

God's Plan for Women in the Church, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 1 Timothy 2:9-15.
- B. Certain women in Ephesus were usurping authority and dressing improperly.
- C. The most beautiful of human virtues is humility.
- D. There are several elements that speak to a woman's place in the church.

II. Appearance.

- A. Women are to adorn themselves with regard to proper appearance.
- B. Clothing should not draw attention to self but to God.

III. Attitude.

- A. This should be godly fear and self-control.
- B. Godly fear has a sense of shame regarding causing others to stumble.
- C. Her passions are to be under control in a way that does not call attention to self.

IV. Testimony.

- A. Paul is concerned about the consistency of a woman's testimony.
- B. A woman is to be adorned with good works that testify to her faith.

V. Role.

- A. Women are to be disciplined--they are to be involved in the learning process. Paul corrects popular Jewish belief that women should not learn.
- B. With regard to spirituality, women shared equality. This was true of the Old Testament also. (Exodus 19-20, Deuteronomy 6, Proverbs 6:20)
 - 1. Women were to learn.
 - 2. Women served.
 - 3. God appeared to God.
 - 4. Women had ministry opportunity.
- C. Women did not have the same role, however. To say they have a different role does not depreciate them.

D. There is no women who had an ongoing prophetic ministry in the Old Testament.

1. Miriam is called a prophetess because at one time God chose to speak through her.
2. Deborah is called a prophetess only because she was given a single revelation by God to speak to Barak. (Judges 4:4)
3. Huldeh is called a prophetess only because she was given an single prophesy. (2 Chronicles 34:22)
4. Noadiah was a false prophetess. (Nehemiah 6:14)
5. The wife of Isaiah is called a prophetess only because she gave birth to a child whose name had prophetic meaning.

E. The New Testament continues where the Old Testament left off.

1. We are all one in Christ in the sense of salvation not role. (Galatians 3:8)
2. There is no woman preacher, evangelist or teacher in the New Testament.
3. The daughters of Philip prophesied but they are not called prophetesses.
4. There are many occasions when women spoke forth the Word of God, but they never took on a teaching or preaching role. (Acts 2:17; Luke13; Mark 5; Luke 11:28)
5. Women were to learn. The difference is not in capacity but role.

VI. Design.

VII. Contribution.

Application Questions:

1. Why are women exempt from certain roles in the church?

2. Does this exemption demonstrate that women have less value? Explain.

3. Why is it important to make a distinction between salvation and forms of service?
