

GODLY WOMEN IN THE CHURCH/KINGDOM

“Romans 16:1-4”

Intro:

- A. God Needs Godly Women in the church - **Romans 16:1-4** (NKJV) ---- “I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, 2 that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also. 3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.”
1. The **Value** of The Godly Woman
 2. The **Disposition** of The Godly Woman
 3. The **Motivation** of The Godly Woman
 4. The **Behavior** of The Godly Woman

II. **The Value of The Godly Woman** - Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. **Prov 31:10**

- A. The Bible is **filled with Godly Women** from both O.T. and N.T.
1. Sarah – Deborah – Esther – Hannah – Ruth – Mary – Mary Magdalene – Lydia – Eunice & Lois – Dorcas, (Tabitha) Priscilla - . . . Etc.
- B. The Bible teaches that there is **a distinction between the roles of men and women** in the church - (**1 Cor 14:34-37; 1 Tim 2:11-14**)
1. **1 Corinthians 14:34-37** ---- 34 Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says.35 And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church.36 Or did the word of God come originally from you? Or was it you only that it reached?37 If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.
 2. **1 Timothy 2:11-14** ---- 11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.
 - a. A distinction in roles does not mean a distinction in value - (**Gal 3:28; Acts 10:34; 2 Pet 3:9**)
 - (1) **Galatians 3:28** ---- 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
 - (2) **Acts 10:34** ---- 34 Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.
 - (3) **2 Peter 3:9** ---- 9 The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.
 3. Women are **JUST** as valuable to God and to the growth and success of the church as men!
- C. Women were **very active** in the first century church!!
1. **Tabitha – Acts 9:36-39**
 - a. **Acts 9:36-39** ---- 36 At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did.37 But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid *her* in an upper room.38 And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring *him* not to delay in coming to them.39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought *him* to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.

2. **Priscilla – Acts 18:24-26**

- a. **Acts 18:24-26** ---- 24 Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man *and* mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John. 26 So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

3. **Lydia – Acts 16:13-15; 40**

- a. **Acts 16:13-15,40** ---- 13 And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met *there*. 14 Now a certain woman named Lydia heard *us*. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. 15 And when she and her household were baptized, she begged *us*, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” So she persuaded us.
- b. 40 So they went out of the prison and entered *the house of* Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

4. **Women in Romans - Romans 16:1-15**

III. **The Disposition of The Godly Woman - 1 Peter 3:1-4** (ASV) — 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.

A. “ 3 Whose adorning let it not be the outward adorning of . . .”

1. **Not a prohibition** to the wearing of jewelry and makeup -
2. Not this – But – This – specifying that which is precious in the sight of God – Qualities that REALLY matter to Him and should be our focus!!

B. **Submissive - 1 Timothy 2:11-12** (NKJV) — Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. 12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

- a. **Ephesians 5:22-23** (NKJV) — Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

2. Subjection is a role to be filled **AND DOES NOT IMPLY INFERIORITY** in value in the sight of God!

- a. Social and political movements CANNOT change God’s intentions and His specified order in our domestic roles and responsibilities!

C. **Chaste Conduct** - Holiness, Purity - pure from carnality, modest

1. This purity results from the **observance of God’s Law** – A woman is to live her every day life as God would have it to be lived!

D. **Respectful** — Respects God by respecting His Word

1. Respectful to all who are in a **God appointed position** over them
 - a. as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

E. **Gentle** — Meekness, “submitting to the yoke” -

1. **True strength of character** - that disposition of spirit in which we accept His dealings with us as good.
2. The **opposite** to self-assertiveness and self-interest.
3. It stems from **trust in God’s** goodness and control over the situation.

F. **Quiet Spirit** - Quiet - Tranquility in disposition. –

1. Not “SELF Assertive” or a “busy body” – Causes no disturbance to others -

IV. **The Motivation of The Godly Woman**

- A. A woman will find her greatest satisfaction and meaning in life, not in seeking the male role, but in fulfilling God’s design for her as wife and mother with all “faith, love, and holiness with propriety” (i.e., self-restraint; cf. **1 Tim. 2:9**).—Bible Knowledge Commentary
- B. **1 Timothy 2:15** (NKJV) — Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.
 1. Not a requirement to “bear children” in order to be saved –
 2. Salvation comes by submitting to God’s conditions & roles –
 - a. “The woman shall be saved by keeping simply and faithfully to her allotted sphere as wife and mother.” - Dummelow
 3. If she Continues in faith – the guiding principle in the life of a Christian–
 - a. Love - Active GOOD WILL
 - b. Holiness - Conduct befitting those separated to God –
 - c. with self-control - “sobriety, discreet” - reign over all passions & desires

V. **The Behavior of The Godly Woman** - The Character of The Godly Woman – Jewels of Behavior

- A. **Titus 2:3-5** — the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things 4that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.
- B. **Reverent** in behavior,
 1. **Thayer**: - ieroprophy hieroprepes hee-er-op-rep-ace’ (AV-as becometh holiness)
 - a. 1) befitting men, places, actions or sacred things to God
 - b. 2) reverent not slanderers,
 - (1) a. Professing by their behavior to Whom they belong
- C. **Not Slanderers**
 1. **Thayer** – False accuser – diabolov diabolos dee-ab’-ol-os
 - a. 1) prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely
 - (1) 1a) a calumniator, false accuser, slanderer,
 2. **Before you repeat** something about someone else, ask yourself four questions –
 - a. Is it true? (**Eph. 4:25** “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,”))
 - b. Will it do any good to tell it? (**Eph. 4:29** 29Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.)
 - c. Will it help everyone involved?
 - d. Have you spoken to the person you are speaking about concerning the matter?
- D. **Not Given To Much Wine**,
 1. **Thayer** - doulow douloo doo-lo’-o
 - a. 1) to make a slave of, reduce to bondage
 - b. 2) metaph. give myself wholly to one’s needs and service, make myself a bondman to him
 2. **Be careful not** to view the prohibition against enslavement as permission of moderate use –
 - a. Be not slaves of sin – Does that mean that one can sin in moderation?
 - b. The New Testament forbids drunkenness as well as social drinking of alcoholic beverages.
 - (1) **1 Peter 4:3-5** 3For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.
- E. **Teachers Of Good Things**—

1. (That they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,)

F. To Be **Discreet**,

1. Self Control, curbing one's desires and impulses

G. **Chaste**,

1. Pure and undefiled – synonym of “holiness” as found in **1 Tim. 2:15**

H. **Homemakers**,

1. **caring for the house**, working at home

a. the (watch or) keeper of the house

b. keeping at home and taking care of household affairs

2. **a domestic**

a. Not spending their time in gadding abroad, but in looking to the affairs of their own families.

b. Looking after the affairs of her home.

(1) Keeping watch over the household

c. The virtuous Woman, **Proverbs 31:10-31**

(1) Check her activities –

(a) In the field –

(b) In the vineyard –

(c) Making investments –

(d) Fed her family, clothed her family, brought honor and respect to her family

I. **Good**,

1. Women should learn how to be good:

a. Wives

b. Mothers

(1) Examples in Christian duty always doing that which is good in the eyes of God!!

J. **Vrs 5**. Obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

1. A Christian woman should never be found **inappropriately rebelling against her husband**, for it is then that she rebels against the word of God, speaking against with her actions thus causing others also to speak against it.

2. If you as Christian **rebel against the ordinance of God**, how shall an unbeliever be brought to respect it through your actions?

3. A Christian woman who unjustifiably rebels against her husband, - rebels against the word of God,

VI. **Conclusion:**

A. Women are Important in the Growth and Work of the church!!

1. Women MUST Abide Within Their God Appointed Stations!

2. Godly Women Will Focus Upon Spiritual Growth & Inward Beauty!!

B. We Have noted:

1. The Value of The Godly Woman

2. The Disposition of The Godly Woman

3. The Motivation of The Godly Woman

4. The Behavior of The Godly Woman

C. The qualities are really - Basic Qualities of Christianity