

A Discussion on the Role of a Woman in the Church Today

To begin our discussion on this subject, let's turn our Bibles to I Corinthians 14:34. *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 sayeth the law.* Before we start our discussion on this subject, we need to say that there are many, many churches in the world that do not believe these verses are in effect today and that these verses are nothing more than Paul's opinion. Some people even believe that Paul was a woman-hater and that was the reason he never did marry. So this makes these verses of the utmost importance.

In the previous verses, Paul has been discussing the gifts of tongues and prophesies in the assemblies of the church. He has made it very plain to whom he was directing his teaching. In verse 27, he says, if any "man", in verse 28 he uses "him" and "himself" three times, and then he says, *28Let the women keep silent in the churches.* Paul leaves no doubt where the women are not to speak and not to even ask a question. It is when the whole church comes together for the purpose of worshipping God, verses 23 and 26. Also notice verses 4, 5, 12, 19, 28, 34, and 35.

To the ones who believe that these words are nothing other than Paul's opinion, please notice that Paul wants us all to know that his thinking has absolutely nothing to do with this bold statement. It has all to do with what has already been said many years ago. He said *34...for it is not permitted unto them to speak.* Question: What does Paul mean by using this word "permitted"? This has nothing to do with my words. It has everything to do with the words of God that were set in order from the very beginning. To prove this is true, Paul then says, *34...as also saith the law.*

Now let's go to the beginning of the creation of man and read about these words of God which Paul is referring to here when he says, "*also sayeth the law.*" In Genesis the third chapter, we read about the fall of mankind and why Adam and Eve were driven from the presence of God. Please pay close attention to what these next few verses say, because they are going to set some things in order that are going to last until the end of time. In verse sixteen, God said to the woman, *16I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.* *17And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat*

of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; ¹⁸Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; ¹⁹In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Let's turn our Bibles to I Timothy 2:11 where we can read some more about the order that God set up in the beginning and why. Here in this verse we read ¹¹Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. ¹²But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. ¹³For Adam was first formed, then Eve. ¹⁴And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. ¹⁵Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Before we start commenting on these verses, we must read a few verses in I Corinthians the eleventh chapter on the subject of order. In I Corinthians 11:3 we read, ³But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. Verses 8 and 9 read ⁸For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. ⁹Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. Verse 12 says, ¹²For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.

Let's not forget that all of these words that we have read are the order of things that God has set in motion and they will last until the end of time. These are not the opinions of men. They are laws of God.

Now let's go back and continue our discussions on these verses that we have just read. In I Corinthians 14:34 where Paul says "even as also saith the law," this is the original authority that Paul goes back to in order to show that the woman "DOES NOT" have the approval from God to speak when the church assembles together to worship God.

We may say to ourselves, "But God, why have you done this?" Paul gives us the answer in I Timothy 2:13-14 when he says, ¹³For Adam was first formed, then Eve. ¹⁴And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. What Paul is really saying here is that Eve has manifested to the world that women do not have the proper qualities to lead in the decision-making that is right for the betterment of the church and also for the betterment of the home. God has given these leadership qualities to the men only. But we need to

quickly say that God has given certain qualities to the women that he did not give to the men, and that is in motherhood. I believe that these verses we have already read show very clearly that when a woman does things that show, she is not willing to be in subjection to man and that she is in direct violation of the laws of God. There are many times the women can speak in public places, but not in the assembly of the church. Paul has the word of God to prove what he has to say about this subject is absolute truth.

Here is something that every one of us must give some serious thought to. According to the verses that we have already read, when a woman starts doing the things in the public assembly that God has assigned to the man such as preaching, teaching, leading songs, leading prayer, and doing any kind of speaking, is she pleasing God? Absolutely not.

We read in I Corinthians 14:37 where Paul says ^{37b}*the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.* We read in I John 2:4, ⁴*He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.* Then why do some women love to take on the leadership role in the public assembly? Jesus gives us the answer in John 8:43, ⁴³*Why do ye not understand my speech? Because ye cannot hear my word.* Question: What does Jesus mean by this verse? He means when we read or hear His words, it never gets into the heart. It just goes into one ear and out of the other. They have chosen not to let the commandment of God into their hearts. So as long as the commandments of God do not get into the heart, they feel no guilt when they break God's commands.

Question: Do they have any scriptures that they can go to for their authority in breaking these laws of God? Their favorite verses are found in Galatians 3:26-28, ²⁶*For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.* ²⁷*For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.* ²⁸*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.*

Many people today believe Paul is teaching that there is now no restriction placed on the women in the public assembly because it says there is neither male nor female for we are all one in Christ Jesus. This sounds good to the ears of some people. Now let's notice the side effects of this doctrine:

1. This doctrine is totally from man.
2. This is the same Paul that wrote I Corinthians 14:34 where he says, ³⁴*Let your women keep silence in the churches, for it is not permitted unto them to speak.*
3. This would make Paul a liar.
4. If Paul lied about this subject, how could we believe anything else that he says?

5. It would also make God a liar, because in II Timothy 3:16-17 it says, ¹⁶*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:* ¹⁷*That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*
6. This would mean that harmonizing the scriptures would have no value at all.
7. It would also mean that the order that God sets forth in Genesis the third chapter which was given to last until the end of time did not last until the end of time.

Something else that I would like to add about their understanding of Galatians 3:26-28 is that they believe that this sets the woman free from what I Corinthians 14:34 says. Yet these same verses teach that in water baptism we are baptized into Jesus Christ. All these women who I have heard preach on the TV do not believe that water baptism puts the believer in Christ. They teach that the moment that we believe and ask Jesus to come into our life that we are then in Christ Jesus and water baptism has nothing to do with our salvation. This sounds just a little bit strange to me. This is a good example of showing how some people take what they want from a verse and then just completely ignore another part of the same verse that does not support their doctrine. So what is the meaning that we are to get from Galatians 3:26-28? That in baptism all of the Galatians are alike in that they are clothed with the garment of Christ's righteousness. This means that male and female all become one in their union with Jesus Christ. In Romans 2:11, Paul says ¹¹*For there is no respect of persons with God.* The same Paul then writes here in these verses we are discussing that all people can become the children of God by believing in Jesus Christ and by being baptized into Christ. My challenge to every one of us is to read these verses very carefully and see if we can find in any of Paul's words where he even hints that Christianity is going to change the order of man and woman's role in the church. If we are not a lover of the truth, then we will be searching for portions of scriptures that we can take out of the context in which they were written that we believe will lend support to our own doctrines. Please notice that just because we are able to do this does not make it the truth. All that we will have done is deceive the ones who will not study to find out for themselves what truth is.

Now let's continue our discussion in I Corinthians 14:35 where Paul says, 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.* This has caused many women to become upset with Paul. I have even had men say to me that Paul was a woman-hater and was nothing but a politician. I would not want to stand before God on judgment day having said this about the great apostle Paul whom the Lord Jesus himself had chosen. We need to read Galatians 2:11-12 where Paul says, ¹¹*But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.* ¹²*For I*

neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. We must understand that when we make these kinds of derogatory remarks about Paul's teachings, we are also placing the same remarks upon Jesus our Lord, because Paul says that Jesus taught him every word that he knew concerning the laws of God. Question: Can we not see the danger that we are putting our souls in when we fail to place the importance on the truth of God's word that Paul places upon it.

Now let's open up our Bibles to Romans 14:10-12 and read it for ourselves. ¹⁰*But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? (We must pay close attention to the following words.) for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. ¹¹For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. ¹²So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.* Can we hear what this verse is saying? It is saying to those who have set their brother at nought, don't we all know that Paul is our brother in Christ and those who have misjudged Paul, this verse says, that those who are guilty of this will answer to God for it. Question: Are we still listening, or have we already turned God's words from our minds? Please listen to these words. If any one of us is guilty of doing this wrong, as long as we have our right mind, it is not too late to repent and ask God to forgive us. We must all love one another's soul enough to warn each other when we feel it is necessary. Remember now, that you also have this same responsibility to warn me as I do to warn you.

Before we move on to another verse, there is something else that we need to say a word or two about, and that is the part of this verse that says, "Let them ask their husbands at home." Here is a question that is asked many times, "What if my husband is not a Christian?" or "What if I do not have a husband, who am I then to ask?" These are good questions. One thing that we must understand concerning this verse is that they cannot ask a question during the time the whole church comes together to worship God. But when the woman gets home, she can ask as many questions as she wants to. Paul does not see any need to make any more comments about this verse. I see no problem with a woman who does not have a Christian husband or does not have a husband at all that when she is not in the assembly of the church she is permitted by God to ask an elder, her brother, her father, or anyone else that she chooses, just as long as she is not in the assembly of the church.

We have already read I Timothy 2:8-15. Let's spend a little more time discussing these verses. We need to read verse seven where Paul gives us the

proof of his authority to speak on this subject of the role of the man and the woman in the assembly of the church. He begins by saying, *7Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not; a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity. 8I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.* Let's not forget who Paul says that he was. He said, "I am an ordained preacher and I am an apostle." Paul knew that what he was going to say about the woman's role in the church just might stir up some opposition among the women, and I believe what Paul is saying is, "Now before you get too unhappy with me, you just remember that I am an apostle of Jesus Christ which means I am speaking by the inspiration of God."

The first thing that he wants Timothy to teach to the church is about who is going to do the praying in the assembly. He tells us in verse eight, *8I will therefore that men pray every where.* Question: What is so difficult about this verse that makes it so hard to understand who is to do the praying in the church? There is no way that Paul can take the English language and make it any plainer. He spells out his answer. It is spelled MEN. How can some people look at this word and then pronounce it women? We need to pray to God every day and ask Him to help us to be a lover of the truth. We do not have the right to argue with the Apostle Paul because that is the same thing as arguing with God.

If our heart's desire is to know the words of God, then we will have no problem in understanding it. The problem comes when we want it to say what we want to hear. Please pause for just a moment and let this statement get into our hearts and see if we don't all agree that this is why we have all of this misunderstanding of the words of God. It is not that the word of God is written in such a way that it can have all kinds of meanings; the problem is a heart problem.

The men only, and no women, are to do the praying in the public worship of the congregation. What does Paul mean when he says "in every place?" He means in every city, every town where there is a congregation where a public worship service is taking place. Please notice "in every place" has no reference to private worship. Question: How do we know that this is a true statement? Because there is no contradiction in the Bible. If a woman were allowed to pray in the public assembly, she would be speaking; that means she would not be in silence and would be breaking one of God's commands in I Corinthians 14:34-37.

In I Timothy 2:8, we have been discussing where Paul says, *8I will therefore that men pray every where.* In the next verse, Paul is still talking about in the public worship service when the whole church comes together. He begins this

verse by saying, *οIn like manner also, that women.* To get the true meaning of this phrase, we must be a truth seeker or we could reach the same conclusion that many others have reached whose desire is for the woman to have the same role in the worship assembly as the men have. So they teach “in like manner” means that the woman also must lift up holy hands when they pray in the assembly.

Now, let’s just use our common sense to help us get the true meaning of this subject. If we can use this phrase, “in like manner” to mean the women also are to pray, lifting up holy hands, when why wouldn’t it be proper to use the same kind of reasoning when Paul tells the women to *ο...adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; (now notice) which becometh women professing godliness with good works.* When we do this, we are not being consistent in our analogy. Question: Please, someone help me to understand, if in verse eight when Paul says “men” that it also means women, and in verse nine when Paul uses the word “women” why wouldn’t that mean the men also? Surely, we do not need for someone to answer that for us, do we? But just in case someone needs some help, the answer is men do not have the desire to take on this role of the women in the public assembly.

Please listen carefully to this statement. By far, the worst condition that we can find ourselves in is to have a heart of deception. There is no way that I can overemphasize this truth. For example, the word “man” in the Bible has more than one meaning. One meaning is mankind which means male or female. Another meaning is male only. Question: How can we know for sure which is the true meaning of this word “men” when it is used in a verse of scripture? There are two sure ways to find out: 1. Pay close attention to the context in which a word is used. 2. Look the word up in a Greek concordance word study. Now let’s use these two solutions and find our answer.

Question: What is the context in this scripture I Timothy 2:8 where we find the word “men”? The context is that the men do the praying everywhere that the church comes together to worship God. Now really, how could Paul have made it any plainer than that? Now, let’s look at the Greek word study. Here is every word that it has to say on the word “men” in this verse: a man, an individual male, a fellow, a husband, a sir. Would someone who has an open mind tell me what we should learn from these two meanings? Fact, there is no way that a person can misunderstand the Greek meaning of this word unless he or she has a heart of deception. We read in II Thessalonians 2:10-12 that if we do not have a love for the truth that we might be saved, God shall send a strong delusion upon us that we

should believe a lie and be damned. Question: Do we believe these verses? If we have a heart of deception, we won't. Maybe this would be the proper time to ask this question: What is a heart of deception? It is a heart that does not seek truth above everything else. A deceptive heart is a soul-killer, because it will not let the truth into the heart.

In John 4:23, Jesus says, ²³*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.* And we can also read in Hebrews 10:22 where it says, ²²*Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.* The apostle Peter has some encouraging words for us in II Peter 1:10, ¹⁰*Wherefore brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.*

Let's now continue our study in I Timothy 2:11 where it reads, ¹¹*Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.* Women are to learn in the worship assembly by being quiet. This means that she is learning by listening to what is being taught by the men. Verse 12 says, ¹²*But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.* It is a fact that a woman cannot lead the congregation in a public prayer (verse eight). It is a fact we have learned that a woman cannot teach in the public assembly. It is not permitted because the law does not permit it, I Corinthians 14:34. I Timothy 2:13 tells us why the law does not permit it. ¹³*For Adam was first formed, then Eve.* ¹⁴*And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.* These facts are in effect until the end of time. Even when Christ and the gospel came, it did not change the law concerning the role of the woman in her relationship to the man. These facts bar the woman from any position in the church by which she would become the head.

Let's say a few words about the order of the creation. Adam was created as the first. He was created some time before Eve was. This should certainly reveal God's intentions that Eve was not to ever rule over or to supervise the man. God could have created them at the same time, but he did not choose to do that. God had a purpose in mind, even in the creation. He wanted the world to know beyond any shadow of a doubt that he was setting forth some principles that would be effect until the end of time. It is impossible to comprehend the wisdom in which God does things. Amen? Question: How can mankind come up with the idea that he has more wisdom than God? This is the result of a deceptive heart.

We can read a little more about the creation in I Corinthians 11:7-12, *7For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. 8For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. 10For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels. 11Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. 12For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.* Some women have no doubt that they are smarter than their husbands or even other men and that may be so in some areas. But that does not change the order that God set in motion from the beginning of time. Let's never forget what Romans 3:4 says, *4...let God be true, but every man a liar.* Question: Do we really believe and practice this verse? If our answer is yes, we should not have any problem in taking a very simple test to see if our answer of yes is a true answer.

Question: What writer makes this statement: *Let the woman keep silent in the church for it is not permitted unto them to speak?* Answer: The apostle Paul. Question: What writer makes this statement: *For it is a shame for a woman to speak in the church?* Answer: The apostle Paul. Question: What writer makes this statement: *If the woman wants to learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home?* Answer: The apostle Paul. Question: What writer makes this statement? *I will therefore that men pray everywhere?* Answer: The apostle Paul. Question: What writer makes this statement: *I suffer not a woman to teach?* Answer: The apostle Paul. Question: Is this man's writing valid today? Yes, it is. Question: Where did Paul get his authority? From Jesus Christ and Him only. Let's read it in Galatians 1:11-12, *11But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. 12For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

Question: What writer makes this statement: *But though we or an angel from Heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed?* Answer: The apostle Paul. Question: Is the apostle Paul an inspired writer from God? Yes he is. We read in II Timothy 3:16-17, *16All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*

According to the scriptures that we have just read, what does it say will happen to those who teach some things differently than what has been taught? Answer: They will be accursed from God. Let's not take Romans 3:4 too lightly where we

just read, *4...let God be true, but every man a liar.* My prayer is that we all have taken this test with an open mind realizing that we will all stand before God on judgment day and give account unto Him for the deeds that we have done. When we purposely choose to deceive our own selves, we will be the loser. If we miss heaven, we can blame no one but ourselves, because God did not write His word in such a way that it takes a well-educated person to understand it. In Isaiah 35:8, it says that the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. The words (though fools), in the New World Dictionary ,means a person with little or no judgment, or common sense , no wisdom, silly or stupid.

In our discussion we are down to the last verse in I Timothy 2:15. Let's remember what Paul has just finished saying in verse fourteen, *14And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.* These words could cause some to think that women have inherited the sin of Eve. But notice what Paul is very quick to say in verse fifteen, *15Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.* Do not misunderstand what Paul has just said. He is not saying that the woman will be lost eternally. What he is saying is this, that the woman shall be saved in childbearing. I believe what Paul is saying here in the summation of his remarks concerning the woman's role in the church is that God has not appointed to woman any part of a leadership role when the whole church comes together to worship God. God has appointed that responsibility to the man only. But He has appointed the woman a role in life that is just as important as the role that He has appointed to the man.

The woman shall be saved in childbearing if she continues in faith and love and holiness with sobriety. In other words, Paul is saying woman cannot be saved eternally by just bearing children only. She must continue to live a Godly life until death. I believe also that Paul is saying here that woman cannot live a godly life by taking over the man's role in the worship assembly. That is not a godly thing to do. Eve tried to take over the leadership of Adam, and it did not work. God condemned her for it. Question: How long are the men to carry out their role in the church and how long are the women to carry out their role in life? We can read it straight from the mouth of Jesus in Revelation 2:10, *10b...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.* This will be the reward for men and women for living the role that God has assigned them to do in their lifetime.

God gave the woman one of the greatest roles in life that could ever be bestowed on anyone, and that is the role of motherhood. Paul leaves no doubt about her eternal salvation as long as she remains faithful in her calling. There is one very important lesson that we must learn from God's word on this subject and that is no one is saved by their teaching or preaching or their song leading or by leading the congregation in public prayer in and of itself. All people are saved by their learning and their obedience to what they have learned and then to remain faithful to their role in which God has ordained them to live by.

Childbearing includes a multitude of rewarding things to do, like the rearing of their children in such a way that they will grow and mature in a Christ-like manner. There is no greater reward in this life for the Godly woman than to watch the children that she has given birth to as they grow and mature in Christ. If we don't believe this, just ask her and then watch her countenance as it glows while she is telling good things about them.

I would like to say a word to the women who still feel some of the hurt and shame about the sin of Eve in the Garden of Eden. There is a day coming in the near future for the faithful woman when all of the hurt and shame will be forever removed from their heart. Praise the Lord. Revelation 21:4 says, *4And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.* We can also read in Matthew 22:30, *30For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.* That means we will all be as one in our final eternal resting place with God. Now isn't that worth patiently waiting. My prayer for all the women who are faithfully fulfilling their role of motherhood that God has given to you, I would like to say to each you, thank you, and may God richly bless your life.

Now back to our discussion. Remember what we read in I Timothy 2:12 where Paul says, *12aI suffer not a woman to teach.* Then in Titus 2:4, the same Paul says that the aged women should teach the younger women. Just the wording alone in these two verses sounds like a contradiction. Now let's add another verse to this problem and that is Acts 21:8-9 where we read that Philip the evangelist has four virgin daughters who did prophecy. So here we have an example of four women to whom God has given the miraculous spiritual gift of prophecy. The meaning of prophecy is to teach religious subjects. Question: How are we going to harmonize these verses? It is very easy when we take these scriptures in the context in which they are written. For example, in I Corinthians 14:34 where Paul says, *34aLet your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak.*

Question: What is the context in which Paul makes this statement? Answer: When the church comes together for the purpose of worshipping God. In Titus 2:4, the same writer says the aged women should teach the younger women. How do we harmonize that with I Corinthians 14:34? There is only one way that can be done, and that is the aged women can teach the younger women anywhere they choose, but they cannot teach them in a worship assembly. Now what about the four daughters of Philip who were given the gift of prophecy? They could prophesy anytime that it was necessary, but not in the public assembly when the church came together to worship God. There is not anything hard about that just as long as we remember this one thing: we do not have the truth on any given subject unless it harmonizes with all other scriptures on that subject.

God told the men to go to all the world and preach the gospel and baptize the obedient believers and then to teach them to observe all things that Jesus commanded them to do. Please, all of you Christian wives and mothers take notice, this command was given to the Christian men to perform. It was not a command given to the Christian wives and mothers to perform.

Question: What then was the command that was given to the Christian woman? We read in I Timothy 5:14 where the apostle Paul says, *¹⁴I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.* Now let's read Titus 2:3-5, *³The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; ⁴That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.* This woman was called a virtuous woman in Proverbs 31:10, and in verse twelve is says, *¹²She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.* Then verse 28 says, *²⁸Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.*

So in closing, I would like to say to all Christian wives and mothers, do not try to do your role in life plus the man's role also. Remember this, if the men fail to do what God assigned them to do, they will answer to God for it, not you. Besides that, you will not have the time because you will be too busy doing what God has assigned to you. Just think about how far-reaching your efforts are in the lives of your children and your children's children, and on and on it goes. Christian wives and mothers, do not ever let anything close your eyes to your role in motherhood. You are priceless to the future growth of the church.

In Christian love,

Herb Trout

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