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March 4, 2012 10:15 a.m.

"The Church Is Built on Leadership: Males Only - Part 2"

This is part two or continuation of last week's message:

1. God created male and female equally in the image of God.

2. Men and women both have equal value to God, to the church and equal access to all the blessings of salvation.
Galatians 3: 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 Jesus Christ."

3. Jesus revolutionized the view and status of women in His personal ministry (Luke 7: 36-50; 8:2-3; 18:1-8; 21:1-4; John 8: 1-12; 20: 1-18)

In Jesus' day, women were not permitted in the Temple proper, to teach men in the Synagogue, to testify in a court of law, and not permitted to travel around with a Rabbi in an itinerant ministry.

But Jesus permitted women to travel with Him and received support from them. It was a woman that Jesus gave instructions at the tomb to go tell the brethren I'm alive.

4. Jesus' twelve apostles were all men.

To question why Jesus did not have a woman or women as apostles is to question the integrity and courage of Jesus.

5. There is liberty and equality in Christ for women; but liberty does not mean no restrictions.

Freedom to play sports does not mean playing with no boundaries or restrictions.

6. The only limitation seems to be in the area of being an Elder, Pastor, Shepherd, Bishop type of leader.

We saw in the last message that I Timothy 3:11 opens the door for the "women" to serve in the role of a Deacon and that Phoebe was a deaconess (Romans 16:2) This is as long as the Deacons do not carry the role of an Elder; but strictly that of a servant to the church.

7. The limitation to that office (single office) is due to the task of the position.

In the last message on elders, we said the tasks of an elder was to teach and rule.

Look at the restrictions placed on women in I Timothy 2.

Verses 8-9 Paul is speaking of when the church is assembled. Then in verse 12 he restricts the women from teaching and ruling over men.

Interesting... those are the two task of elders.

8. The limitation to that office is also due to the qualifications.

I Timothy 3:2 Whatever the interpretation of "husband of one wife" is - that you can't be single, you must be married, you must be married only once in your entire life, you must be married only once unless your wife died, or that you can only be married to one

at a time - the interpretations are certainly debatable. But what is not is that the "bishop is to be husband quality" - thus a male.

And, verses 4-5 "One who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for it a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?)

9. The limitation Paul puts on it goes back to creation, not culture.

Some believe this is like slavery that the church finally realized slavery was wrong and changed; so the church today should realize the issue of male leadership is wrong, outdated and should be discarded. But the issue of male leadership is not a culture issue, it is a creation issue.

I Timothy 2:12-14.

Ephesians 5:23 "For the husband is the head of the wife, as also Christ is the head of the church..."

Men and women have different roles. The man was created to be the head, the woman was created to be the helper.
The man was created to exercise loving authority over the woman.
The woman was to extend glad submission to the man.

But the fall distorted the roles, but did not destroy the roles.

10. All other positions of leadership and service (preaching, teaching, staff, finances, deaconess) are open to women in the church. The adminitation of I Timothy 2:12 is not against all women teaching men under any circumstance. In Ephesus,

(the home church of Priscilla and Aquila - Acts 18:18-19:21)
Priscilla knew Scripture well enough to instruct Apollos.

I do not believe the prohibition is against any woman ever teaching a man and that would also include preaching or teaching.

Besides Easter Sunday morning, two other incidents are clearly in the Gospels: Anna in Luke 2 proclaimed Christ to all and the woman at the well in John 4 proclaimed to all in the city about Christ.

Acts 2:14-17 when the Holy Spirit fell, Peter said, "They are not drunk..this is what was spoken of Joel...that your sons and daughters will prophesy."

Conclusion:

Rise up, O men of God! Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and mind and soul and strength To serve the King of kings.
Rise up, O men of God! His kingdom tarries long;
Bring in the day of brotherhood And end the night of wrong.
Rise up, O men of God! The church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task; Rise up, and make her great!