



Does the Bible Advocate for Women's Rights?

1 Corinthians 14:34: (KJV) *Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.*



Today is Mother's Day - a day to stop, think about and honor the role motherhood plays in our lives. Be sure to express your gratitude to the mothers in your lives! Now, on this day that we honor motherhood we also want to look into the Bible's treatment of womanhood. It sure seems like the Scriptures make women second-class citizens. Is this true? Does the Bible in any way advocate for women?

Advocate: a person who argues for or supports a cause or policy; a person who works for a cause or group; a person who argues for the cause of another person in a court of law.

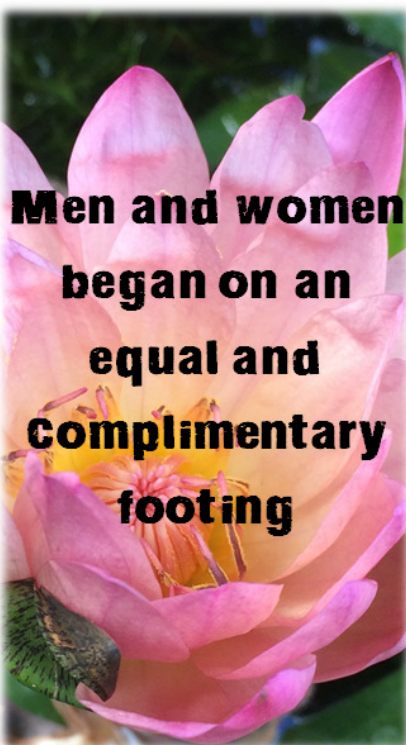
Let us read the theme text again:

1 Corinthians 14:34: (KJV) *Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.*

What conclusions can we easily jump to by taking this out of context..? How about: God is sexist! Women are second-class! Women should not think for themselves - the Law says so!

To conclude a biblical perspective about women by just looking at this theme text would be to make a serious mistake, as it only considers one small aspect of a very large topic in a very specific circumstance.

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES REGARDING WOMEN



**Men and women
began on an
equal and
complimentary
footing**

Genesis 2:20-24: (NASB) ²⁰The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a **helper** **<5828>** suitable for him. (This is equal?) ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. ²²The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib, which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. ²³The 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. ²⁴For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

Adam was created before Eve. God knew ahead of time that no helper would be found and created man and woman in this context to accentuate the interconnected relationship that was to be between man and women. There is a tendency to appreciate something more that initially you do not have and then subsequently receive.

Eve was created as a "helper" for Adam. But what does that really mean?



A helper as in one less experienced? An apprentice, maybe? A helper as in one who has less authority? A helper as in one who is inferior?

Help meet (helper): Strong's #5828 `ezer (ay'-zer); 1) help, succor 2) one who helps

It still sounds like this describes someone who is "a little bit less." How is this word #5828 used in other Scriptures?

Here is just one of many examples:

Psalms 121:1-2: (KJV) *¹I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my **help** <5828>. ²My **help** <5828> cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.*

David sings this hymn, looking to God Almighty as his helper. This is the exact same Hebrew word that obviously has a much more important meaning than a second class role.

The creation account shows equality and harmony. Life for both sexes would be so much better if we embrace the differences and respect the value of those differences.

God's original intent for His created man and woman had no indications of a relationship built around dominance of one over the other, but rather it was to be based on equality, mutual respect and was extremely complimentary.

What went wrong? And did women suffer the worst of the curse?



If we understand this important principle, it helps put everything into a clear perspective!

Sin was committed in the Garden and guilt reigned. God responded with penalties for each (we will skip the penalty for Satan on this program). Notice all of the rules for living were now changed...Adam and Eve were now to live under severe restrictions - not the previously enjoyed freedom of the Garden.



Genesis 3:16: (NASB) *¹⁶To 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** <4910> over you.*

The curse on the woman:

1. She would bear children in pain - in spite of that, her desire (longing) *still* will be to her husband.
2. Her husband would rule over her. This was not as it was *designed* to be, but it *came* to be this way because of sin.

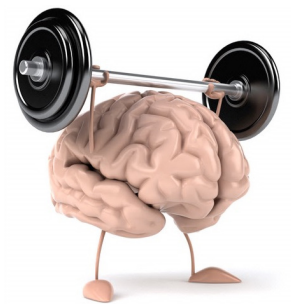
Rule: Strong's #4910, mā·shal' 1) to rule, have dominion 2) to cause to rule 3) to exercise dominion

Genesis 3:17-19: (NASB) *¹⁷Then to Adam He said, because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, you shall not eat from it; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; and you will eat the plants of the field; ¹⁹By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

God is describing the consequences of sin. Adam listened to Eve and disobeyed God, so his life would now be full of toil, failure and sweat. This was the curse for Adam.

 **Men's brains, Differences Between Men and Women's Brains, The Doctors (television show)**

- So, male brain, female brain, believe it or not there are differences. So, male brain actually is ten percent larger; four percent more cells, which may seem like not an itty-bitty amount but it actually may help protect against dementia. Now, seven times more grey matter in the male brain - that helps with problem solving (even though Dr. Lisa will probably argue with that). One other big thing with the male brain, the left hemisphere. Men tend to use their left hemisphere predominantly. That's the more logical, rational thinking side.



The Old Testament Law shows us how seriously we ought to take God's influence in our daily lives. It is because of the curse we see a difference in how vows are handled by the sexes.

The entrance of sin did not take away the need for God's people to have integrity; rather, it underscored the need for our thoughts, proclamations and actions to all be in harmony:

Numbers 30:1-9: (NASB) *¹Then Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the sons of Israel, saying, this is the word, which the LORD has commanded. ²If a man makes a vow to the LORD, or takes an oath to bind himself with a binding obligation, he shall not violate his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.*

If a man takes an oath, he must be accountable to his words.

The guidelines for a woman:

³Also if a woman makes a vow to the LORD, and binds herself by an obligation in her father's house in her youth, ⁴and her father hears her vow and her obligation by which she has bound



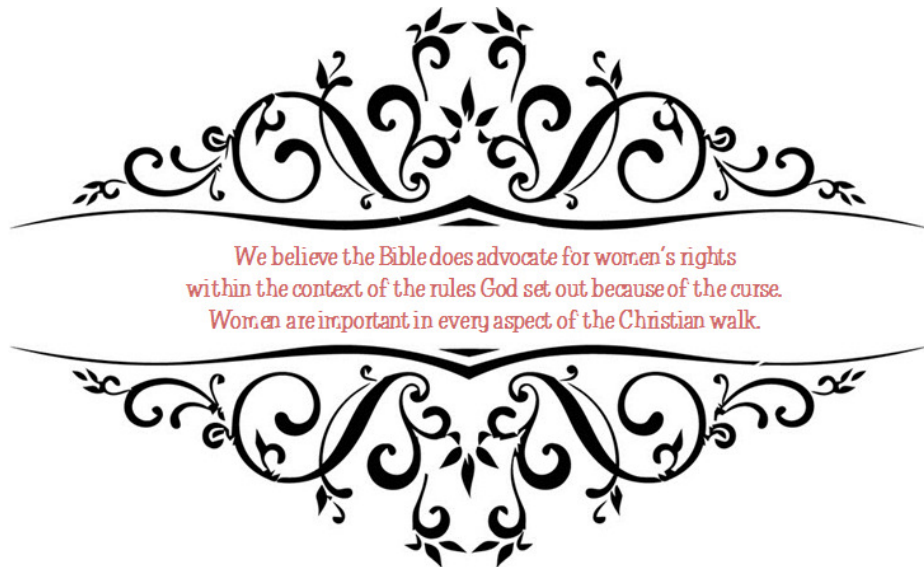
herself, and her father says nothing to her, then all her vows shall stand and every obligation by which she has bound herself shall stand. ⁵But if her father should forbid her on the day he hears of it, none of her vows or her obligations by which she has bound herself shall stand; and the LORD will forgive her because her father had forbidden her.

We can see the curse in effect here - the will of the young woman is subject to the will of her father, but her father must act quickly to nullify her vow. This is a different standard than that of a young man.

⁶However, if she should marry while under her vows or the rash statement of her lips by which she has bound herself, ⁷and her husband hears of it and says nothing to her on the day he hears it, then her vows shall stand and her obligations by which she has bound herself shall stand. ⁸But if on the day her husband hears of it, he forbids her, then he shall annul her vow which she is under and the rash statement of her lips by which she has bound herself; and the LORD will forgive her.

It is the same for a married woman - if her husband does not act quickly, she is bound to her word. The application is the same, regardless of her age.

rash statement of her lips - sometimes we make rash promises. The Old Testament Law said you had to fulfill such statements. Women were subject to men in this example. Why was there not equal treatment? Because the curse had a major effect on humanity.



**What about when there is no husband or father?
Does she have fewer rights?**

⁹But the vow of a widow or of a divorced woman, everything by which she has bound herself, shall stand against her.

Where there is no attached man, the woman's word must stand just as a man's word must.

Within the context of the curse, the Old Testament does advocate for women's rights - however, the rights of women were definitely under the rule of men. Does this mean that Old Testament women were second class citizens? NO! Let's look closer at women who were powerful mouthpieces for God...



Miriam:

Exodus 15:19-21: (NASB) ¹⁹*For the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his horsemen went into the sea, and the LORD brought back the waters of the sea on them, but the sons of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea.* ²⁰**Miriam the prophetess**, Aaron's sister, took the timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dancing. ²¹Miriam answered them, *Sing to the LORD, for He is highly exalted; the horse and his rider He has hurled into the sea.*

Micah 6:4: (NASB) *Indeed, I brought you up from the land of Egypt and ransomed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron and Miriam.*

We always think Moses needed Aaron as a mouthpiece, but here we see God specifically sent Aaron AND Miriam. This woman was a powerful godly influence in the early stages of Israel's development. That is NOT a second class citizen.



A caller from Connecticut suggests a riddle: "A woman without her man is nothing." Now, take note of the same sentence with punctuation. "A woman, without her, man is nothing."

Deborah:

Judges 4:4-5: (NASB) ⁴*Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time.* ⁵*She used to sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the sons of Israel came up to her for judgment.*

Women were in positions of responsibility and decision-making. Having said that, it was still within the context of the curse.





Women's brains, Differences Between Men and Women's Brains, The Doctors (television show)

- (Host) So, Dr. Lisa, talk to me about the female brain.
- (Dr. Lisa) We know that women rock and rule, don't we? (Applause) Women have 12 percent more neurons, more cellular connections. What does that mean? Our brains work faster so, even though yours are bigger, ours work faster and better. There's a study that actually shows women are scoring higher - not just the same - higher on IQ tests. Of course, we are the ones who bring life into the world and so we are better nurturers. This is because we have more white matter. Ten times, not just one time, ten times more white matter than you guys which help us multitask as well. Not only that, there's even more, Ladies! We use both our left and right hemispheres. You guys are throwing things out all around. We use it all. We use the whole shebang here, and you know what that does? That means that we've got better connections; the corpus callosum is even larger and that makes it easier for us to transfer data between the left and right hemispheres. We multi-task. When you're focusing on one task, we're doing it all. Right, ladies? Absolutely doing it all.



There is definitely a difference in construction and in wiring between men and women's brains.

Now, what about the New Testament? To understand the differences and similarities with the Old Testament, we need to set the foundation:

1. The curse from Eden still remained in effect.
2. Jesus was a Jew bound by the Law.
3. Jesus was the Messiah and had authority that no other man ever had or would have.

How did Jesus treat women?

Jesus not only spoke with this woman, he offered her a blessing!

John 4:7-10: (NRSV) ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, give me a drink... ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, how is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria? ¹⁰Jesus answered her, if you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, give me a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.

The relationship between the Jews and Samaritans was not good. Culturally it would have been especially unusual for a Jewish man to talk to a Samaritan woman. Jesus overrode the culture and went as far as offering a blessing. He rose above the culture of that time and showed respect to a stranger.



Many women followed Jesus and did their part to support him and the Gospel. What role did they play?

Luke 8:1-3: (NRSV) *'Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, ²as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.*

Many women followed Jesus - some were named and there were *many others*. They provided from their own resources so Jesus could do his work. They played an incredible role in the pursuit of preaching the good news of the Gospel.



**Jesus showed
great respect
towards
women**

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES REGARDING WOMEN

How did things develop in the New Testament?

There were still prophetesses on the scene:

Luke 2:36-38: (NASB) *³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers. ³⁸At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.*

Jesus encouraged female followers to learn:

Luke 10:38-42: (NRSV) *³⁸Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me. ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.*

Brain architecture, *Women's Issues in 2013, TedTalk*

- *Brain research. We know a lot more about the brain. We know that there are significant gender differences in architecture, and we also know that those brain differences sometimes reinforce stereotypes. So, we know men's brains are bigger. Yes they are, and we know women's brains have more connective material between them. We know when you do a task, men's brains and women's brains light up differently. So, you can believe as some people do, that the brain is destiny. That it is the way we are. "That's my brain architecture that's just the way I am."*





She goes on to advocate that we should stand up against that. In our opinion, why not say, "That is the way I am wired, so let me maximize that and use it to its fullest potential," embracing the differences.

Women worked side by side with men in the witnessing of the Gospel:

Acts 18:24-26: (NASB) ²⁴Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. ²⁵This 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; ²⁶and 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.

Priscilla was specifically part of the input as one of the important conduits for bringing Apollos to an understanding of the Gospel.

So, there is a lot of respect and a lot of advocacy for women's rights within the chosen people of God. Had the curse been lifted? No!

There are many Scriptures that give women a status subservient to men:

Colossians 3:18-19: (KJV) ¹⁸Wives, **submit <5293>** yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. ¹⁹Husbands, love (**agape**) your wives, and be not bitter against them.

This clearly teaches that the curse was still in place, yet the admonition is for the husband as much or more than it is for the wife. The woman is to be subservient but the man is to be selfless. Both of these can be a challenge. There is work to be done on both sides.

Submit: Strong's #5293 hupotasso; to subordinate; to obey

This idea of "being in submission" is not just for the husband/wife relationship:

Ephesians 5:21-24: (ASV) ²¹**subjecting <5259>** yourselves one to another in the fear of Christ. ²²Wives, be in **subjection <5259>** unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, being himself the saviour of the body. ²⁴But as the church is **subject <5259>** to Christ, so let the wives also be to their husbands in everything.

**What about our theme text telling women they cannot talk?
How does *that* advocate for women's rights?**

A caller from Connecticut asks: What will it take for a woman to become free? For example, how could a woman become Pope?



Because we are not Catholic, we could not comment on what it would take within Catholicism for that to happen. From a scriptural perspective, the Scriptures do speak against women teaching in the church. That does not mean women should not be in a role of authority. But within the context of Christianity, we want to stick with the Bible as our textbook. We will go over this concept in much more detail shortly...





Men and stress, *A Tale of Two Brains, Laugh Your Way to a Good Marriage*, Mark Gungor (marriage counselor)

- *When a man is stressed out all he wants to do is run to his "nothing box." This is how we unwind. The last thing we want to do when we are stressed out is talk about it. We don't want to talk about it. We just want to... (stares into space) ...because it just drives her nuts, you know. A woman will see a man in that vegetative state and she'll come up and go, "Whatcha thinking about?" "Nothing." "Well, you've got to be thinking about something!" "Nah, I'm thinking about nothing."*



Theme text:

1 Corinthians 14:34-35: (KJV) ³⁴Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. (Youngs Literal Translation) ³⁵And if they wish to learn anything, at home their own husbands let them question, for it is a shame to women to speak in an assembly.

Specific points:

your women

silence

shame to women to speak



Is this really about not even talking? We need to examine the context!

1 Corinthians 14:5: (NASB) *Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.*

Speaking in tongues was a major issue in Corinth, as it was an abused spiritual gift.

1 Corinthians 14:18-19: (NASB) ¹⁸I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all; ¹⁹however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Paul emphatically states that real communication trumps unrecognizable spiritual truth!

So, Paul sets some guidelines in place:

1 Corinthians 14:27-36: (YLT) ²⁷if an unknown tongue any one do speak, by two, or at the most, by three, and in turn, and let one interpret; ²⁸and if there may be no interpreter, let him be silent in an assembly, and to himself let him speak, and to God. ²⁹And prophets—let two or three speak, and let the others discern, ³⁰and if to another sitting anything may be revealed, let the first be silent; ³¹for ye are able, one by one, all to prophesy, that all may learn, and all may be exhorted, ³²and the spiritual gift of prophets to prophets are subject, ³³for God is not a God of tumult, but of peace...

We pause here in the middle of verse 33 as the previous thought is complete and a new thought begins. (Remember, the original texts do not have punctuation - that is supplied by the various translators.)



Speaking in tongues was supposed to be done systematically and in order, because God is a God of peace and not confusion.

Paul now addresses women specifically relating to the decorum he is trying to re-establish:

...As in all the assemblies of the saints ³⁴Your women in the assemblies let them be silent, for it hath not been permitted to them to speak, but to be subject, as also the law saith;

Paul is saying that **your women**, as other women, should not be speaking in tongues - that is what he has been talking about for the whole chapter - because they would be usurping undue authority within the context of a church meeting. Speaking in tongues was in the role of teaching. Paul was advising against women applying this particular gift in this particular context. First, the Corinthian church already was having issues with this gift, and second, women were not to be doing this type of teaching in the church.



A caller from the Philippines explained her friends told her to write a sermon about her Christian walk, as she is blind. She shares within her Bible study group but would not act as an Elder (leader), even though her friends attend churches with "lady pastors."

Verse 35 goes to an even deeper problem - that of the Greek culture and its treatment of women:

³⁵and if they wish to learn anything, at home their own husbands let them question, for it is a shame to women to speak in an assembly. ³⁶From you did the word of God come forth? Or to you alone did it come?

(Source: Biblical commentary by C.T. Russell) At this time, and in the very focus of civilization, the women were regarded as a lower order of beings; naturally prone to evil, and fitted only for propagating the species and gratifying the sensual appetites of man. There were no educational institutions for girls, or any private teachers at home.

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In Greek culture at this time, women were considered second-class citizens and this is the context Paul is dealing with in the Corinthian church. Thus we have 1) a matter of decorum within a church meeting - speaking in tongues, and 2) a matter of culture - the necessity for social training of women in Greek society where there had been none.

Christianity was drawing women out of their homes. There had to be a learning process because there was no societal education. This actually shows Christianity advocating for women by including and teaching them where they had no previous opportunity.



Is there a "why," besides the curse, for women to be treated differently within the church?

There is a VERY SPECIFIC reason we must adhere to the standard of women **not** teaching within the church:

Ephesians 5:22-28: (ASV) ²²Wives, be in **subjection <5293>** unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, being himself the saviour of the body. ²⁴But as the church is **subject <5293>** to Christ, so let the wives also be to their husbands in everything. ²⁵Husbands, love (agape) your wives, even as Christ also loved (agape) the church, and gave himself up for it; ²⁶that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷that he might present the church to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸Even so ought husbands also to love (agape) their own wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his own wife loveth himself.

There is a picture shown here:

Wife being subjected to the husband = church subjected to Christ.

The Bible uses the husband/wife relationship to show us the relationship of us to Christ. We are to be submissive to our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Why would we want to undo that?

Although husbands have rule of authority in their households, they must have selfless agape love like Jesus. This authority brings with it the responsibility to make the wife the best individual they can possibly be. Wives should be loved and cared for as the husband loves and cares for himself.

Our adhering to this picture is actually showing our total devotion to Christ.

 **Women and stress, A Tale of Two Brains, Laugh Your Way to a Good Marriage, Mark Gungor (marriage counselor)**

- *Now, when a woman is stressed out she has to talk about it. If she doesn't talk about it her brain will literally explode. (Mimics a stressed woman talking fast.) I know men who run from their wives when they do this. I say, "Why do you run from her?" He says, "Because I don't know what to tell her." I said, dear gosh, man! Who told you to tell her anything? She doesn't want your advice, she doesn't want your help, she wants you to shut up and listen!*



The male and female brain ARE wired differently! If you can work to put those two in harmony, you end up with an incredible relationship.



Different does *not* mean unequal!

Romans 16:1-2: (NASB) ¹*I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea; ²that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also been a helper of many, and of myself as well.*

What a testimony of respect for this sister in Christ! She obviously had a role of distinctive influence within that church.

Different but equal!

Philippians 4:1-3: (NRSV) ¹*Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.*

These women were obviously very important to Paul.

In spreading the Gospel, it does not matter what role you play; what matters is the job gets done! The body of Christ working together does not focus on who gets the credit.

Galatians 3:28-29: (NRSV) ²⁸*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.*

It does not matter where you come from; we are all here together. There is equal opportunity for an equal reward! We simply play different roles. If we master the value of taking our differences and combining them and developing them, together we get something great.

John 20:14-16: (NASB) ¹⁴*When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking? Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away. ¹⁶Jesus said to her, Mary! She turned and said to him in Hebrew, Rabboni! (Which means, Teacher.)*

When Jesus was raised, he spent time speaking to women. Jesus obviously respected women, yet did not call any women to be Apostles. Why?

Jesus honored women within the context of the curse and punishment of God in Genesis that the men would rule over them. The adjustment he makes is that he lifted their status to as equal of a basis as possible, supplying them dignity and still honoring the *thus saith the LORD...*





Women play a different role in the church but it is still a vital role and just as necessary as a man could play. Instead of fighting against what the Scriptures have laid out for us, let us embrace it realizing there can be great value developed if we are all humble enough to accept the scriptural principles.



*So, does the Bible advocate for women's rights?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*

*And now even more to think about...
only in the **Full Edition** of CQ Rewind!*



An example of the curse of women being subservient:

Judges 11:30-40 (selected): (NASB) ³⁰Jephthah made a vow to the LORD and said, if You will indeed give the sons of Ammon into my hand, ³¹then it shall be that whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the sons of Ammon, it shall be the LORD'S, and I will offer it up as a burnt offering...

In those days a promise/vow to God was a truly solemn personal contract:

So the sons of Ammon were subdued before the sons of Israel. ³⁴When Jephthah came to his house at Mizpah, behold, his daughter was coming out to meet him with tambourines and with dancing. Now she was his one and only child; besides her he had no son or daughter. ³⁵When he saw her, he tore his clothes and said, alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low, and you are among those who trouble me; for I have given my word to the LORD, and I cannot take it back. ³⁶So she said to him, my father, you have given your word to the LORD; do to me as you have said, since the LORD has avenged you of your enemies, the sons of Ammon.

His daughter did not question the solemnity of the promise or the deliverance of God!

³⁷She said to her father, let this thing be done for me; let me alone two months, that I may go to the mountains and weep because of my virginity, I and my companions...³⁹At the end of two months she returned to her father, who did to her according to the vow which he had made; and she had no relations with a man. Thus it became a custom in Israel, ⁴⁰that the daughters of Israel went yearly to commemorate the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four days in the year.

She complied without question.

1 Peter 3:7: (KJV) Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving **honour <5092>** unto the wife, as unto the **weaker <772>** vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

Honour: Strongs #5092 time (tee-may'); a value, i.e. money paid, or (concretely and collectively) valuables; by analogy, esteem (especially of the highest degree), or the dignity itself
KJV-- honour, precious, price, some.

Weaker: Strongs #772 asthenes (as-then-ace'); strengthless (in various applications, literal, figurative and moral)
KJV-- more feeble, impotent, sick, without strength, weak (-er, -ness, thing)

Give great esteem to your wives, as you would to something that is of great value, yet fragile.



This principle is exhibited in the following text - it does NOT mention men and women, but does use the same words to explain relationships within the body of Christ:

1 Corinthians 12:21-23: (ASV) ²¹And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of thee: or again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. ²²Nay, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be **more feeble <772>** are necessary: ²³and those parts of the body, which we think to be less honorable, upon these we bestow more abundant **honor <5092>**; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

The above comparisons speak volumes - eyes to hands - both have obvious value, yet the eye directs the hand. Head to feet - both have obvious value, yet the head directs the feet.