

Yahweh, the Almighty God of Israel, is with us
"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet,
and shew my people their transgression,
and the house of Jacob their sins." Isaiah 58:1

Vital Biblical Topics

Study Prayerfully & Study Carefully

Women Preachers

1. Introduction

According to the Holy Scriptures women are not allowed to preach sermons or teach in the official gatherings of the church. I quote a few Bible texts to support this increasingly unpopular but, nevertheless, inspired directive.

- 1 Corinthians 14: 34: ***"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.***
35: *And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.*
36: *What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?*
37: *If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.*
38: *But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant."*

Many believers will challenge this stand. It was challenged in Paul's day. The Apostle anticipated a rejection of this teaching.

Verse 36: ***"What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?"***

He then goes on to say that believers who profess to have the Spirit of God should recognise and acknowledge that what he is writing is in fact the **commandment of the Lord!**

Verse 37: ***"If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord."***

Conclusion

Paul's conclusion is that believers who ignore the fact that this is a commandment of God, will remain in ignorance and be ignored themselves. One can hardly imagine a more tragic outcome than to wilfully remain ignorant and be disregarded by the Almighty God.

Verse 38: ***"But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant."***

When writing to Timothy we find the Apostle saying virtually the same thing.

- 1 Timothy 2: 11: ***"Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.***
12: ***But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be***

in silence.”

13: For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

14: And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

2 Timothy 2: 2: *“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful MEN, who shall be able to teach others also.”*

Old & New Testament Examples

No one will doubt but that **only men officiated as priests** in the Temple services ordained of Almighty God. Had Yeshua the Messiah intended the New Testament church to function differently he would have made that fact known by appointing at least a few women **apostles**. But he didn't. He chose **twelve men** who, later, when selecting **seven deacons also chose men instead of women** for those duties. These facts have a message for the church today. **Heed it.**

2. Are Women Inferior?

This does not mean that women are inferior to men; or that they have no place in the work of Yahweh. The Holy Scriptures provide several examples of women prophets:

- **Miriam** the sister of Moses. (Exodus 15:20)
- **Deborah**. (Judges 4-5)
- **Huldah** the wife of Shallum. (2 Kings 22:14)
- **The four daughters** of Philip the evangelist. (Acts 21:8-9)

These women obviously used the gift of prophecy to benefit the church; and their **prophetic messages** were listened to by all who cared to hear the Word of God spoken through them. But they did not **preach** nor **teach** in the temple or in the official Sabbath assemblies. Their prophetic messages were delivered outside the official church gatherings. That is the point Paul is making in (1 Corinthians 14:34) where he plainly states that **women are not allowed to teach or preach in the churches.**

*“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.”*

Bear in mind that Corinth was a city in Greece where democracy was born. But even there the Greeks had to be taught Yahweh's **levels of authority**, of which our misguided generation is so ignorant. **The fact is: by divine command and innumerable examples in the Scriptures, men are given more authority than women inside the Temple services and church assemblies.** Men will also be held more responsible for the errors they make inside the churches. The 'church' incidentally is not a man-made building. The 'church' is the congregation that meets in a building, be it of bricks and mortar or wood.

This does not mean that men are more intelligent or able than women. They are not. We all know some folks in authority, men or women, are not always more able than those under them. Nor does it mean that women are more able than men. That also is not the case.

What it does mean is that **Yahweh has given the men in His church the authority and task of preaching and teaching His Word. He has not given this authority to women, however qualified they may consider themselves to be.**

I repeat: **it is a matter of divine authority; not personal preference, sincerity, enthusiasm, democratic expediency, intelligence or ability. It is a matter of divine authority!**

Consequently the Holy Spirit will work more effectively through His authorised channels (the men) than through even the most dedicated or educated of women. Also bear in mind that we are here dealing with **Yahweh's commandments**, not with the fickle fashions of a wayward and deceived generation.

What then may dedicated and able women do in church matters? There are many things dedicated women may do in the Almighty's work. I will now list areas how the women in the **A Voice In The Wilderness - Canada** are active in Yahweh's work.

3. Young Unmarried Women

- Help in Church offices (Filing / Word-processing / Database & e-mail management)
- Help teach the very young children
- Providing musical accompaniment at Sabbath and social meetings. (Piano, guitar, violin, banjo, mandolin, flute and trumpet etc.)
- Doing special items (choir items, testimonies, poems etc.)
- Help at Feasts: laying tables, flower arrangements etc.
- Help their mothers in their own homes.

4. Married Women

- Teaching the young children on the Sabbath
- Teaching younger women how to bring up their families
- Providing music in church services (choir, keyboard, piano, violin etc.)
- **Senior secretarial work** in the office.
Reading incoming mail and despatching literature: setting aside letters for personal answers. These letters are answered by the elders (men).
- Organising the catering arrangements at all the Feasts.
- Keeping Church Accounts.
- Voluntary Welfare Work / Dorcas / Community Care / Helping the aged, the young, the lonely, widows, orphans, the sick. Our women are also on school boards and administrate on various local, community committees.

Women may rise to great heights in the **social** or **political** field. Remember, one of Britain's greatest Prime Ministers (Margaret Thatcher) was a woman! But we must repeat: **Women are not allowed to preach or teach in the gatherings of the church when adult males are present.** That is Yahweh's law. Church leaders ignore this divine directive at their peril.

AMEN!

In the Son's Name - For the Father's glory.

Elder: *Max W. Mader*

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