed. The woman is supposed to receive the seed, she's supposed to be in subjection. The man is the one sowing the seed. Jesus agreed with this and that's what He did. He ordained men to go forth with the Gospel and do this. Also, a woman who has a spirit of Jezebel, or a man who has a spirit of Jezebel, what they're trying to give you is fornication because the seed they're trying to give you is not from your Husband, it's not from Jesus Christ. They're just like the Jezebel in Revelation 17, the Harlot. ***(Rev.17:3) And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness: and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet-colored beast*** (She's ruling over the beast, and attempting to rule over the saints, too.), ***full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. (4) And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and decked with gold and precious stone and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations, even the unclean things of her fornication, (5) and upon her forehead a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.***

(Rev.2:20) But I have this against thee, that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel, who calleth herself a prophetess; and she teacheth and seduceth my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed to idols. Spiritually "to eat things" means taking into our lives what we become, because what we eat is what we are made of. The teachings we receive into our lives change us in this way. What does

“things sacrificed to idols” mean? In the natural, that would be the flesh of the animals that were sacrificed, but spiritually, it means we are offering up our beastly lives to the god of self. Most bow to idol of self, but Jesus teaches that we must each take up our cross and die to self or we are not His disciple. Jesus said, *(Mat.10:38) ... he that doth not take his cross and follow after me, is not worthy of me.* Some people will pervert the Word to save the flesh alive because they have idols. They’ll preach something to manipulate people. Wives, don’t manipulate your husbands. They have to hear from God without distraction. In order for you both to be blessed, they have to be blessed to hear from God. And, if you’re taking authority, wife, because of a self-willed idol, neither of you is going to hear from God. It’ll be you leading, instead of God. Now I’ve known some women that were very good in their church positions but that didn’t make it legal for them to be doing what they were doing. For instance, in one of the first churches I was in, there was a woman whose teaching everybody enjoyed. The problem was that she was just in rebellion against God. And remember the story about the “beguiling.” There’s something about a woman that enables her to be beguiled (Genesis 3:13; 1 Timothy 2:14). We don’t need to put ourselves in a position that’s not ours to have, a position that will bring evil to others or ourselves. That’s what Jezebel was doing and the Thyatira church was permitting it.

The Time to Repent Will Soon End

(Rev.2:21) And I gave her time that she should repent; and she willeth not to repent of her fornication. That’s self-will. She chose to not repent. We’re at a place right now where God has given time for her to repent, but soon there’s going to be a slaughter to the Jezebels, to the Jezebel spirits, because we have a Jehu coming. *(Rev.2:22) Behold, I cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation* (If you’re permitting a Jezebel in your house, they’re going into the Tribulation, but they will not be able to escape in it because judgment is on them.), *except they repent of her works. (23) And I will*

kill her children with death... You're sacrificing your children, you who have invited this evil spirit into your house! You're sacrificing your children! And, of course, this is spiritual, too, because there are people who are spiritual children of a Jezebel spirit. They're not children of the Lord and they're following a demon. In other words, they're following the devil, even while they're in churches calling upon the Name of the Lord. They're following a devil, not the Lord.

(Rev.2:23) And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he that searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto each one of you according to your works. God is saying that He's going to judge this work of Jezebel. ***(24) But to you I say, to the rest that are in Thyatira, as many as have not this teaching*** (That is, this teaching of Jezebel.), ***who know not the deep things of Satan...*** Wow! He's calling these teachings "the deep things of Satan"! You better depart from it if you're in a church that's ruled by women, get out of it. Just get out of it. And if you're the husband in a family that's ruled by women, don't be an Ahab. Ahab lost his life. He was also devoured by the beast. ***(24) But to you I say, to the rest that are in Thyatira, as many as have not this teaching, who know not the deep things of Satan, as they are wont to say; I cast upon you none other burden. (25) Nevertheless that which ye have, hold fast till I come. (26) And he that overcometh*** (In this case, overcoming those Jezebel spirits, too.), ***and he that keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give authority over the nations*** (This is the only one He's going to give authority to. We have to overcome and keep His works until the end.): ***(27) and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to shivers.***

People wonder, "What's the Jezebel spirit?" Well, all you have to do is just read about Jezebel in the Old Testament, and you'll see that she tried to kill all the true prophets of God and installed false prophets of Baal, a false "Jesus." If Jezebel is hearing the voice of "God" and ruling over your church, she's hearing Baal; she's not hearing Jesus. And, of course,

anybody who stands up to her and says, “Wait a minute! This is not according to the Word for a woman to be a pastor,” they’re thrown out. They kill the servants of the Lord, the Word of the Lord, the true prophets of God, but Elijah stood up to Jezebel, except for one time when he ran for his life (1 Kings 19:1-3). He stood up to Jezebel and he stood up to the false prophets (1 Kings 18:20-40).

Jezebel was the one who led Ahab astray, making it possible for him to steal Naboth’s vineyard. ***(1Ki.21:15) And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned (That was her plan. She set him up, framed him, and had him murdered.), and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead. (16) And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.*** “Naboth the Jezreelite” means “the fruits that God will sow,” and Naboth refused to give the inheritance of his fathers unto this beast. And our inheritance that has been passed on down to us from the fathers, is the Word of God. It’s that land that’s sowed here, it’s that land that God has given unto us. We are not to give that land to the beast. ***(Lev.25:23) And the land shall not be sold in perpetuity; for the land is mine: for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.*** We give that land to the Lord Jesus Christ. Jezebel had the fruits that God sowed killed, so that the beast could take possession of the vineyard. If Jezebel is ruling, the beast has taken possession of the vineyard. That’s no less than the devil taking over the church. You see it in the church in America, it’s quite common, and in other countries, too.

Ahab was very happily taking possession of that which was not his when Elijah rebuked him. ***(1Ki.21:20) And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee, because thou hast sold thyself to do that which is evil in the sight of the Lord. ... (23) And of Jezebel also spake the Lord, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the rampart of Jezreel.*** As we’ve seen, the dogs

represent the beast in Revelation 17. God put it in the heart of the beast, the kings, to devour Jezebel and burn her with fire (Revelation 17:16). It's going to happen in the Tribulation period because Jezebel cannot get away with usurping authority over God's church.

(1Ki.21:24) Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the birds of the heavens eat. Yes, all of his sons were killed because of his rebellion. The children of Jezebel were destroyed in this tribulation. ***(25) (But there was none like unto Ahab, who did sell himself (God said not to sell our land.) to do that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. (26) And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites did, whom the Lord cast out before the children of Israel.)*** So Ahab followed idols, just like Jezebel. Jezebel had an idol. She wanted to rule the kingdom. She wanted to destroy the servants of God who wanted their inheritance to be only for the Lord.

God raised up Jehu, who was a type of the man-child, to destroy this evil relationship of Ahab and Jezebel, and remove this evil leadership over His people. ***(2Ki.9:2) And when thou comest thither, look out there Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren (That's exactly what the Lord is going to do in our day, too. He's going to raise up a man-child "from among his brethren."), and carry him to an inner chamber. (3) Then take the vial of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the Lord, I have anointed thee king over Israel.*** Well, wait a minute! They already had two kings, Jezebel and Ahab, and both of them perverts. ***Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not.*** That was a dangerous thing to say in a time when prophets of God were losing their head, you know. ***(2Ki.9:4) So the young man, even the young man the prophet, went to Ramoth-gilead. (5) And when he came, behold, the captains of the host were sitting; and he said, I have an errand to thee, O captain. And Jehu said, Unto which of us all? And he said, To thee, O captain. (6) And he arose, and went into the house; and he poured the oil on his***

head, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, the God of Israel, I have anointed thee king over the people of the Lord, even over Israel.

What was Jehu going to do? (2Ki.9:7) *And thou shalt smite the house of Ahab thy master, that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the Lord, at the hand of Jezebel. (8) For the whole house of Ahab shall perish; and I will cut off from Ahab every man-child* (There will be no man-children among Ahab's seed.), *and him that is shut up and him that is left at large in Israel.* "For the whole house of Ahab shall perish." There you go, folks. The Lord is bringing a mighty judgment against them, which is what's going to happen in the end times, too, because Jehu is a type of the Man-child and the Lord Jesus is coming to do just this. So Ahab, if you're going to submit to Jezebel, you're going to perish. And Jezebel, since you're ruling over Ahab, you're going to perish. All your children are going to perish because you're raising them up to walk in your steps. You're sowing that seed in them every day.

If you have this problem in your household, it's like any other problem. You need to humbly submit to the Lord because He loves you and He wants to deliver you. Some of you don't know what's wrong with this. Some of you have been raised in families where you thought this was normal, but the Lord says it's perversion. The Lord loves you, wife, and if you will repent and put your faith in Him, He will change your heart. He will give you a desire to be in right relationship with your husband, with your children, with the Lord Jesus, with the Word of God. And men, He will change your heart, too, and give you a desire to be in right relationship with your wife.

If you're somebody who is taking authority over God's people, and you weren't ordained to do that by the Lord through an apostle, as the Bible says, and if you're still living in your sins instead of overcoming, then you're just imparting your sins to them. You will be judged for that. You better repent because judgment is coming quickly. I have it from the

Lord. A Jehu is about to ride forth, folks, and what the Lord Jesus speaks in a body of His man-child is going to come to pass. He is coming to pronounce judgment. That white horse rider is coming to pronounce judgment over the perverts that are ruling over His people, in their families and in the assemblies. ***(Rev.6:2) And I saw, and behold, a white horse, and he that sat thereon had a bow; and there was given unto him a crown: and he came forth conquering, and to conquer.*** So if you're having this problem of a Jezebel or an Ahab spirit, it's just like any other problem, any other perversion, any fornication or anything like that, you turn to the Lord and repent and believe His Word and accept His deliverance. If necessary, get some other brethren to pray over you and get this out of you. This is perversion. Get it out of you. It will destroy you, it will destroy your family. It probably did destroy your family. This spirit of Jezebel is covertly killing people. It's killing families by destroying the leadership of the Lord Jesus over that family and that destroys the leadership of the second in command, the man, who goes on to raise up the children. Then the man's Jezebel spirit is destroying families and raising up the poor children to not be able to have a decent relationship with men or women. Because of this evil spirit, the children are raised-up with self-will in their hearts and so they have no peace in their hearts.

I once heard a testimony from a sister, as a matter of fact, about a man who shot himself because he could no longer take Jezebel tormenting him and his family. And there are a lot of men who are oppressed all their life by this spirit. If you marry a Jezebel, she will destroy your life. You will never have any peace unless you give-in to them, and when you give-in to them, you're following the devil! You're not following the Lord. If you have married a Jezebel, don't give in to them. Yes, it can hurt, but the devil is going to try to just wear you out. ***(Dan.7:25) And he shall speak words*** (The *Treasury of Scripture Knowledge* says these boastful words are to "[exact] obedience to his decrees in open violation of reason and Scripture." [Emphasis added.] Jezebel spirits demand obedience.) ***against the Most High, and shall wear out*** (That's the

Hebrew word *bela* meaning “to harass continually.” What a perfect description of Jezebel that is!) ***the saints of the Most High; and he shall think to change the times and the law*** (God has given us the chain of authority in His Word, but Jezebel has perverted it, to our destruction.); ***and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and half a time.*** Don't let the devil rule over you.

O, Father, in the Name of Jesus, please pour forth of Your grace on the families out there, the brethren that are reading this study today, Lord. Pour out your grace, Lord. You love them Lord, I love them, Lord. I ask You to help them Lord, in the Name of Jesus. Pour out Your grace, Father, and grant deliverance, Lord. There are so many that want to be in the Bride, that want to be close to You, but they can't be if they're submitting to Jezebel or if they are a Jezebel. They can't be, so Lord, I'm asking You, Father to save Your people, O Lord. Pour forth of Your grace upon your people, O Lord. Grant grace for them to repent and to turn to You in every way possible, Lord, in this and other things that we've spoken about. And, Father, save our brethren who have been taken captive to the faction movement and the false revival movement and all the other dumb movements out there that are totally contrary to Your Word, Lord. Please, Lord, have grace, have mercy. Send a revival, Lord, in Jesus' Name. Thank You so much, Father. We trust You to do this for us, Lord. We thank You for it. And Lord, send your Jehu to save Your church out of the hands of Jezebel, Lord. Oh, have mercy, Father, in the Name of Jesus. Hallelujah! O praise You, Father! Praise You, Father!

The Word, Women and Authority

Chapter 7

Questions Submitted to the UBM Ministry

QUESTION: “How much authority does the wife have over her husband’s body in praying for his healing? Does she have less or more authority than he has over his own body? Sometimes it seems my prayers for him are more effective than his, plus he is not as apt to pray for himself. When my husband prays for my healing, it has immediate effect, even though I may have had very little results praying for myself, so it’s obvious he does have that authority over me.”

ANSWER: Well, you’re one body, “the two shall become one flesh” (Gen.2:24; Matthew 19:5; Mark 10:8; etc.) as the Bible says. (***Eph.5:31***) ***For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh.*** So you have special authority over your mate, over their body, because that’s your body. (***1Co.7:4***) ***The wife hath not power over her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power over his own body, but the wife.*** It’s not as if you’re believing for someone else’s body; you’re believing for your body, and you have special authority there.

When you go outside your family, you have less authority. Then you have to have some faith from the person who’s being prayed for. I don’t have to have the permission of my wife or her faith when I pray for her when she’s ill, or my children, either. I have authority. Now if I pray over your children, it’s a different story. Many times parents block the healing for their own children because of the way they’re acting by speaking against the Word, or disobeying the Word, or whatever.

So, yes, I believe you have special authority. Now I know what you’re saying there, that a lot of people have more faith for other people than

they have for themselves, but I don't experience that personally. I have just as much faith for myself as I have for others. I can say, though, you need to make sure that your heart is clean before God. **(1Jn.3:19)**

Hereby shall we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our heart before him: (20) because if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. (21) Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, we have boldness toward God; (22) and whatsoever we ask we receive of him, because we keep his commandments and do the things that are pleasing in his sight. Make sure that there's nothing between you and God. Search your heart. Make sure that you're doing what you know to do, but know when you're praying for your husband, you have special authority, as when he prays for you.

QUESTION: "What about the women saints like Katherine Kuhlman or Amy McPherson, etc.?"

ANSWER: We've already seen that the Bible talks about the woman praying and prophesying, as in, **(1Co.11:5) *But every woman praying or prophesying with her head unveiled dishonoreth her head; for it is one and the same thing as if she were shaven.*** A woman can pray and prophesy in the church, but that doesn't make her a teacher because prophesying is not teaching. Prophesying is the Lord using you to speak to the body; that's not you doing it, you see. The woman doesn't have permission to teach or take authority in the church, but she can pray or prophesy.

Amy Semple McPherson was a prophetess and, from what I can see, she had a very good gift. Katherine Kuhlman had gifts of healings but, as a woman, she shouldn't have been teaching. Even after someone receives an anointing, they can still teach some things wrong. She taught that it's not really faith that people were receiving healing, but Katherine was speaking about her gift of faith. She gave words of knowledge, and gave healings through her gift of faith, but I can tell you, folks, an awful lot of

people who went to her meetings didn't get healed, just as a majority of the people who go to the Benny Hinn meetings don't get healed.

You see, when the gift of the word of knowledge or the gift of faith is there, you'll get healed, but what about all the rest of the people, all the rest of the time? They need healing, too. If you teach faith correctly, people are going to receive healing, and it doesn't matter whether the gift of faith is working there or not. That also goes for the gift of miracles or gift of healings, whether they're working there or not. If you teach faith and you teach people their rights in the Kingdom, they are going to get healed and that makes them free, instead of making them dependent on other people who might have a certain gift.

People went to Katherine because they thought it was the only place they could get healed. So they came, and they came, and they came. But you know, Katherine didn't teach correctly concerning people's faith in receiving healing. I actually heard her teach against faith because, to her, it didn't make any difference if they had faith. She had this gift of the word of knowledge and the gift of healing, so she exercised it. She would say, "It doesn't have anything to do with faith," but you know what? She left a lot of people out there who never got their healings. That's false teaching. And she shouldn't have been teaching because she wasn't called to teach. She was called to heal the sick. She had a gift of healing and, you know, we shouldn't step out of our gift. The gift is God. You're you and I'm me, but when the gift is flowing, that's God (1 Kings 18:46; 2 Kings 3:15; Acts 1:4; etc.) We should never offend God by going against that gift.

QUESTION: "Will the Man-child be only men? Is it only the Man-child who will be the Bride?"

ANSWER: The Man-child is a type of the Bride and I believe a ministry is coming just like Jesus' ministry, just like the disciples' ministry. I'm not saying that the first fruits are all men. I am saying that there is a

Man-child ministry coming whose ministry is going to be like Jesus and like the disciples, and that God's not going to depart from that. I don't want to go beyond my own understanding because there are things I know and there are things I don't know, and I don't teach the things I don't know. I don't add to the Word or take away from the Word (Revelation 22:18-19), but I do know that there are going to be women that are going to be first fruits. And I do know there's going to be a Man-child ministry. I try to teach what the Lord has spoken to me, or what He's revealed to me in the Word, and I don't want to go beyond that. [Editor's Note: *The Man-child and Bride Prophecy* may be read without charge at <https://www.ubm1.org/books/pdf/MCB.pdf> on the UBM website.]

QUESTION: "My friend, a woman, wants to know if she can show a man what the word says about something, even though she is a woman."
ANSWER: You know, I'm not going to try to show you where the line is there, because that's what grace is all about, you understand. I know that there were women in the Gospels, like Priscilla (Acts 18:26), who were sharing the gospel with lost men. I'm not trying to show you where the line is, I'm just trying to share with you the Word. It's kind of like the Bible teaches for women to be modest, but, if you do like some of the churches and tell them what modesty is, then you're stepping over the line, you see. The Bible tells you a woman should have long hair (1 Corinthians 11:15), for instance, but when you tell women how long their hair has to be, then you're stepping over the line into legalism, you see. And I think it's the same thing here. I don't want to try and tell you what the line is, so just be mindful of the fact that the Lord doesn't want you to be a teacher of men.

Something interesting that the Lord showed me is that unregenerate men, those who are not born-again, aren't men, they're "beasts" (Ecclesiastes 3:18). That's what Solomon called them. And I've thought about that, and that possibly women could actually teach lost men, but I

can't say a "thus saith the Lord" on it because the Lord hasn't revealed anything more to me about that.

QUESTION: "What about the women that are preaching and saying that their husband is their covering, allowing them to preach in the church?"

ANSWER: How ridiculous! We know how many verses you have to deny in order to do that. That's like saying, "My husband gave me permission to disobey the Word." Well, no, as a woman you have commands given to you. You're forbidden to teach or take authority over the man and nobody can give you permission to do that. The devil was attempting to give you permission to do that, but if God forbids it, He forbids it. Your husband probably needs some education if he's telling you such a thing. He needs to know what the Word says. Let him study; let him find out.

There's one woman who is a pretty popular teacher who is using this for an excuse, and she says she's in submission to her husband, but I can tell you that's not the truth. That is not the truth because I can feel the spirit that's coming forth there. I've noticed that a lot of women who begin to teach or take authority over the man, many times their voice actually gets deeper. Have you ever noticed that? Their voice gets deeper. It's like something is changing in them. It's not correct and there is a separation from Truth there that's bringing a perversion. Nope, I don't care about all the excuses. I've heard them all and none of them hold water. The Bible just says what it says. I mean, when it's there in black and white, we need to just accept what it says and humbly submit. If we don't, we and those to whom we preach will bear the curse for this sin. **(Tit.2:1)**
But speak thou the things which befit sound doctrine.

QUESTION: "I have a question. My husband is not saved, and if I have a spiritual question, who then is my spiritual head to answer a spiritual question for me?"

ANSWER: Well, my wife dug in the Bible for a year before I got saved, and when I was talking about baptism one day, she just went over and took her concordance and typed-up every verse in the Bible on baptism for us to look at. She did that for me so I could have a way to put them all together there, and we decided from that, “We have to get baptized.” She wasn’t really taking authority over me by doing that because we were in it together, we were searching together, and I felt what she did was good. You have a right to search out the Scriptures. ***(Php.2:12) So then, my beloved, even as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.***

I’ll remind you of this, though, that God jealously protects the position of the husband over the wife when He tells you, ***(1Co.14:35) And if they would learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home: for it is shameful for a woman to speak in the church.*** Why is God doing that? He’s doing it because He doesn’t want the wife to get caught-up in a situation where an elder in the church, an apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher, or evangelist, is becoming her head. God so jealously protects the position of the wife and the husband that He won’t permit that. And, I suppose that God gives more grace when more grace is needed. Ask God, ask Him to give you answers.

But it’s good to ask your husband even if he doesn’t know. It’s good to point out to him that the Lord put him in a position of authority and that He will give him special wisdom and understanding. If he’s not saved, he may be interested through those things, or he may not be, but a you’re a wife who’s interested in being a good witness to her husband even though he doesn’t obey the Word, so he may be won by your chaste behavior and your fear (1 Peter 3:2).

There are some answers that don’t completely satisfy me, and so I know they might not completely satisfy you. There are some areas that the Lord just doesn’t give a clear answer on. I think it’s because, if He did, it may give permission for people to go in an area that may not be best.

QUESTION: “What happens with a widow that chooses not to remarry and has sons and daughters, and how does that affect the family? All of a sudden she’s a widow and she has children and she’s the head of the household now.”

ANSWER: Well, that’s right. She is the head of the household until the children get up and get out. She’s the head before God. She’s not a head in anything in the church, but God uses her as the head of a household. And as we read in Numbers 30, a widow is responsible before the Lord for what she does and what she says, but for the married wife, that can be annulled by the husband.

QUESTION: “A few questions back, they were asking about women teaching, no, not teaching, sharing the Gospel with men, and a woman if she’s married and they start talking about the Bible, can she refer them to her husband?”

ANSWER: Oh, sure. Yes, that’s a very good idea.

QUESTION: “Do we have the same spiritual authority for our step children as for our natural children?”

ANSWER: In my experience, yes. We certainly do, and I shared here recently of a family that I knew. The mother adopted three children from birth, and when the children got of age, they began to fall into the same sins that their biological mother had. Of course, they didn’t know this until they found out who the biological mother was and went and met her. So this woman had raised these children to know the Lord and yet they were falling into these curses that were inherited through their biological parents. But this woman held on to her faith and she continued to walk by faith and God used her faith to bring them into the Kingdom. He used her faith to bring healing and deliverance to those

children, even from that genetic curse that was passed on to them by the biological parents.

So, yes, it's true. We have just as much authority there as with our biological children. I might say this: that God accepted the authority of the Centurion over his servant (Luke 7:2-10). It wasn't somebody the Centurion was necessarily claiming as a child but, you know, He accepted that authority just as He accepted Jairus' authority over his little girl (Luke 8:40-42,49-56). So people in your household that you're responsible for, it doesn't make any difference whether it's in-laws, parents, grandchildren, servants, or whoever they are, if you're responsible for them, the Lord extends that responsibility even into the spirit realm.

QUESTION: "How does the father lead his family out of sectarianism if he is sure they are supposed to come out but his wife doesn't agree?"

ANSWER: Well, if the wife is hung up into a sectarian spirit, a denomination, the best thing to do is to pray and believe for her. And I'll tell you this, now, an experience I had years ago that helped me and helped another brother, too. When I first came out of the Pentecostal church about 30 years ago, there was a brother that had gotten the same revelation I had, which basically delivered us from religion at that time. And this brother and I began to meet and we were just having a wonderful time in the Lord because it just freed us from this apostate religion. We were hearing the Word of the Lord, and searching the Scriptures daily, you know. And we were staying up all hours of the night just studying the Word.

Well, this brother came to me one day, and he said, "David, when I went into the Pentecostal church from the Catholic church, my wife fought me tooth and nail for years, Finally, when she came out, she followed me into the Pentecostal church. She had good fellowship with the Pentecostal church, and now, just as things had smoothed out and were

working real good, now that I'm coming out of the Pentecostal church, she's fighting me tooth and nail not to come out of the Pentecostal church. Would you please pray for me?" I said, "Yes, I will."

So when he left, I went into the bedroom and as soon as my knees hit the floor, the Lord spoke to me. I didn't even have time to pray. As soon as my knees hit the floor, the Lord spoke to me. He said, "You go tell Skip," that was his name, 'Skip, "to leave his wife alone. Don't preach to her; don't hit her with the Word. Just believe Me, and cease." And so I went and told him that message. I told him, "Skip, I know you really, really want your wife delivered, and I know you've got a lot of good convincing in you, but the Lord said to leave her alone. Just cease from your works and believe Him." Well, I tell you, I know Skip, I know the way he was a very, very impulsive guy and he would just take the Word and he would just run with it, but here the Lord only wanted his faith, not his works.

And the week after I told him that, his wife came out of that church and just followed him perfectly. I mean, he was completely shocked. And he said, "Thank you, David," and I said, "It wasn't me." But Skip did that, he obeyed the Lord. He thought it was his responsibility to save his wife, but you know what? What the Lord needs more from us than anything is faith, a good confession, and ceasing from our own works, because you can drive more people off by trying to save them. Just realize your limitations and just understand that if the door's not open, you don't push it. If the Lord doesn't open the door, don't push it. So the most important thing is your faith.

QUESTION: "What about wives getting together to do Bible studies?"

ANSWER: Well, I think it's good but, you know, in Titus chapter 2 we're told what the women should be teaching, and it's good to restrain yourself to what it says there. I know that the Bible says that the woman was beguiled (Genesis 3:13; Numbers 25:18; 1 Timothy 2:14). In other

words, it's easier for a woman to be deceived concerning doctrines. I suggest to you that you restrain your teaching one another to what's being said there. I'm not talking about studying the Bible for yourselves; I'm just talking about the Bible says, *(Jam.3:1) Be not many of you teachers, my brethren, knowing that we shall receive heavier judgment.* So, that's something that you should probably steer away from.

The teaching that God gives in Titus is for the older women to teach the younger women how to love their husbands and love their children and be good workers in the home and so on and so forth (Titus 2:3-5). It's not that you can't study the Word for righteousness' sake, for obedience, and so on. Certainly you want to do that for everything in there, but as far as the older women teaching, Titus there restrains what the elder women should teach the younger women. Any other teaching should be done by the men who are the elders of the five-fold ministry. You know, I believe as much in what the Bible doesn't say as I believe in what it does say. If it doesn't give you permission to do certain things, you probably shouldn't go that way.

QUESTION: "Can you please give just a comment about Pentecostal?"

D: I think being Pentecostal is a very good experience, but Pentecostal religions may not be that much of a very good experience. I'm going to tell you the truth, the Pentecostal religion that I went into when I was young in the Lord, it was a good experience for me but there was a time to go into it and there was a time to leave it, and I wouldn't want to stay ten minutes past the time to leave it because I was growing up. I left it because I was growing up and I believed that there was more to the Word of God, just like when I left the Baptist church and went to the Pentecostal church. I saw that there was more to the Word of God and I got some of that in the Pentecostal church but I also realized they were just "camping out" and not really going on with God; they were pretty much harping on the same old stuff, round and round in circles, while I wanted to go on with God.

I wanted to learn more things. I wanted to live up to more of the Word. I wanted to teach more of the Word. When I got revelations, which I did get through the Word of knowledge and wisdom, I realized that they wouldn't receive them. They wouldn't go on and, frankly, I out-grew Pentecostalism, at least my experience of Pentecostalism, and I think anyone should out-grow any denomination because a denomination is a sect, a division, and a strife. It is what Paul called a "work of the flesh." ***(Gal.5:19) Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these:] fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, (20) idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, parties, (21) envyings, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of which I forewarn you, even as I did forewarn you, that they who practise such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*** You want to out-grow them so you can come out from among them (2 Corinthians 6:17) because all the daughters of the mother harlot are harlots, too. She's called "the mother of the harlots" (Revelation 17:5) You know what? Faction or division or sects were all rebuked by Paul (Galatians 5:20). Why do we have to put up with them?

I noticed when I was in the Pentecostal church that there were a lot of people that weren't really reading their Bible. They were just trusting the pastor, and that's one of the problems with denominationalism: people can get into a place where they trust their religion, they trust their pastor. And that's something that shouldn't be because first of all, you should be reading your Bible. You should seek out your own salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12). If you're doing that, I'm going to tell you what's going to happen: you're going to out-grow every religion you go into. If you're reading, if you're seeking out your own salvation with fear and trembling, asking God to show you the truth and not thinking that you've already got the truth, no religion will be able to trap you.

You see, when I was in the Pentecostal church, everybody there was totally convinced that they had the truth. They weren't looking for more

truth. The thing about me was, I was looking for more truth and the people that came out with me at the same time, they were looking for more truth. They didn't consider that they had it all. And, believe you me, they did not have it all. I was so glad, when I looked back on it after I came out of there. I said to myself, "Well, God, why did You show such favor on me and deliver me from that strong bondage? Why did You choose me rather than so-and-so and so-and-so?" These were people that I considered to be people in the Word and I really respected them, but the Lord picked me to deliver me, and I knew He picked me to deliver me.

In fact, He gave people visions of me. One of the men that came to confirm a Word of knowledge that I was given, had a vision of my name being on a street sign, with so-many miles to my house, and he ended up at my house, which is a miracle because with just a name and so-many miles to guide you, that doesn't guide you to somebody's house. But the Lord guided him to my house and then he understood the vision. And so God picked me to deliver me from that religion, and I thought about it, and I thought about it, and I wondered, "Lord, why didn't You do this for so-and-so and so-and-so? I always considered them better than me, You know." But, the Lord picked me.

So I considered my deliverance from that religion a great thing. In fact, I consider anybody's deliverance from religion a great thing. Yes, they had some truths, but they were going around in circles. They weren't going past those truths. They were seeking to justify what they believed, instead of growing-up in God. They weren't growing up in God. There's a lot of Pharisee-ism in religion. I saw it so much clearer after I got out, and my path going through there helped me to see what Pharisee-ism really is, to Christians, you know. So God used religion on me. I mean, I'm glad He brought me there, and I'm glad He brought me out.

QUESTION: "What advice do you have for a wife whose husband is strongly influenced by his mother?"

ANSWER: OOOhhh... Well, I guess it's pray that God would make a separation there, that he would grow up, and only God can give that maturity. I think for many things we need to go to God by faith. I think many times we try to do it with our mouth or with our own works and we may end up having more trouble by stirring up more trouble. I think a lot of times the prayer closet is the good place to be to take care of that. *(Mar.11:24) Therefore I say unto you, All things whatsoever ye pray and ask for, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.* God is powerful. I believe we should ask Him to do these things, to make that separation, because it's a separation that needs to be made you know. The Bible says a man should separate from his father and mother and become one with his wife (Mark 10:7). Obviously that's not being fulfilled in this case. Prayer and faith are needed here.

QUESTION: "Back in Titus 2:3 it tells the elder women, the aged women, to teach what is good. Now Jesus said, when they called Him 'good teacher' 'Why do you call Me good? There is only One that is good.' And it says to teach what is good so that they can train young women to love. Wouldn't you suspect they would have to know the Lord to know how to teach women to love the Lord, to love their husbands as the Lord? I'm not talking about doctrine; I'm talking about women have to teach this stuff because there's no other way to do it. There's no other way to show a young woman how to love their husband if they can't love the Lord. You see what I mean? You get into a Catch-22 situation, because you can't just say, 'You have to love your husbands because you have to love your husbands.' There's only one way to love your husband and that's for them to love their husbands as they love the Lord. And there's only one way to love the Lord, and that's to follow His commandments. And there's only one way to teach that, and that's to teach them the Word."

ANSWER: Well, you also have to teach them to obey the husband's commands because if they don't do that, they won't follow the Lord's

commands. I don't think Paul is saying here that the elder women should teach doctrine. He's saying that they should teach what is good and then he explains what is good with verse four, that they may train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be sober minded, chaste workers at home, and so on. Jesus said if you love Me, you'll keep My commandments (John 14:15), and most of these commands given specifically to women are about submitting to the husband, which, obviously, needs to be taught. To love your husband is to submit to him and fulfill his needs, and so on and so forth you know.

COMMENT BY QUESTIONER: You can't do one without the other; if you don't love the Lord you can't love your husband.

ANSWER: ***(1Jn.4:20) If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, cannot love God whom he hath not seen.*** What He's telling you over and over is if you love Me, you're going to keep My commandments. So loving the Lord is obeying the commandments. Well, look at all the commandments we found here that have to do with the wife loving and obeying her husband. You see, the proof that you love the Lord is that you keep His commandments. And for the wife, the overwhelming majority of the commandments are to submit to and obey her husband. The only way you can really prove that you love the Lord, is by learning to love the people next to you, you know.

D: Those are the commandments we've looked at in this study. You keep those commandments given to a wife concerning her husband. If she learns to love her husband, if she's obedient and submissive to her husband, that's what loving the Lord is on this earth, you know. Why? Because she respects the Lord enough, she won't do what she desires. Obviously that's a huge temptation nowadays. Many Christian women do not believe the doctrine we spoke in this study because they don't want to believe. They just don't want to believe it. It takes a disciple. It takes a woman who's a real disciple of Christ to submit to these things which are so against the flesh, and so crucifying to the old man (Romans

12:12; Colossians 3:9-10). It takes a special woman to obey these commands, and as you know, (*Mat.22:14*) ... *many are called, but few chosen*. The overwhelming majority of women will not obey, will find a way out of these verses to do what they want to do. But those disciples out there will be submissive because they love the Lord. They love their husbands because they love the Lord. They will keep those commands.

QUESTION: “Do all churches have mainly praise services as opposed to instruction/preaching, or is this something peculiar to the Pentecostal faith? I prefer instruction to singing some songs.”

ANSWER: I don't think it should be either/or. I think praise is good. We're commanded to worship, especially all through Psalms (Psalm 33,47,66,81,95, etc.) I think that a lot of singing is not necessarily “praise the Lord,” not necessarily a fulfillment of the command to “Hallelujah,” you know, which is “praise ye the Lord.” Praising the Lord is really boasting about what the Lord does, and a lot of singing is not necessarily that at all. We need to brag on what the Lord has accomplished for us at the Cross and otherwise. For us, we can brag on it and boast on it, and I think it's very, very necessary but it doesn't say just do it in church. That might have been how they did it in the Old Testament and today the church pretty much restrains it to church, but we're not restrained to church with that. What you're supposed to be doing all the time is praising God, not just in what people call “church.” So I don't know... The only Pentecostal churches I've been in did both. I mean, they did teaching and praise, songs and so on and so forth. What we do here, what the Lord has led us to do here, is to do what we feel the body needs most, which is teaching, but I never restrained people from praise and worship. As a matter of fact, we've had meetings where we did sing songs and praise and we had a piano. My son was very good on the piano for many years here before he moved on, and my daughter was good on the piano after him. We sang songs and we praised and we've always generally called this a “Bible study.” Now a lot of the people that have come to us have had some experience in

songs and praise in the church but they lacked a lot of teaching, and so that's what I've emphasized.

You know, I've been in situations where there was a five-fold ministry and I loved it because it's always very edifying and everybody gets built up and so on and so forth. And I believe that we're coming to that time again, where God's going to put together many five-fold ministries, in order to really edify the saints and build them up. Right now, because of the Nicolaitan error (Revelation 2:6,15), people are having to go here and go there to get the different parts of the ministry that they need and that's sad, but it's because of the Nicolaitan error that the church is so schismmed like that. So you may find a teacher over here, and you may find an apostle over there, and a prophet over here, but to find them all in one spot is very unlikely, because of the way the church is set up now.

At any rate, what we've generally called this is our "Bible study" and some people have asked us why we don't have more singing and praise. Well, we're just doing what the Lord has guided us to do. Now that we're going out over the internet and being broadcast over satellite and so on and so forth, we're trying to get teaching out there that we think the church has sadly lacked, and desperately needs to have in order to prepare for the end time. Not that singing and praise isn't important, but let me tell you, you don't just come to church to do that. You do that wherever you are and, in fact, I'll tell you what, sing His praises before the heathen, not just in church but before the heathen because they really need to hear what God's done for you.

QUESTION: "What do you consider your role in the five-fold ministry is?"

ANSWER: I have a peculiar way of answering that for people. I usually tell people, "Go and pray and ask the Lord," because if I tell you, it won't make a whole lot of difference, but if the Lord tells you, then it will mean something.

That's what I tell people. That's what the Lord's put in me, not just to tell people. I know what my office is but I usually let people pray about that. Some people come back with the right answer but, you know what, when God tells 'em it's just much more impressive.

There are a lot of people out there today that are running around claiming to be somebody, and in a lot of cases, it's a lie, because they're taking that title for themselves, or men gave them that title, but they don't really function in the office that they're given. It's better that the Lord tell you and you should get used to asking the Lord because He'll tell you the truth.

I don't think we have the same problem as when the church was young; it was new. Shortly after that, wolves started coming in to divide the flock (Matthew 7:15,10:16; Acts 20:29; etc.) and they all claimed to be somebody, and they do it today, too, folks. There's wolves out there. The overwhelming majority of people that claim to be ministers are not. They weren't sent by God and they're not capable of filling the office that they claim, so you have to be careful. You have to ask the Lord.

If you nowadays claim to be a prophet or an apostle or anything like that, there's about 90% of the body that would get offended immediately. They wouldn't hear a word you had to say because they believe the lie they've been told of, "Oh, that passed away with the apostles." What you have to do is just share the Word until they become impressed with the Word, and then they realize that that's not true; it didn't pass away. If instead you go around saying those things, it may be great for you, you might be building yourself up, but for some people, you're just running them off before you get anything across to them. You're just slamming the door in your own face, you know. They didn't have that problem in Jesus' day, but they do today because we've had so many apostates teaching a lie about nothing being left but the pastor. So they've made the pastor the head of the church, which is the Nicolaitan error. You know Paul said, **(1Co.9:22) To the weak I became weak, that I might**

gain the weak: I am become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some. He even became like a Jew in order to get the Gospel across to the Jews so I think we need to do what's best for the people around us, and not necessarily what might be best for us. I just feel like the Lord has put that in my heart to answer people that way concerning that.

Testimonies

“Hi, my name is Christina. I just wanted to share my testimony because it really just goes along with everything that's being said. I started attending a women's Bible study against the will of my husband, who told me it wasn't a good idea, but I went ahead and did it anyways. And, I went there for about seven months. The more and more I went, the more I saw the error that they were teaching and I shared it with my husband. And he would say to me, ‘I told you, so why are you going there?’ And I began to really understand more and more that it was not the right place to be.

“And then I started getting these really bad headaches, migraine headaches, that I wouldn't be able to think or even read the Word because I had such a bad headache. And I prayed about why I had these headaches, and I asked the Lord to show me. And He showed me that it was partly because I was disobeying and going to this Bible study women's group against what my husband told me, and not only that, it was actually sowing doubt in my heart more than encouraging my faith. So I prayed about it and the Lord really showed me through dreams and also just the stuff that the teacher, the woman, was saying...that it was against God's Word.

“Well, I sent in a prayer request and one of the things that I asked was for the Lord to help me submit to my husband, and as I was writing you the email, the prayer request, the headache left me. At the time I had a terrible headache and I haven't had any since. It's like amazing to me

because it's been a part of my life for the last few months just dealing with these headaches. And I'm really encouraged by that and just want to praise the Lord and just let you guys know that God definitely does everything for our good. And it's just really encouraged me, so I just wanna thank you for all your teaching."

Well, thank you, Christina, that's a blessing. You know, I'm not saying that there aren't good women's ministries out there, ones that do teach the truth. I think a majority of them do not teach the truth. They don't protect that relationship between the authority of the husband and the wife, and even if they don't promote it necessarily by direct commands or teaching, they promote independence there. I just think you have to be very, very careful to not let a women's ministry separate you from your husband because he's your main teacher, not the women's ministry. He's the one who is to share the doctrine. He's the one who is responsible to go out and find the truth, even if he doesn't have it, and share it.

Women's ministries, as we saw in Titus there, are commanded to teach women to submit, obey, love their husbands. And if they're not doing that, they're not any good. If they are doing that, they're certainly protecting that relationship. Really, the best way to show someone or teach someone that, is to walk it. I mean, you find someone who is submitting to their husband and follow that example. That's the best teacher, someone that's leading by example.

I remember a sister that came here to fellowship with us some years ago. She was really adept at ruling over men, in her business and everything else. And when she heard what we had to say concerning this, she really didn't receive it, even though I kind of challenged her to find any different Word in her Bible. Of course, she never could, but she just wouldn't receive it because she had her own ambitions, you know. So we began to pray for her, and one thing that happened to her was, well, she had several dreams, a lot of them all about the same thing.

In one dream she was on this ship, and I likened it to the Gospel ship. So she was on this ship and she wanted to climb to the next level. Now she was a fairly ambitious lady, as far as taking authority over men in her business and things like that. She enjoyed doing that. Well, in the dream she wanted to climb to the next level of this ship and she saw an unusual ladder that had these shoes. They were actually attached to the rungs of the ladder. All the way up the ladder, these shoes were attached, one after another, right left, right left, right left, and so she started to climb to the next level but she was putting her feet outside of the shoes on the rungs. And a voice spoke to her and said, "Put your feet in the shoes." She asked me, "Well, David, what do you think that means?" I said, I think it's pretty plain that the Bible has already laid down your steps for you, but you're trying to step outside the bounds of what the Bible has commanded you to do to mature, to do those things in Christ.

The Bible says, (*1Jn.2:6*) ***He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk even as he walked***. In other words, the steps have already been laid down for a man, for a woman, for everybody. In the Scriptures, they're already laid down, and if you're stepping too broad for those steps that are already laid down, then you're outside the Will of God. And that's exactly where this lady was; I mean, her dream was dead on. That's what I told her. I said, "You are stepping too broad for the Word here. You have to put your feet in the Steps." That's true no matter who you are, man or woman, whatever walk of life you're in, God's laid the steps down.

And then in the next dream she had, she was swimming through this old muddy swamp; there were bodies floating all around her and she was just swimming through this muck that was full of dead people. And that's where her thinking was and that's where her doctrine was: she was thinking like the worldly church, just full of the worldly church and mostly it was because of her own selfish ambitions. Well, you know what, folks? A lot of people who are in the ministry aren't there because God called them. They're there because they have ambition, personal

ambition. They lusted after a position of authority and it's just like being in the world and climbing the corporate ladder. So they step all over everybody to get up there, but they never ask, "Does God really want me there?" because they don't want to hear that the truth is, "No."

It's a worldly lust why many ministers are at the heads of churches today. Like Jesus said in His day, they came up another way. (*Joh.10:1*) ***Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.*** They didn't go through the door. They're thieves and they're robbers. They have stolen a position that was not given to them by God, and basically, that's where most people in church leadership people are today. And especially when women get up there, it's doubly wrong in such a case as that because we've got so many clear, clear commands.

God chooses us. He chooses our gift. He chooses our calling. And we shouldn't step outside the bounds of what He's laid down for us, you know. Look, as long as I just move in my gift, I feel very comfortable. I don't get burned out. If I try to be somebody I'm not, or be everything that all the body needs... I tell you that's the best way to get burnt out there is. But if you're just flowing in your gift, you're never going to get burnt out, because then it's God doing it through you, and you know it. It's when you're stepping outside the bounds of those shoes, you know, that you get in trouble.

First of all, when you take authority in another man's gift, that's a dangerous thing to do. You're getting in God's way then. The gift is God, no matter who it flows through. It flows through you and what God has given you, but it flows through your brother and what God has given him. Sometimes we step outside the bounds of our gift because we're called on by other people to do it, or just like happened tonight, I didn't answer a question because I didn't feel comfortable. I didn't feel like God had given me enough to speak for Him. The Bible says if you speak, speak as an oracle of God (1 Peter 4:11). And you know, when I

say something that I think, I like to say, “This is what I think but I’m not sure what the Word says.” I try to make sure that everybody knows that, “This is just what I’m thinking,” or, “I think the Lord told me...” And so we should move in our gift and not get out of it because that’s where trouble comes from.

You know, the neatest thing is to let God do the teaching. The Bible says, *(1Jn.2:27) And as for you, the anointing which ye received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any one teach you; but as his anointing teacheth you; concerning all things, and is true, and is no lie, and even as it taught you, ye abide in him.* There’s really nothing I can do to add to God’s Word. He’s already spoken it in there. We’re actually commanded not to add to His Word, and so I try, to the best of the gift that God has given me, to let the Lord do the teaching. I mean, I’m not much of a teacher, so what I do is try to put all the Scriptures together concerning any given subject so that you can really see how things connect and actually let the Scriptures themselves do the teaching. I hope you’ll consider the verses we’ve looked at in our study. I know some of you won’t have any problems with the verses, but some folks do, so I hope you’ll consider them. I didn’t write them; I just reported on them. I’m just the messenger boy.

QUESTION: “Can you answer a question about the study? The verses in Titus saying what aged women can teach because in Acts 16:1, how did Timothy... ?”

ANSWER: Well, I believe exactly what it says there. That no doubt, Timothy’s mama had read him the Scriptures because Timothy was the son of a Jewess (Act.16:1). She could have read him the Scriptures and I’m certainly not saying that mamas can’t teach their children the Scriptures, I’m just talking about teaching the younger women what they’re specifically commanded to teach them, that is, how to submit to their husbands, to love their husbands, to teach those things.

I will say, with our children, my wife didn't teach them the Bible that much; I did it, and I taught them in the morning and I taught them in the evening. We would sit down and either they would read a good testimony book that I knew was a good testimony book, or we would study something. We did this for many years, night and day, morning and night. And I still think that's the best thing to do, for the father to make sure the doctrine is correct there.

Cheri's Testimony on The Word, Women and Authority

"I have read Word, Women and Authority and do completely agree with it (and would recommend it to all women seeking right relationships with their husbands in Christ Jesus)! I have, in the past, allowed other women to cause me to stray a little from it at times because I didn't believe the Word spoke to my circumstances and what they said sounded good to my itching ears...however, I knew something was not right and could never figure out what it was. I knew I needed to submit to my husband, but I didn't know how to do that. He is not a practicing Christian, and because he does not understand the heart of God, our relationship can be difficult and at times strained (...however, I am coming to understand, through the renewing of my mind, that I cannot expect my unsaved husband to behave any differently...it helps me to be more patient with him...). I used to think that that made it all right for me to not obey him at times.... That was until I did this Bible study! It clearly states here in 1Peter 3 that we, as wives, must obey our husbands.... EVEN when they are perverse and willfully disobedient! It's all there, clear as day, for those who are seeking Truth! I can't deny what the Word is saying there! It ripped the rug right out from underneath me!

"I found it very profound how the Word also says that we are to win over our men by our chaste behavior and/or conversation! It never even occurred to me (silly me) that my husband would even listen to my conversations with others...I usually went into another room to have my conversations so that my husband wouldn't hear.... But after reading this

I decided to start talking with my friends openly in front of him....Unfortunately, I was a bit short with a friend of mine one night and my husband rebuked me after the conversation was over by saying, "That was really Christian-like!" Well, I knew that if he was listening to that, then he would be listening to my other conversations as well and I thought, hmmm..... Besides, it has made me even more conscientious about how and what I am saying to others, which is something the Lord has been trying to teach me for years! So it has been good for the both of us! Praise the Lord!

“When I first became a Christian I used to think that I would be someone great like Paul or Elijah! WOW!!!! I thank the Lord everyday now that I am just a woman and under submission to my husband and the authority that the Lord has placed over me! Men have it real tough! The Lord holds the men responsible for our well-being and our spiritual being because we are the weaker sex! That is NOT a bad thing! That is a GOOD thing! I would NOT want that responsibility! I have, thank the good Lord above, become satisfied to be just a woman! And a woman fully sold out to my Lord Jesus Christ! I am happy to serve Him in whatever capacity He sees fit to put me in! As for my husband,...he, and I, and our relationship, are still very much a work in progress.... But I am confident that He who has started a good work is COMPLETELY able to finish it! Praise the Lord! Thank You Lord!

“We, as women, need to quit hiding behind the way the world does things! The sooner we submit, the happier we will be! Our roles are just as exciting and maybe sometimes even more fulfilling as the men's! We are ALL mothers of ALL God's children! How awesome is that? What an awesome thing it would be if the marriages and relationships were restored once again back to Biblical principals....

“Well, I could talk all night on this I'm sure....there is so much yet to learn! I want to be in the center of God's will for my life! I know there are many women out there who want the same....but it's going to take a

lot of change on our part...a lot of renewing of our minds and dying to that ugly old flesh! Praise God! We can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens us!

God bless you, Cheri”

[Editor’s Note: Cheri’s excellent word study of some of the verses is included below.]

(1 Peter 3:1) In like manner (1 Pet 2:18 Servants, be in subjection to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward (*perverse/perverseness = willfully continuing in sinful ways*), **ye wives, be in subjection** (to subordinate, reflexively to obey: be under obedience, put under, subdue unto, make subject unto, be in subjection to, submit self unto) {Eph. 5:22 Wives, be in subjection unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, being himself the savior of the body.} **to your own husbands** (fellow, husband, man, sir); **that, even if they obey not** (disbelieve (*willfully and perversely*), not believe, obey not) **the word, they may without the word** {1 Cor.9:19 For though I was free from all men, I brought myself under bondage to all, that I might gain the more} **be gained by the behavior** (conversation) **of their wives;**

(1Pet 3:2) beholding your chaste (inspecting, watching your innocent, modest, perfect, chaste, clean and pure) **behavior** (conversation) **with fear** (be afraid, + exceedingly, fear, terror)

(1Pet 3:3) Whose adorning (1Tim 2:9 In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness, (*downcast eyes, bashfulness, modesty toward God, awe, reverence*) and sobriety (*soundness of mind, sanity, self-control, soberness, sobriety*), not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly raiment.) Compare to Is 3:18ff In that day the Lord will take away the beauty of their anklets, cauls (*nettings for hair*), and the crescents (*a round pendant for the neck; like*

the moon) let it not be that outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing jewels of gold, or of putting on apparel;

(1Pet 3:4) but let it be the hidden man (Rom 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man) of the heart, in the incorruptible apparel of a meek (mild, humble) and quiet (still, peaceable, quiet) spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

(1Pet 3:5) For after this manner aforetime the holy women also who hoped in God (1Tim 5:5 Now that she is a widow indeed, and desolate, hath her hope set on God, and continueth in supplications (petition; prayer, request) and prayers (pray earnestly) night and day.), adorned themselves, being in subjection to their own husbands: as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him Lord (Gen 18:12 And Sarah laughed within herself, saying, after I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?): whose children ye now are, if ye do well, and are not put in fear by any terror (Compare to vs 14 But even if ye should suffer for righteousness sake, blessed are ye: and fear not their fear, neither be troubled;)

The Word, Women, and Authority

Chapter 8

The Proverbs 31 Woman

There are multiple parables in Proverbs 31, but in this study, we want to look at the responsibilities of a Godly wife. The chapter begins with a king explaining that he is repeating the lessons taught to him by his mother. This is recognizing her and giving her a great honor.

The Words of King Lemuel

(Pro.31:1) The words of king Lemuel (“Lemuel” is a symbolic name of Solomon, the wisest man ever to have lived {1 Kings 3:12}.); ***the oracle*** (The Hebrew word there is *massa'* translated “burden” ... “especially of responsibility and duty of bearing sacred vessels,” and the Word is a sacred vessel.) ***(Pro.31:1) The words of king Lemuel; the oracle which his mother taught him.*** She obeyed the Lord, Who said, ***(Deu.6:6) And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thy heart; (7) and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.***

(Pro.31:2) What, my son? and what, O son of my womb? And what, O son of my vows? “Vows” is the Hebrew *neder* meaning “a promise (to God); also (concretely) a thing promised.” Lemuel’s mother has vowed a vow, as did Hannah, who was the mother of the prophet Samuel. ***(1Sa.1:26) And she said, Oh, my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the Lord. (27) For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him: (28) therefore also I have granted him to the Lord; as***

long as he liveth he is granted to the Lord. And he worshipped the Lord there. She is determined that her son, Lemuel, should also serve the Lord.

(Pro.31:3) Give not thy strength (Notice that the Hebrew word for “strength,” *chayil*, also means “moral worth,” as well as “power, riches, army, or physical strength.”) ***unto women*** (“Women” in Scripture can represent corporate bodies, in this case, the apostate churches, that with their false doctrines destroy the true King, Who is Jesus.), ***Nor thy ways to that which destroyeth...*** This is *machah* and it means to “abolish, blot out, destroy ... wipe away.” We don’t want to be blotted out of the Lamb’s book of life (Revelation 21:27). ***(Pro.31:3) Give not thy strength unto women, Nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings.***

(Pro.31:4) It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; Nor for princes [to say], Where is strong drink? That’s because an intoxicated person is not in touch with reality. ***(5) Lest they drink, and forget the law, And pervert the justice [due] to any that is afflicted.*** ***(6) Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish*** (The Hebrew *abaw* is also translated “broken, corrupt, annihilate, destroy, go astray.” This is speaking of someone who doesn’t have salvation.), ***And wine*** (“Wine” represents the Blood, the Nature of Christ.) ***unto the bitter in soul...*** Yes, it is bitter to be without Christ. ***(Jer.2:19) Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and a bitter, that thou hast forsaken the Lord thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord, the God of hosts.***

(Pro.31:6) Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, And wine unto the bitter in soul: (7) Let him drink... Hallelujah! Now he is born again. He has been filled by Jesus. ***(Joh.7:37) Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink.*** And we have, ***(Mat.5:6) Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.***

(Pro.31:6) Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, And wine unto the bitter in soul: (7) Let him drink, and forget his poverty, And remember his misery no more. Praise the Lord! As Paul said, (2Co.5:17) Wherefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new. Also, (Eze.36:26) A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.

*(Pro.31:8) Open thy mouth for the dumb (This is *illem*, meaning “unable to speak.”), In the cause of all such as are left desolate. And this is *chaloph* meaning “appointed to destruction.” (9) Open thy mouth, judge righteously, And minister justice to the poor and needy. Jesus said the king has a duty to (Joh.7:24) Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment. As God told Samuel, (1Sa.16:7) ... Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have rejected him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. We are not to have respect of persons. (Jas.2:1) My brethren, hold not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, [the Lord] of glory, with respect of persons. (2) For if there come into your synagogue a man with a gold ring, in fine clothing, and there come in also a poor man in vile clothing; (3) and ye have regard to him that weareth the fine clothing, and say, Sit thou here in a good place; and ye say to the poor man, Stand thou there, or sit under my footstool; (4) Do ye not make distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? (5) Hearken, my beloved brethren; did not God choose them that are poor as to the world [to be] rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he promised to them that love him? (6) But ye have dishonored the poor man.*

Now King Lemuel goes on to speak of the things about his mother that impressed him so much.

The Virtues of a Noble Woman

(Pro.31:10) A worthy woman who can find? For her price is far above rubies. The traits developed by a woman who seeks to please the Lord are the traits that also please a Godly husband. They are only developed over time through a personal death to self and submission to the Word. There are no shortcuts.

(11) The heart of her husband trusteth in her, And he shall have no lack of gain. The Hebrew word “gain” means “plunder, spoil, booty.” She is building up, not tearing down, her household.

(12) She doeth him good and not evil All the days of her life. (13) She seeketh wool and flax, And worketh willingly with her hands.

“Willingly” there means “with delight, pleasure.” She finds great joy in fulfilling her wifely duties, because she knows that she is serving the Lord. ***(Col.3:23) whatsoever ye do, work heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men; (24) knowing that from the Lord ye shall receive the recompense of the inheritance: ye serve the Lord Christ.***

(14) She is like the merchant-ships; She bringeth her bread from afar. (15) She riseth also while it is yet night, And giveth food to her household, And their task to her maidens. She doesn’t “sleep in.” She is organized so she runs a “tight ship.”

(16) She considereth a field, and buyeth it; With the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She uses what could be considered her personal resources to build her family’s wealth because she understands that she and her husband are one body.

(17) She girdeth her loins with strength, And maketh strong her arms. Other translations say she “puts on strength as a belt,” so she is not afraid of physical labor.

(18) She perceiveth that her merchandise is profitable: Her lamp goeth not out by night. “Goeth not out” means “not extinguished.” She works even late into the night.

(19) She layeth her hands to the distaff, And her hands hold the spindle. She is diligent to clothe her children in the righteous works of Jesus. A distaff and spindle are tools used to create the thread or yarn to weave into clothing. That’s not what the wicked use and therefore they are naked in their sin. ***(Isa.59:5) They hatch adders eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth; and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper. (6) Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands.***

(20) She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; Yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She builds them up by demonstrating the Gospel to them through her good works.

(21) She is not afraid of the snow for her household (Winter symbolizes tribulation. She is not afraid of adversity.); ***For all her household are clothed with scarlet.*** They are all under the Blood.

(22) She maketh for herself carpets of tapestry; Her clothing is fine linen and purple. She is clothed with the righteous acts of the saints (Revelation 19:8), which are the works of Jesus; she is royalty. [Editor’s Note: “Cloth of purple” was used in the Temple veil, and only royalty could afford clothing of “purple” because it was so costly.]

(23) Her husband is known in the gates, When he sitteth among the elders of the land. Her reputation also reflects upon her husband.

(24) She maketh linen garments and selleth them, And delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Priests wore linen garments (Exodus 28:4; Leviticus 6:10; 1 Samuel 2:18; etc.) She raises-up Godly sons.

(25) *Strength and dignity* (The Hebrew word there for “dignity” is also translated “honor.”) ***are her clothing*** (She is dressed-up with the works of Jesus.); ***And she laugheth at the time to come.*** She has no fear of the future curse. The worthy woman does not fear judgment for she is dressed-up of Jesus. ***(Rom.8:1) There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus.***

(26) *She openeth her mouth with wisdom; And the law of kindness is on her tongue.* She loves the brethren. ***(1Co.13:4) Love suffereth long, [and] is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, (5) doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not its own, is not provoked, taketh not account of evil; (6) rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth with the truth; (7) beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.***

(27) *She looketh well to the ways of her household, And eateth not the bread of idleness.* She pleases her husband and teaches her children and clothes them with knowledge of the Word.

(28) *Her children rise up, and call her blessed; Her husband [also], and he praiseth her, [saying]: (29) Many daughters have done worthily, But thou excellest them all.* She is just like the Bride in Esther and Song of Solomon, who excelled above the rest of God’s people.

(30) *Grace is deceitful, and beauty is vain; [But] a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.* Physical beauty is fleeting. Only the inner beauty of a meek and quiet spirit that comes of a woman who is humble to the Word has any value in the Kingdom.

(31) *Give her of the fruit of her hands; And let her works praise her in the gates.* She bears the fruit of her Husband, Jesus, and that fruit is seen by the people. ***(Mat.5:16) Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. (Joh.15:8) Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; and [so] shall ye be my disciples.***

