

Men and Women in the Assemblies of the Church



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The New Testament teaches that God's order in the church is for men to exercise positions of public teaching, authority and leadership



1 Timothy 2:8-15 NASB

Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension. 9 Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments, 10 but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness. 11 A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. 12 But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.



1 Timothy 2:8-15

- There is a contrast between men and women in church assemblies (1 Tim. 3:14-15)



1 Timothy 3:14-15 NASB

I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; 15 but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.



1 Timothy 2:8-15

- There is a contrast between men and women in church assemblies (1 Tim. 3:14-15)
- Men should be praying (v. 8)
 - With holy hands
 - Without wrath and doubting



1 Timothy 2:8-15 NASB

Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension.



1 Timothy 2:8-15

- There is a contrast between men and women in church assemblies (1 Tim. 3:14-15)
- Men should be praying (v. 8)
- Women should be
 - Adorned with good deeds (v. 9-10)



1 Timothy 2:8-15 NASB

9 Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments, 10 but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.



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- There is a contrast between men and women in church assemblies (1 Tim. 3:14-15)
- Men should be praying (v. 8)
- Women should be
 - Adorned with good deeds (v. 9-10)
 - Receiving instruction rather than giving it (v. 11-12)



1 Timothy 2:8-15 NASB

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- Men should be praying (v. 8)
- Women should be
 - Adorned with good deeds (v. 9-10)
 - Receiving instruction rather than giving it (v. 11-12)
 - Keep silent (1 Cor. 14:34-35; 27-33)



1 Corinthians 14:34-35 NASB

34 The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. 35 If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.



1 Corinthians 14:27-33 NASB

27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; 28 but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God. 29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. 30 But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent.



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 - Keep silent (1 Cor. 14:34-35; 27-33)



1 Corinthians 14:27-33 NASB

31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted;
32 and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets;
33 for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.



Christian Women in Bible Classes

- Are Bible classes part of the assembly?
- Can a woman ask or answer a question or make a comment in a Bible class?
- Can a woman ask or answer a question or make a comment in such a way that it directs or redirects the Bible class?



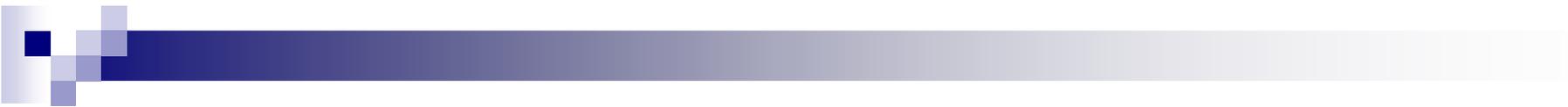
1 Timothy 2:8-15

- There is a contrast between men and women in church assemblies (1 Tim. 3:14-15)
- Men should be praying (v. 8)
- Women should be
 - Adorned with good deeds (v. 9-10)
 - Receiving instruction rather than giving it (v. 11-12)
- Why? (v. 13-15)



1 Timothy 2:8-15 NASB

13 For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve. 14 And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. 15 But women will be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.



Genesis 3:14-16 NASB

The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, ... 15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel." 16 To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, in pain you will bring forth children; yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."



MacKnight's paraphrase of 1 Tim. 2:15

“Though Eve was first in the transgression, and brought death on herself, her husband, and all her posterity, the female sex shall be saved (equally with the male) through child-bearing - through bringing forth the Savior, if they live in faith, and love, and chastity, with that sobriety which I have been recommending.” – quoted in Adam Clarke's commentary on 1 Timothy



Applications

- Can a woman serve as a preacher, pastor, elder, or bishop? NO - 1 Tim. 2:11-12 ; 1 Cor. 14:34-35 ; 1 Tim 3:1-2



1 Timothy 3:1-2 NASB

It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. 2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,



Applications

- Can a woman serve as a preacher, pastor, elder, or bishop? NO - 1 Tim. 2:11-12 ; 1 Cor. 14:34-35 ; 1 Tim 3:1-2
- Are women barred from using their God-given teaching abilities? NO - Acts 18:24-28



Acts 18:24-28 NASB

Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, 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 was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; 26 and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. **But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.** 27 And ... 28 ... he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.



Applications

- Doesn't this restriction show the male-dominated repressive background of Paul and the other church leaders, which we should reject in view of the liberty we have in Christ? NO – 1 Cor. 14:36-40



The Equality of the Sexes in Scripture

- In Christ, no male or female – Galatians 3:28
- Fellow-heirs of life – 1 Peter 3:7
- The wife exalted in marriage – Eph. 5:22-33



Submission is not Inferiority

And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart. - Luke 2:51



1 Corinthians 14:36-40 NASB

36 Was it from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only? 37 If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment. 38 But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized. 39 Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues. 40 But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.



Applications

- Doesn't this restriction show the male-dominated repressive background of Paul and the other church leaders, which we should reject in view of the liberty we have in Christ?
NO – 1 Cor. 14:36-40
- Does the church where you worship honor the teaching of Scripture regarding the relationship between men and women in the assemblies of the church?