

**The Divine Role  
of the Sexes.  
Authority and Submission  
Lesson 1 Slide 1**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

There are many books written both for and against the idea of **different roles for men and women** But only **one book** is important:- **The Bible.**

This is a vast subject and so there are quite a few slides in this study as we try to cover many of the questions involved.

Please be patient as you work through them and hopefully you will find the answers you are looking for.

We cannot guarantee to satisfy you in every aspect but will deal with the subject in enough depth to be helpful as you continue to study.

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**We will try to cover the subject  
in a progressive manner.**

**We will look at some of the ways women were  
treated in the past, to give a wider perspective.**

**We will spend some time with  
how Jesus valued the women of His day.**

**We will spend some time with the Biblical  
ideas of Authority and Submission as it affects  
both men and women in their service to God.**

**Finally we will look at what the scriptures show us  
of the different roles in the Worship of God and  
how God can use us in His service.**



**There is a Divine role of the sexes.  
To deny this order is to deny the Bible.**

**To deny the Bible is to plunge into the sea of human experience without direction or purpose or standard.**

**Many people do not like the idea of responsibility, accountability and the concept of an ultimate truth.**

**They want to feel free to do their own thing, in their own way, free from constraint and in tune with modern thinking.**

# The Divine Role of the Sexes.



**In the swim with modern thinking / current / hip?**

## **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**Many people have no more use for the Bible as the rule of faith and practice than a pig has for trousers.**



**Many Christians think the Bible is a dead letter**

**They think it is irrelevant, old fashioned, impractical, outdated and only really has value as a door stop.**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**But Jesus said** “The person who rejects me and does not accept my words has something to condemn him - the very message which I spoke. That message will condemn him on the last day.”

**John 12:48;**

**“Teach them to obey everything I commanded you. Remember, I will always be with you even until the end of time!”**

**Matt 28:20;**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**What a shock the day of judgement will be when they stand before God to defend their arrogant setting aside of His Holy Word as impractical and out of date!**



# **The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission as a consequence of sin.**

**Where and How did it begin?**

**When we turn to Genesis chapter 3.**

**The woman talks to the serpent, the serpent deceives her into eating the forbidden fruit.**

**She gives the fruit also to her husband who was there with her, and along comes God, walking in the garden and looking for them.**

**Because they have both eaten the fruit despite God's warning not to eat it, and because they know they placed their own wills before God's will when they ate the fruit, they hide from God initially**

**The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission  
as a consequence of sin.**

**Gen 3:12; The man blames God  
for putting the woman with him in the garden,  
then blames the woman.**

**Adam knew of God's prohibition  
and was there when  
the woman and the serpent talked.  
And he took the fruit when she offered it.**

**The man takes  
no responsibility for his actions.**

# **The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission as a consequence of sin.**

**Because the man did not take responsibility  
for his own decisions, God makes him  
responsible for both himself and his wife.**

**To the man He promises** painful toil to get food,  
rather than just picking fruit from the trees of Eden  
which God had made freely available to them both.

**BECAUSE HE LISTENED TO HIS WIFE – because  
he did not retain responsibility for his own decisions**

**The effect is to compromise the free will of man:  
physically, practically and spiritually.**

# The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission as a consequence of sin.

Gen 3:13; **The woman blames the serpent.**

She knew of God's prohibition but she allowed herself to be deceived by the serpent.

To the woman God gives **pain** in childbirth, a **desire** for her husband and **places her husband in authority** over her.

The **implication** here is that **all three** will bring her **trouble** and problems, to **replace the peaceful satisfied life** she had so far experienced.

The effect it to **compromise** the free will of the woman: **physically, practically and spiritually.**

# The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission as a consequence of sin.

**BECAUSE SHE ALLOWED**  
the serpent to **influence** her,  
God puts **man's influence** over her.

**The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission  
as a consequence of sin.**

**God curses the serpent:  
to crawl, eat dust, have enmity  
with woman and her offspring,  
with a promise of a future defeat by Christ.**

**Gen 3:14-19;**

**The effect is to compromise  
the free will of the serpent:  
physically, practically.**

# **The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission as a consequence of sin.**

**Why is this passage important  
to the concept of submission?**

**However you choose to interpret  
this passage, it is clear that**

**both of them chose to disregard God's will.**

**God's punishments have the effect  
of placing conditions on both humans  
in the exercising of their own wills.**

**The concepts of Authority and Submission**  
As we know, Adam and Eve were banished from Eden after the fall and had to provide for themselves by the sweat of their own brows.

Over the next few thousand years,  
**we see men picking and choosing**  
how they apply their authorities and responsibilities  
**to elevate themselves and subjugating women.**

Which worsens over time **until they are regarded**  
**as second class citizens,** without standing  
in the eyes of the law, and generally dependent.

**The concepts of Authority and Submission**  
**Because** the woman allowed another to influence her, God makes that a permanent condition of her life – **she now has to allow another to influence her.**

**Because** the man failed to exercise his own will, and then **denied responsibility for his action,** he is **given the responsibility** for ruling her – **being responsible for her in addition for himself.**

**He must consider her in his decisions,**  
**and she must accept his decisions.**

**He is placed in authority over her and she is placed in submission to him and both are placed in submission to God who is the ultimate authority.**

# **The concepts of Authority and Submission**

**The divine roles of the sexes  
have been defined by God  
as shown in Genesis.**

**As we look back in history  
we can see how these concepts  
have played out over time  
to bring us to where we are today.**

## **An Historical View.**

A great deal of study in the second half of the last century **has been devoted to the roles, attitudes, and status of men and women throughout time.**

One of the difficulties in studying history is the **tendency to look at the past from the perspective of the present and to imagine that people lived under conditions similar to our own.**

**Political figures and religious teachers have been consistent contributors in defining roles and identities over time.**

## **An Historical View: Greece**

In ancient Greece, **Demosthenes, the famous orator and politician of Athens** (384 BC–322 BC) said, "We keep prostitutes for pleasure, we keep mistresses for the day-to-day needs of the body."

**A similar philosophy** to that still survives in **many countries** today, especially amongst the elite.

It is believed that the **philosopher Aristotle's** discussion of **the nature of women** was intended to justify the status quo perception of his day.

## **An Historical View: Greece**

**He stated quite bluntly that women were inferior to men: “The male is by nature superior, the female inferior; and the one rules, the other is ruled.”**

**In the Greek medical system and the texts of the Hippocratic Corpus it has been observed that slaves and women were treated in the same manner.**

## **An Historical View: Rome**

**Compared to women in Greece,  
women in Rome were emancipated.**

**They did not need to go veiled, they were not entirely isolated from their husband's company, they could go out of the house to shop, to visit the baths, to pay social calls, and to attend a public function.**

**Some women, probably widows, engaged in business, and there were a few women physicians, probably midwives or with practices limited to the treatment other women.**

# An Historical View: Rome

Their status though, was only relative.

**Roman women did not play any particularly important place in the religious life of Rome, nor did they have much of a say about their own home.**

One of the most fundamental institutions in Roman thought was **the familia**. Within the culturally **normative Roman family slaves and wives**, though differing greatly in power and status, are united in that **they were brought into the family from outside and therefore were viewed as outsiders.**

**Women thus were thought of as “intimate strangers.”** While the family was important, **it did not assure a personal identity of belonging and value.**

## **An Historical View: Rome**

**Divorce** was common in the **Roman world**.

Women could not take any legal punitive action against her husband, **but a husband could against such a wife.**

In the days of Christ it was not uncommon to find **houses of prostitution** next to **temples of worship.**

**Men would enter one door to worship with their spirits,**  
**another door to satisfy their lusts.**

# **An Historical View of Women**

## **The Graeco-Roman period**

**(300 years prior to the New Testament)  
was time of flux and change.**

**It is a difficult task to simplify culture norms  
and the status of women.**

**What is evident is that the ancient Greeks  
and Romans relied on the polarities  
of male/female and free/slave in order  
to understand themselves  
and to organize their societies.**

# **The Historical View of Women: Judaism**

**Judaism** of the first century communicated a mixed message about women as well.

**Judaism** claimed to follow the “**the Law**” the “**Torah**” the **Rabbi’s added** many things which in their minds became a part of, or more important than, the law.

**Josephus writes:-**

“The woman, says the Law, is in all things inferior to the man.”

Women are categorized in the repeated rabbinical formula, “**women, slaves and minors.**”

**Demonstrating that a women, like a Gentile slave and a minor child, was under the authority of a man and had limited participation in religious activity.**

# The Historical View of Women: Judaism

According to most rabbinic customs of Jesus' time  
**women were not allowed to study the Torah.**

**Eliezer, a first-century rabbi, stated: "Rather should the words of the Torah be burned than entrusted to a woman.**

**Whoever teaches his daughter the Torah is like one who teaches her lasciviousness.**

**The Talmud, which is a commentary on the Mishnah, states, "Let a curse come upon the man who (must needs have) his wife or children say grace for him."**

**There was a three-fold thanksgiving in the daily prayers of Jews: "Praised be God that he has not created me a gentile; praised be God that he has not created me a woman; praised be God that he has not created me an ignorant man."**

# **The Historical View of Women: Judaism**

A woman was considered property:-

First of her father, then of her husband,  
and then of her son if she was widowed.

**Back then, a woman's opinion didn't matter.**

**The majority** of Jewish society thought she didn't matter. Truth be told, a woman had little hope of survival apart from a man, as she had no way to make a living for herself.

**Women** found themselves near the bottom of the social ladder.

**"Jewish women received no education,**  
and were married as soon as they became fertile,  
usually around the age of 12 or 13.

# **The Historical View of Women: Judaism**

## **Respectable Jewish women**

were kept confined at home, hidden from view.  
She spoke with no man outside of her family.

**She had no honourable status** except when she married and bore a male child.

Unless this happened, she was without honour even in her own family.

In public, **a woman was forbidden to speak to any man, and a man was forbidden to speak with any woman,** even to acknowledge his wife.

**Travelling by women,** except for such conventional purposes as visiting family and attending certain religious feasts, **was considered deviant behaviour,** usually with sexually illicit overtones.

# **The Historical View of Women: Judaism**

**The place of women in the first-century Roman world and in Judaism has been well documented and set forth in several recent books.**

**Most frequently, women were regarded as second-class citizens**

**God never authorized or approved behaviour that depersonalized women.**

# **Modern Criticism of Scripture**

**Many women today attack Christianity  
And Christians because they feel that women  
are portrayed as second class citizens.**

**They feel that they are not allowed to fulfill  
certain roles that they would deem important,  
such as preaching from a pulpit etc.**

**Both Jesus and more especially Paul  
have been castigated as women haters  
and therefore against the advancement of women  
in any way, shape or form.**

# Modern Criticism of Scripture

Many women today who castigate Christianity as **male dominated and keeping women under subjection** then go on to **do themselves** what they are arguing against.

Paul says in **Romans 12:3**; "For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have **sound judgment**, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith."

**The word "sound judgment" means to have true, not false standards.**

# **The Historical Value put on Women.**

There are **many false standards** or foundations that **contribute to one's identity.**

**Such things as:-** what others say, personal accomplishments, possessions, who one knows, and personal appearance.

**Self perceptions** are often **based on the reactions of others.** Writing to women, one author says:-

**"When we contrast** our appearance, our accomplishments, our friends or our possessions to others **we are making a comparison based in large part on fantasy."**

## **The Historical Value put on Women.**

**“We have never walked in the shoes of those women to whom we compare ourselves so we fantasize what it would be like.”**

**“When we do this we compare our worst, of which we are most aware, to their best. And we're really comparing ourselves to a fantasy.”**

**“Perhaps this is one of the reasons why soap operas and romance novels are so popular today.”**

**“We are basically dissatisfied with our existence so we vicariously live our lives through other people.”**

# **The Historical Value put on Women.**

**When we believe we are only worthwhile if we are beautiful, if we use the right products, if we know the right people, if we are successful or if we are financially comfortable,**

**we are building our self-image on faulty foundations.**

Subtly we find ourselves looking to other **"significant"** people to define for us what it means to be beautiful, what are the right products to use, who are the right people to associate with, and what it takes to be financially comfortable.

**When we swallow these faddish opinions, society loves us because we fit its mould. But what happens when the mould changes?**

# **The concepts of Authority and Submission**

**It has been observed that there are three foundational needs that each one of us has in order for us to be healthy and able to grow as a person and as a Christian also.**

**The FIRST is a need to belong.**

**We all need to know and feel that we are wanted, accepted, cared for and enjoyed for who we are.**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**SECOND** there is the need to feel worthy.

**We all need to be able to say with confidence,  
"I'm a sinner, but I'm saved by God's grace.  
I'm valued and I count."**

**We feel worthy when we know we count, and  
are valued to others and to God. We don't  
need to keep striving in order to feel worthy.**

**God declares us to be of value  
and each individual is a divine original.  
We are the creative expression of a loving God.**

## **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**Third, there is the need to feel competent.**

**We need to know that we can  
do something, give something,  
Contribute and make a difference.**

**The more we understand the truth  
of God's word, both written and Living,  
the closer and stronger our relationship  
with Jesus will grow.**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**Dr. Paul Tournier compares Christian growth to the experience of swinging from a trapeze.**

**As we swing on the trapeze we cling to the bar because it is our security.**

**When another trapeze bar swings into view, we must release our grip on one bar in order to leap to the other. It is a scary process.**

**In the same way, God is swinging a new trapeze bar into our view.**

**It is a positive, accurate, new identity based on God's Word. But in order to grasp the new, we must release the old.**

# The concepts of Authority and Submission



**God made man then woman.**

**The concepts of Authority and Submission should not be foreign concepts to the church or to the men and women in the congregation.**

**Any bible reader will be familiar with Genesis chapter 3 and the consequences of the first sin.**

# The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission as a consequence of sin.

Why is this passage so important  
to the concept of Authority and Submission?

However you choose to interpret this passage,  
it is clear that **both of them chose to disregard  
God's will**, and place their own wills above God's.

**God's punishments** have the effect  
of **placing conditions** on the serpent and **both  
humans** in the **exercising of their own wills**.

**The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission  
as a consequence of sin.**

**The man and woman were banished  
from Eden after the fall and had to provide  
for themselves by the sweat of their brows.**

**Over the next few thousand years,  
we see men picking and choosing  
how they apply their authorities and responsibilities.**

**We see men elevate themselves and dominate  
and control women until women are relegated  
to being second class citizens –  
without standing in the eyes of the law, and  
generally dependent on men for safety and shelter.**

# The concepts of Authority and Submission

Submitting our selves to God's authority will involve self sacrifice.

Sacrifice can be defined as the act of giving up one's own will, in service of another's will.

Sacrifice and the redemption it brings is the ultimate concept of the biblical message, right from the first book Genesis through to the last book of Revelation

In Genesis, God performs the first act of sacrifice, when He spills the blood of an innocent animal in order to provide clothes for Adam and Eve.

In Genesis 22 God asks Abraham to sacrifice his young son Isaac.

# **The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission.**

On the evening before the crucifixion scripture tells us that, knowing what He was about to face the next day, **Jesus prayed:-**

**“Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.”**

Upon the institution of Christ’s church, believers are urged to be like Jesus’ which includes putting aside our own will and giving ourselves over to God’s will – **saying:-**

**“Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.”**

# **The Biblical concept of Authority and Submission.**

The **sacrificial spilling of blood** becomes an **act of confession of guilt of sin** throughout the Old Testament, **pointing forward** to the culmination of the **sacrifice [submission] of Christ** on the cross in the New Testament.

**God's sacrifice of His own son,** in order **to remove the barrier of sin** caused by the Fall and **to reconcile mankind to God.**

**In the ultimate act of submission,** Christ submitted His body to death and **merged His own will totally with God's:** **the ultimate act of obedience, the ultimate sacrifice.**

# **The concept of Authority and Submission.**

This call is played out over and over again throughout the **New Testament** in various ways and in varying degrees of detail until we come finally to the **book of Revelation** where in chapter 5;

**John has a vision** of the one on the throne who has a scroll in His right hand which only **a lamb which looks newly slain (Jesus)**, is able to open the seals of, and **thereby fulfil God's plan.**

This leads us to conclude that **the idea of authority and submission** is wrapped up in **the larger idea of obedience and sacrifice.**

**Just as Jesus put God's will before His own when He gave His life on the cross.**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

When we think of **the ministry of Jesus**, we immediately recall the **“big” moments**. His baptism. The Sermon on the Mount. His transfiguration. The miracles He performed. And, of course, **His death and resurrection.**

**Jesus' ministry was to people.**  
**His miracles and messages were for individuals who needed a Saviour.**

**When we walk in Jesus' footsteps,**  
**we can't help but notice the devoted,**  
**faith-filled women who followed Him.**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**All were impacted and changed by Him.**

**The centuries between our cultures  
have softened the scenes for us.**

**But to the people of His day,  
Jesus' invitations and responses  
were nothing less than shocking.**

**To us, the picture of Jesus talking with a woman  
doesn't seem so strange.**

**But the culture at the turn of the first century  
put women just a notch above animals.**

## **Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.**

**God revealed that redemptive plan, not to the rebellious who fought for their rights, but to the godly who waited before him in humility and faith.**

**Jesus is God's revelation of Himself.**

**He taught truth, but He also lived it out and by His example we learn tremendous truths about how God views us and how we should view Him and others.**

**The most striking thing about the role of women in the life and teaching of Jesus is the simple fact that they are there.**

**Jesus ministered to women and treated each one as a person.**

# **Jesus Brought A Revolution.**

**God** knew about Israel's plight and **He cared about its hurting women**, just as He does today!

"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons." (Gal. 4:4-5;)

**God, who knew and cared about the individual also, had a worldview.** God so loved the world (men and women, who comprise it) that **He gave His Son to be the spiritual Head of a new humanity.**

**In this new spiritual relationship,** "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,**" (Gal. 3:28;)

# Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.

With great insight Dorothy Sayers said about Jesus:  
“They [women] had never known a man like this Man  
(Jesus) there never has been such another.”

“A prophet and teacher who never nagged at them,  
never flattered or coaxed or patronized,  
who never made arch jokes about them,

Never treated them either as ‘the women,  
God help us’ or ‘the ladies, God bless them!’  
who took their questions and arguments seriously;”

“who never mapped out their sphere for them,  
never urged them to be feminine or jeered at them for being  
female; who had no axe to grind and no uneasy male dignity  
to defend; who took them as he found them  
and was completely unself-conscious.”

# **Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.**

**Both in his teaching and in his activities, Jesus reached out to women as persons who were equally worthy as men in His saving activity.**

**It's interesting to note that whenever Jesus uses the term 'Woman', it is a term of cherished respectfulness – akin to the English word 'Lady'.**

**With the coming of Christ and the gospel, Jesus' intention is to right the wrong of the fall by abolishing the principle of sin,**

**and restoring woman to her original position of equality and power, whilst at the same time, reminding us that we were meant to be different.**

# **Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.**

We see in the gospels that **Jesus treated women with incredible respect.**

A classic passage in this regard is **Jesus' interaction with the Samaritan woman.**

**This is a remarkable exchange,** since Jesus was not only interacting with a Samaritan, a member of a race that was despised by Jews, but also a woman.

**Jesus' conversation with this woman** is probably the one of the **most profound discussion of theology in the gospels.** Women were not encouraged to have interaction with male strangers.

## **Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.**

**Jesus went beyond the cultural ethnic and gender barriers and treated her as a person who was worth His offer of the living water of eternal life.**

**He didn't treat her in reference to what others said about her, her accomplishments or possessions, He didn't deal with her based on her appearance.**

**He establishes through this woman that whoever accepts His offer of living water, that person can receive it.**

**The woman saw the barrier as ethnic, whereas the disciples returned and made an issue of gender. But for Jesus, gender and ethnicity are irrelevant in His offer of salvation.**

## **Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.**

Despite being rather unprecedented for the time, **women played a significant role in the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ.**

**The Gospels portray Jesus** as someone that not only spoke and interacted with women, but also **treated women with compassion, dignity, and respect.**

In the Judean culture of the time, the testimony of women didn't count, **yet it was women that testified of Jesus resurrection.**

**The Jewish religious elite** believed that women in general should not be taught the Torah, yet Jesus taught Mary, the sister of Martha.

# **Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.**

**A woman was considered untouchable (unclean) during menses, yet Jesus showed compassion to the woman with the issue of blood who touched the hem of His garment.**

## **The Gospels portray women as:-**

- 1. Testifying of Jesus.**
- 2. Receiving healing from Jesus.**
- 3. Learning from Jesus.**
- 4. Responding in faith to Jesus.**
- 5. Being used in Jesus metaphors.**
- 6. Financially supporting Jesus ministry.**
- 7. Ministering to Jesus.**

## **Jesus Placed a High Value on Women.**

Men of the time generally did not publicly speak or interact with non-related women, **yet Jesus publicly spoke and witnessed to women, even lowly foreign women.**

Jesus expected a faith response from women just as he did from their male counterparts.

In fact, **a Gentile woman** is one of only two people (both foreigners) recorded that **Jesus described as having great faith.**

**Jesus was truly revolutionary in His treatment of women.**

# Following is an overview of women mentioned in the Gospels.

Name	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
<u>Elizabeth</u> , John the Baptist mother Was barren but <i>"with God nothing shall be impossible"</i> Filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied			<u>1:5-80</u>	
Anna, the Prophetess Testified of the redeemer			<u>2:36-38</u>	
<u>Herodias and Daughter</u> (Salome) Wicked workers that have John the Baptist executed	<u>14:1-12</u>	<u>6:14-29</u>	<u>3:19-20</u>	
<u>Peter's Mother-in-Law</u> Jesus heals her and she arose and ministered unto them	<u>8:14-15</u>	<u>1:29-31</u>	<u>4:38-39</u>	
The Widow of Nain with a dead son She allows Jesus to interrupt the funeral procession Jesus tells her to stop weeping and raises her son from the dead			<u>7:11-16</u>	
The sinful woman that lovingly cleaned Jesus' feet She received compassion, forgiveness, and salvation			<u>7:36-50</u>	
The Samaritan woman at the well Jesus cleverly and compassionately witnessed to her She believed on Jesus and in turn eagerly witnessed to the townspeople				<u>4:3-42</u>
The woman caught in Adultery Pharisees attempt to entrap Jesus Jesus shows tact, compassion, and reflects truth				<u>8:1-11</u>

<u>Female followers</u> who gave financial support and ministered Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna & many others	<u>27:55-56</u>	<u>15:40-41</u>	<u>8:1-3</u> <u>23:49,55</u>	
<u>The Woman With Issue of Blood</u> (Hemorrhaging) <i>"Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well"</i>	<u>9:20-22</u>	<u>5:24-34</u>	<u>8:42-48</u>	
<u>Jairus' Daughter</u> Jesus takes her by the hand and raises her from the dead	<u>9:18-19;</u> <u>23-26</u>	<u>5:22-24;</u> <u>35-43</u>	<u>8:40-42;</u> <u>49-56</u>	
The Woman With a Spirit of Infirmary Jesus heals her and <u>honorably</u> calls her "a daughter of Abraham"			<u>13:10-17</u>	
<u>The poor widow who gave everything</u> (The Widow's Mite) Jesus commends her giving		<u>12:41-44</u>	<u>21:1-4</u>	
<u>The Gentile Woman with great faith</u> She receives healing for her demoniac daughter	<u>15:21-28</u>	<u>7:24-30</u>		
<u>The servant girl who recognizes Peter</u> Peter lies and denies Jesus	<u>26:69-75</u>	<u>14:66-72</u>	<u>22:55-61</u>	<u>18:16-18</u>
<u>Salome</u> , a follower of Jesus The Apostle James' and John's mother and Zebedee's wife	<u>20:20-23</u> <u>27:56</u>	<u>10:35-40</u> <u>15:40</u> <u>16:1</u>		
<u>Mary, wife of Cleophas</u> (Clopas), a follower of Jesus the mother of James the less and of <u>Joses</u> (Joseph) also probably the one called "the other Mary"	<u>27:55-56</u> <u>27:61</u> <u>28:1-10</u>	<u>16:1-8</u>	<u>24:10</u>	<u>19:25</u>
Pilate's wife (Claudia) Dreams about Jesus Pleads with her husband to "have nothing to do with that just Man"	<u>27:19</u>			

# Mary, the mother of Jesus

Description	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Lineage of David			<a href="#">3:23-38</a>	
Angel speaks with her and she responds in faith			<a href="#">1:27-38</a>	
Visits Elizabeth & praises God			<a href="#">1:39-56</a>	
<a href="#">Birth of Jesus</a>	<a href="#">1:18-25</a>		<a href="#">2:1-7</a>	
<a href="#">Welcomes Visitors</a>	<a href="#">2:11</a>		<a href="#">2:16</a>	
Presents baby Jesus at Temple			<a href="#">2:21-40</a>	
Flees to Egypt	<a href="#">2:13-15</a>			
Returns to live in Nazareth	<a href="#">2:19-23</a>			
Looks for twelve year old Jesus at the Temple			<a href="#">2:41-52</a>	
<a href="#">Has more children</a>	<a href="#">13:55-56</a>	<a href="#">6:3</a>		
Jesus turns water to wine at Mary's request				<a href="#">2:1-11</a>
Follows Jesus				<a href="#">2:12</a>
<a href="#">Seeks to speak with Jesus in a crowd</a>	<a href="#">12:46-50</a>	<a href="#">3:31-35</a>	<a href="#">8:19-21</a>	
<a href="#">At the crucifixion</a>	<a href="#">27:55</a>	<a href="#">15:40</a>	<a href="#">23:49</a>	<a href="#">19:25-27</a>
In the upper room ( <a href="#">Acts 1:14</a> )				

# A Mary Magdalene

Description	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
<u>Healed and delivered of seven evil spirits</u>		<u>16:9</u>	<u>8:2</u>	
<u>Ministered to Jesus and provided financial support</u>	<u>27:55-56</u>	<u>15:40-41</u>	<u>8:2-3</u>	
<u>Observer of the crucifixion</u>	<u>27:55-56</u>	<u>15:40-41</u>	<u>23:49</u>	<u>19:25</u>
<u>A witness of Jesus' burial</u>	<u>27:61</u>	<u>15:47</u>	<u>23:55</u>	
<u>Returns to tomb to anoint Jesus' body with spices</u>	<u>28:1</u>	<u>16:1-4</u>	<u>24:1-3</u>	<u>20:1-10</u>
<u>Speaks with the angel of the Lord</u>	<u>28:5-7</u>	<u>16:5-8</u>	<u>24:4-8</u>	<u>20:11-13</u>
<u>First to witness the resurrected Lord</u>	<u>28:9-10</u>	<u>16:9</u>		<u>20:14-17</u>
<u>Testifies of the resurrection to the unbelieving disciples</u>	<u>28:8</u>	<u>16:10-11</u>	<u>24:9-11</u>	<u>20:18</u>

# Sisters Martha and Mary

Description	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Mary leans at Jesus feet while Martha cooks <i>"Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."</i>			<u>10:38-42</u>	
Brother Lazarus raised from dead Martha makes a tremendous statement of faith (Lk: 11:22)				<u>11:1-45</u>
<u>Mary anoints the Lord with expensive ointment</u> <i>"What this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her"</i>	<u>26:6-13</u>	<u>14:3-9</u>		<u>12:1-8</u>

# Women used in the Parables of Jesus

The parable of the lost coin:

**Luke 15:8-10;**

The parable of the widow and the unjust judge:

**Luke 20:1-8;**

The parable of the woman and the leavened meal:

**Luke 13:20-21; and Matthew 13:33;**

The parable of the ten virgins:

**Matthew 25:1-13;**

Women grinding at the mill:

**Matthew 24:41; and Luke 17:35;**

**If we understand what all this means,  
we have to ask why both men and women  
have such a problem with authority and submission.**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

## **Christ Recognized Role Distinctions for Men and Women.**

**Christ not only valued women very highly,  
but also demonstrated a clear role distinction  
between men and women.**

**Nowhere is this issue seen more clearly than in  
Jesus' selection of only men for the role of apostle.**

**Many Biblical feminists question the significance of this  
obvious role distinction, or explain it as cultural or as  
temporary. Siddons's brief comment is that dangers in travel  
and the "male-dominated" social structure of the time  
were reasons for the apostles' being only men.**

# **Christ Recognized Role Distinctions for Men and Women.**

**Jesus was not averse to breaking social customs  
when He felt it necessary.**

**He criticized Pharisees to their face in public.  
(Matthew 23:13-36;)**

**Jesus healed on the sabbath.**

**(Mark 1:21-27; Luke 13:14; John 5:8-10;)**

**cleansed the temple. (John 2:14-17; Matt 21:12-13;)**

## **Against custom:-**

**Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman. (John 4:7-9;)**

**Ate with tax collectors and sinners. (Matthew 9:11;)**

**Even ate with unwashed hands. (Mark 7:1-23;)**

# **Christ Recognized Role Distinctions for Men and Women.**

**The point is that when moral issues were at stake,  
Jesus did not bend to cultural pressure.**

**No, it was not social custom or cultural pressure  
that caused Jesus to appoint  
an all-male group of apostles.**

**Had He so desired, He could easily have appointed  
six men and their wives as apostles,  
since the wives of the apostles frequently  
accompanied them. (1 Corinthians 9:5;)**

**But no such arrangement was initiated.**

# **Role Distinctions for Men and Women.**

**In fact, Jewish culture did accept women into positions of leadership.**

**Just three decades before Herod the Great took over as king, Israel was ruled for years by Queen Alexandra.**

**The fact that an occasional judge. (Deborah, Judges 4-5;), or ruler (Athaliah. 2 Kings 11:3;) was a woman also demonstrates that **female leadership was possible.****

**Even though many women have excellent leadership qualities, God still has clear role distinctions in mind when apostleship and eldership are considered.**

# **Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**We actively choose to do this because we want to, not because we have to.**

**Because we want to show reverence for Christ as the leader of our life. The instruction is to us directly – die to ourselves: then clothe ourselves anew: Colossians chapter 3 shows what this means.**

**Die to yourself: Col 3:5-5; “Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.”**

**6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.”**

**7 “You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.**

**8 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other.”**

# **Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**Clothe yourself anew:** “since you have taken off your old self with its practices

10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.”

11 “Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.”

12 “Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”

13 “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”

# **Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

15 “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”

16 “Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”

17 “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

**If that were not enough,  
our goal is to do this with love,  
and to be love:**

## **Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**1 Corinthians 13; (NIV) “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.”**

**5 “It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.”**

**6 “Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.”**

**Just these passages alone represent a significant challenge, one that can sometimes seem impossible.**

**But we have Christ on our side, and He is able to do anything to help us if we ask and submit to Him.**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

To achieve this, **the act of dying to ourselves**  
could be said to have **a trinity of aspects:**

**Willingly** handing back some of our inappropriately  
gained authority/ control to the rightful owners –  
**stopping trying to control others**  
**and the world around us.**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**Willingly** claiming the responsibilities and authorities that rightly belong to us

**– learning to be accountable –**

**learning to take control** of our thoughts, emotions and behaviours, and no longer letting sin reign.

Someone was coming home from work a couple of weeks ago and came across a couple,

**the man shouting at the woman**

**‘You made me like this, you made me this angry!’**

**No, she didn’t.**

When someone does something to upset us

**it is our choice** to make, whether to be upset or not,

**nobody forces us to react badly.**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**Willingly handing over some of our legitimate authority to others** – to our husbands, to our church leadership, to Christ, and to God.

It's complex and is an on-going challenge as we go through life and as situations come and go.

**We have our own identity, and having to surrender parts of it can feel like powerlessness.**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**Change is difficult and it is scary:-**

Often, we don't want things to change, or others don't want us to change. **But**

**Jesus calls us to change**, to throw off our old selves and become a new person with Him as our teacher.

**Change means taking the time to know ourselves**, to identify those things or emotions or needs or habits that now have **an inappropriate level of control or authority** over us.

This includes our secret addictions, our comfort strategies, our neuroses, our hot-buttons etc.

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will. Change means having the courage to admit that how we are currently living is not working, and could even be damaging us and those around us.**

**Change means owning up and becoming accountable for ourselves totally both before and after we have made changes.**

**Although we may be in control of the action to initiate change, we cannot possibly control or even foresee the downstream impacts of the change on ourselves or on others.**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**So in committing to changing into what God wants us to be, we are being courageous.**

**At the same time we are opening ourselves up, becoming vulnerable to both the positive and negative outcomes that might result – and we are responsible for dealing with them too.**

**When we do this, we need to be ready for the changes that will occur both in our relationships with others, but also within ourselves.**

**When we make changes, guess what?  
Change is the result.**

# **Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

Regardless of the final outcome of our changes, if we have eyes to see and ears to hear, **we will always learn something, and experience spiritual growth.**

**If we can get past the fear,  
and if we can deal with the consequences  
in a spirit of love, grace and mercy,**

**We will come through the pain of change  
and **turn it into the joy of living,**  
both improving our own lives  
and the lives of those around us.**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**1 John 4:18; “There is no fear in love.**

**But perfect love drives out fear,**

**because fear has to do with punishment.**

**The one who fears is not made perfect in love.”**

**The bishop of Ing sent a telegram**

**to some newlyweds quoting 1 John 4:18;**

**However, the telegrapher, not being familiar**

**with scripture, dropped the 1 in 1st John.**

**The message that was actually sent became**

**John 4:18; “The fact is, you have had five husbands,**

**and the man you now have is not your husband!”**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**We are reminded in the scriptures that  
God rewards believers for their obedience:-**

**Romans 13:3; “Then do what is right  
and you will be commended.”**

**James 1:12; (NIV) “Blessed is the one who  
perseveres under trial because, having stood the  
test, that person will receive the crown of life that  
the Lord has promised to those who love him.”**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**Then we are warned against disobedience:-**

**James 1:13 (NIV)** “When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone;”

**14** “but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

**15** Then, after desire has conceived,  
it gives birth to sin; and sin,  
when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.”

**Galatians 5:13;** “if you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other...

I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**Romans 13:1; “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.”**

**“The authorities [principle of authority – we must have a framework of authority] that exist have been established by God.”**

**2 “Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.”**

# **Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**James 1:2;** “the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

**7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.”**

**He and others in the New Testament tell us that practicing obedience and submission has power to achieve great things, bringing their own rewards:-**

# Submission to Christ is an act of free will.

To name but a few of the rewards:-

- a. **The fruit of the Spirit:** “Love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” **(Galatians 5:18;)**
- b. **Legitimacy** as the sons and daughters of God. **(Hebrews 12:8;)**
- c. A harvest of righteousness and peace. **(Heb 12;)**
- d. Perseverance, character, hope. **(Romans 5:1-5;)**
- e. Maturity and completion. **(James 1:2;)**
- f. And ultimately, eternal glory. **(2 Cor 4:17;)**

**Submission to Christ is an act of free will.  
Nowhere, in the New Testament though,  
does anyone say it will be easy.**

**We all know from our own experience that when we  
change, by default, we force others to accommodate  
that change or the undergo change themselves.**

**This is not always comfortable for those  
who are happy with the status quo:**

**John 16:33; “I have told you these things, so that in  
me you may have peace. In this world you will have  
trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”**

# **Submission to Christ is an act of free will.**

**Paul's overarching message on this topic is that if you are filled with the Holy Spirit and you want to live for Christ.**

**Then submission to each other becomes a natural way of living, as each puts the needs of others first.**

**It has the power to change ourselves, and our relationship with everyone around us.**

# Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.

**Resistance to authority is usually the result of some kind of power struggle.**

**The root of our objections to authority and submission are often because:-**

**The person holding the authority uses it to subordinate or control the other, making the other person's life harder, or bringing them trouble. This is not perfect love.**

**Or the person subject to the authority resists, rebels or makes life difficult for the person in authority. This is not perfect love.**

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**Or it's because:-**

**Of a faulty belief that  
women are not designed equal to man.**

**Or a faulty belief that man and woman should  
have exactly the same roles and responsibilities.**

**The fruit of resistance can often manifest  
as anger, frustration, resentment,  
loss of trust, and loss of love,  
and the eventual breakdown of our relationships.**

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

The **apostle Paul** in his letters is saying that the **practice of authority and submission** is an **antidote to power struggles** if they are coming from love:

**The person holding the authority should use it to benefit others.**

**The person subject to the authority should work hard to respect and please the authority, and even help – empower others.**

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**I believe Genesis teaches that:-**

**Authority is necessary**

**Women and men ARE equal in the eyes of God.**

**Men and woman were DESIGNED to be different so they could work together in an equal and complementary way, according to God's plan.**

**When we resist authority, we are not really in control, our fears, our neuroses and our OCD's are really in charge. And through these, sin is in charge.**

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**When we give** up our fears and neuroses,  
our OCDs, and our  
inappropriate needs for authority and control.

**When we submit to Christ and others,**  
**we take power away from sin,**  
**and we can find ourselves**  
**in a state that is both amazing, and beneficial:**

When we no longer **resist** the way  
the world is constructed, **we begin**  
to **have peace** through our new understanding.

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**We begin to recognise** that there are other ways than ours that are just as effective, and that actually **a lot of the stuff that we are worrying about or trying to control is simply not worth our concern.**

**We also come to realise the damage that our controlling behaviour is having or has had on those around us.**

**We also learn to free others to be who they are, and to free them from the burden of our displeasure.**

**Since our displeasure also goes away we find we are now operating from "the peace that passes all understanding."**

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**Someone has said:-** “I used to resist just about anything and anyone. It was a miserable way to live and I lived like that for many years.”

“I desired control and for the world to work according to my plan and my schedule. It didn't, and to me this was very unjust and unfair, and it set up a myriad of misalignments and points of friction which made me miserable.”

“I then of course broadcast my pain to others, making sure they knew about it.  
Just ask my family!”

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**“But once I began to shoulder  
my own accountabilities,  
and relinquish the control I had taken from others.”**

**“I began to learn and to test and prove  
‘that suffering produces perseverance;  
perseverance, character; and character, hope.’”**

**“I was able to see that my personal trials  
had actually made me a better person  
and made me more resilient.”**

**“I actually got to the point of being able  
to welcome and feel excited about new problems.”**

# Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.

“I even used to say ‘**Bring it on, God, you are refining me in the fire!**’ (Of course I used to caveat this with ‘**don’t make it too tough that I break**’).”

“I was excited about the prospect of learning something new and over time becoming a better person, becoming better equipped to deal with the vagaries of life, and becoming a slightly more effective servant to others.

“This turned out to be **thrilling** – I actually began to ‘**rejoice in my suffering**’ which is the oddest thing and **felt completely counter-intuitive and revolutionary.**

# Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.

“I can only describe it as the feeling of having unlocked one of life's secrets. **I felt wiser. And more powerful. And suddenly that I could be useful.**”

“Today, I still say **'bring it on'**  
– perhaps not in such an eager-puppy kind of way –  
but **this revelation has stood the test of time so far:**”

“My resistance to problems has massively reduced,  
as has my need to be in control of life,  
and my need for everything to be fair and just.”

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**“I am now willing to let my life unfold before me in a less controlled way and to bend with it, knowing that God has a purpose.”**

**“In the words of Randy Harris, God is ‘climbing inside’ each and every event in my life, and using it to refine my spirit and teach me the things I need to learn to be who He needs me to be.”**

**“I have found inventive new ways to serve others, to reduce their pain / increase their joy and their power, if only for a moment or if only by a little.”**

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**Handing back our inappropriate control actually makes it easier to assume correct responsibilities, and even to willingly submit.**

**(although this will be a life-long work in process).**

**It may still feel counter intuitive but this lack of resistance and lack of control is one of the most freeing experiences you will have ever had, and continue to experience.**

# **Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.**

**Submission is not about  
surrendering our personality or our brains**

**It is about letting others in, becoming vulnerable and  
learning about love, grace, mercy and forgiveness.**

**It's about finding both our peace and our power.**

# Submission to Christ' Authority is Necessary.

Again this seems to be counter intuitive in today's world, where we are constantly bombarded with messages of **self-protection**.

**The accrual of power**, and the use of that power to consolidate and elevate our own position, **without reference to the impact on others**.

But when we look to **modern psychology and leadership theory**, we see a **strong thread of thought** that hypothesises that **effective leadership** involves **empowering others** to be the best they can be.

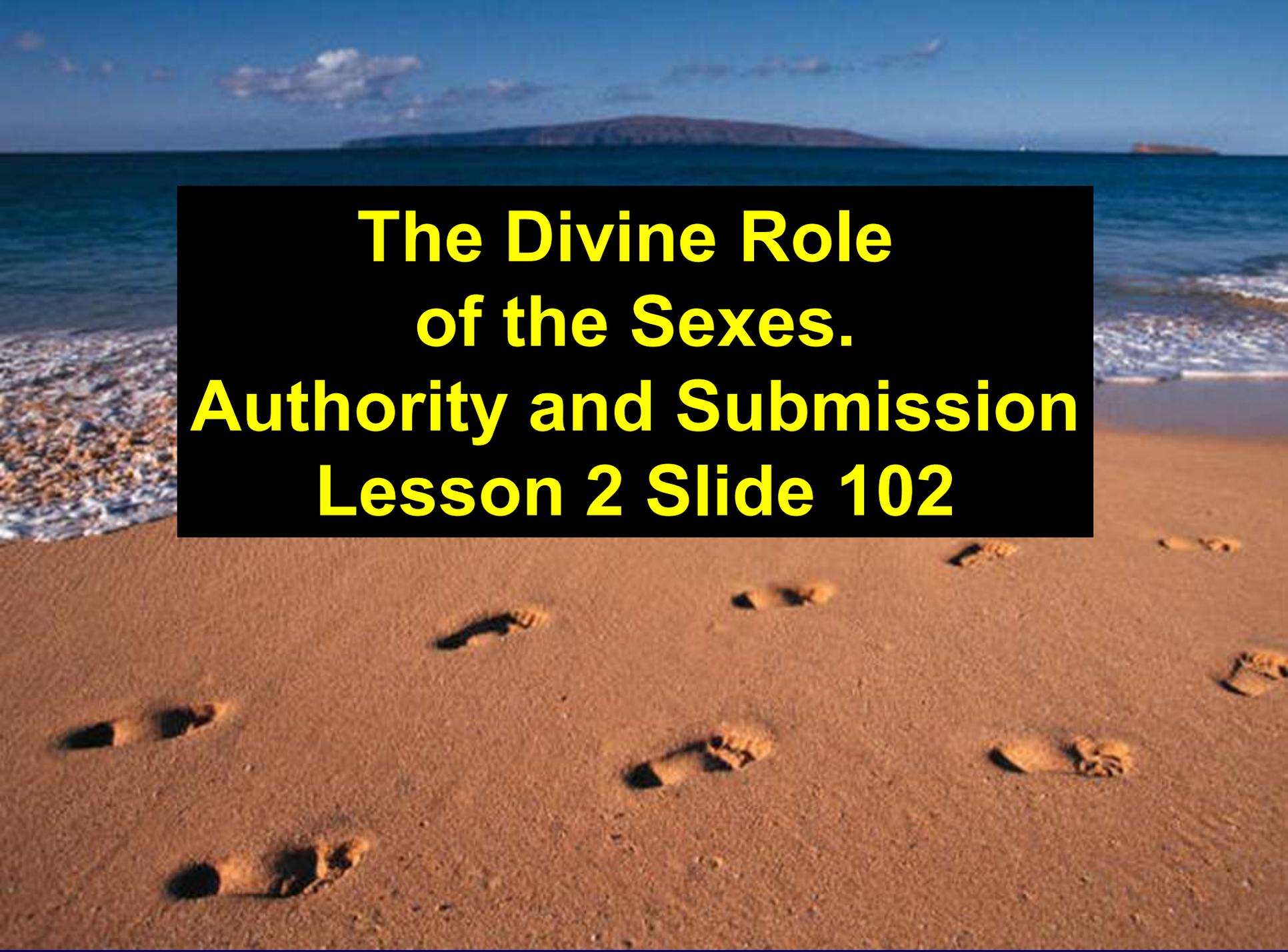
# **The Divine Role of the Sexes Lesson 1 Slide 1**

**Adapted from an essay by C. D. Cole  
with input from Ellis Jones**

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**The Divine Role  
of the Sexes.  
Authority and Submission  
Lesson 2 Slide 102**

The idea of **a woman's different role** can be established by many passages of Scripture.

**“Similarly, older women** should behave as befits religious people, with no scandal-mongering and no addiction to wine, they must be the teachers of right behaviour.”

**“They should school the young women** to be affectionate to their husbands and to their children, to be sober-minded, pure in their lives,”

to be self-controlled, chaste, good managers of the household, kind, **being submissive to their husbands**, so that the word of God may not be discredited.

**“Show yourself in all respects a model of good works,** and in your teaching **show integrity, gravity.”**

**Titus 2:3-7;** see also

**Gen 3:16; I Cor 11:3; 14:34-35; I Tim 2:11; 12; I Peter 3:1-6;**

# The Divine Role of the Sexes.



**The called out are the Bride of Christ  
Jesus willingly gave His life on the cross  
for the His family the Called Out Ones.**

# The Divine Role of the Sexes.

“To the woman He said,  
“I will greatly increase your pains  
in childbearing; with pain you will give birth  
to children. **Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you.”** Gen 3:16;

“Now I want you to realize that the **head  
of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman  
is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.**  
1 Cor 11:3;

# The Divine Role of the Sexes.

“As in all the congregations of the saints, women are to remain quiet in the assemblies, since **they have no permission to speak: theirs is a subordinate part**, as the Law itself says.”

“If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; **for it is improper for a woman to speak in the assembly.**” 1 Cor 14:33-35;

# The Divine Role of the Sexes.

1 Tim 2:11-15;

11 A woman should learn in quietness and full humility. 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.

13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.

14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. 15 But women will be preserved through childbearing- if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.”

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission

When God said to Adam,  
“Because you listened to your wife,” Gen 3:17;

He was calling attention to the fact that **Adam**  
**had failed to exercise spiritual leadership**  
and thereby **circumvented the divine arrangement**  
**of male, female relations.**

Paul concluded his instructions by noting  
how women may be preserved from falling into  
the same trap of **assuming unauthorised authority.**

“She will be saved in childbearing,” 1 Tim 2:15;  
‘**Childbearing**’ is the **figure of speech** known as  
**synecdoche**, in which a part stands for the whole.

## **The NATURE of Authority and Submission**

**Thus, Paul was referring to the whole of female responsibility.**

**Women may avoid taking to themselves unauthorised functions by concentrating on the functions assigned to them by God.**

**Tasks undertaken with faith, love, and holiness in sobriety, i.e. self-control.**

**It also means that Christian women must maintain their God-appointed ministry in life in order to continue to be saved.**

## The NATURE of Authority and Submission

The plain inference is that if she has **“to continue”** in the things mentioned then she must have **previously started in them.**

This, I believe, is the crux of the whole matter; what Paul seems to be saying is:-

**“Christian woman, continue in those things you have learned, and even in the extremes of pain and travail associated with childbirth your salvation will still burn bright.”**

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission



**It does not imply personal inferiority  
of the woman to the man.**

# **The NATURE of Authority and Submission**

**This authority and submission does not involve personal character. It does not imply personal inferiority of the woman to the man.**

**In many ways a woman is superior to the man.**

**In many of the nobler qualities that go to make up character, in patience and endurance, in gentleness, in unselfishness, in ministering to the suffering, in love, the woman is superior to the man.**

**In intelligence she is his equal.**

**The NATURE of Authority and Submission**  
**Nor does authority and submission touch the question of salvation.** In respect to salvation, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free; there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Gal 3:28;)

To quote this verse in an effort to overthrow the doctrine of woman's submission to man is to ignore the context and oppose Scripture with Scripture.

This verse teaches **that all are saved alike, namely, by the grace of God through obedient faith in Christ Jesus.** (Gal 3:26;)

# **The NATURE of this Authority and Submission**

**Neither is it a question of ability.**

**It is often claimed for some women that they are able speakers. This is not denied, but ability is not criterion of what is right.**

**A man may be skillful as a gambler, but this is no reason why he should be licensed to gamble.**

**The success women have had in the pulpit has deceived and turned many away from the once delivered faith.**

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission

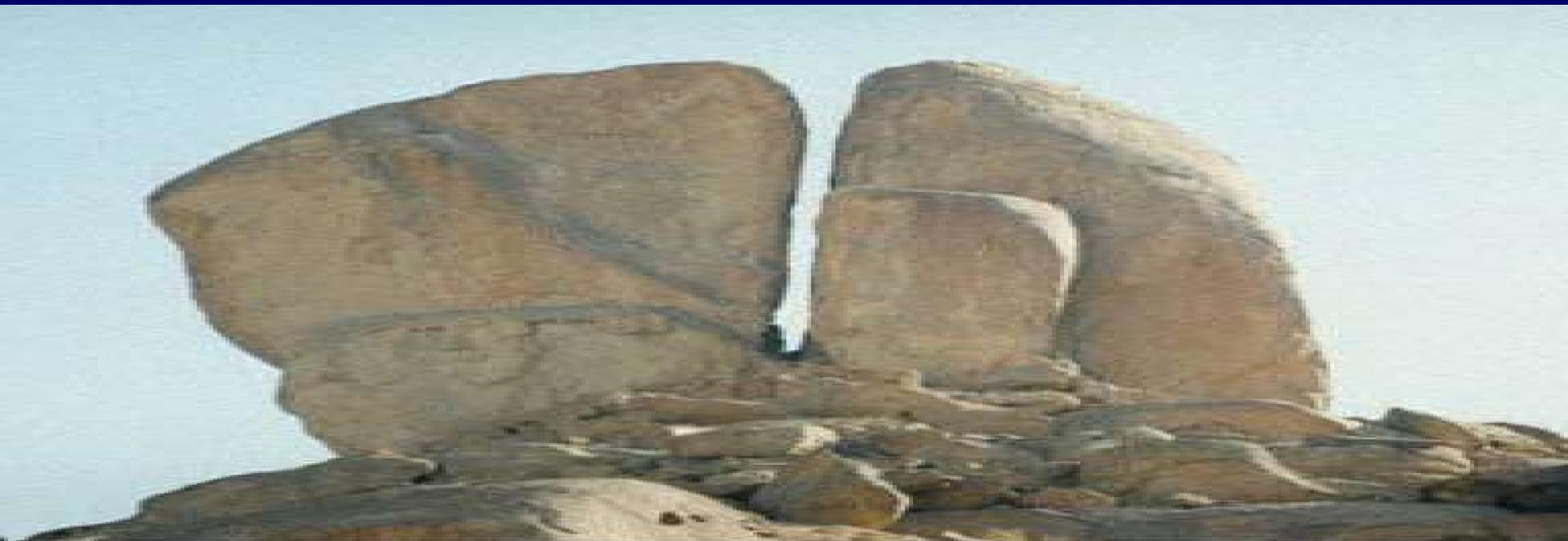


One of the **first women preachers** was **Mrs. Juliann Jane Tillman, Preacher of the A.M.E. Church.** Engraving by P. S. Duval, after a painting by Alfred Hoffy, Philadelphia, 1844.

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission

To say that a person has talent and should use it, could mean that Moses did right when he struck the rock. (Num 20:11;)

He was successful in getting water, **but he disobeyed God**, and thereby, forfeited the privilege of entering the promised land.



The Split Rock at Horeb - September 1992

# **The NATURE of Authority and Submission**

**The submission of the woman to the man  
is a matter of position.**

**It is difference of role rather than of person.**

**The Prime Minister is superior to every other man  
in our country in position and authority,  
(apart from Queen or King.)**

**This does not necessarily mean that  
he is superior to every other man  
in character and ability.**

**The woman is in submission to the man with respect  
to authority and its corresponding obligation.**

# **The NATURE of Authority and Submission**

**We miss the mark entirely when we talk about woman's rights. It is not a question of equal rights, but of different duties.**

**Woman is to occupy a different place. This means that the man has a greater measure of responsibility before God, in the areas of responsibilities relating to leadership in the home and Church.**

**God challenges man to step up to the responsibilities of leadership God has placed on his shoulders.**

**Too often men want to let others do what he ought to be doing.**

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission

## A. Generally – 1 Cor. 11:1-3;

### 1 Cor 11:1-3;

1 Imitate me, just as  
I also imitate Christ.

2 Now I praise you, brethren,  
that you remember me in all  
things and keep the traditions  
just as I delivered them to you.

3 But I want you to know that  
the head of every man is Christ,  
the head of woman is man, and  
the head of Christ is God.

**God.**

**Christ.**

**Man.**

**Women.**

# The Divine Role of the Sexes.



**A WIFE IS TO BE IN SUBMISSION  
TO HER HUSBAND.**

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission

## B. In the Home – Eph 5:22-24; 1 Pet 3:1-6;

“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For **the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the saviour of the body.**”

“So you **wives** must **willingly obey your husbands in everything, just as the Church obeys Christ.**”

“And you **husbands**, show the same kind of love to your wives as Christ showed to the Church when He died for her.”

(Eph 5:22-23;)

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission



**The church is the Bride of Christ  
Jesus willingly gave His life on the cross  
for the Church.**

# **The NATURE of Authority and Submission**

**As men and women,** I suspect that when we come to know God, we know we can place our trust in Him. **He is perfect, infallible, omnipotent, and omniscient and not only that:-**

He gives us constant reassurances that **He loves and cherishes every single one of us.**

**As men and women,** I suspect that when we come to know Jesus, **we know He is perfect as God, as trustworthy as God,** and that when He lived with women in daily humdrum life, with all its pressures and challenges.

We know He cherished women and **treated them with love, compassion and respect,** no matter who they were.

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission

I suspect that when women come to know their husbands? **It is not that easy.**

**Men are human**, flesh and blood, imperfect, inconstant (no matter how well intentioned) and subject to the vagaries of life just as women are.

**And suddenly it becomes difficult, if not seemingly against common sense, to submit to their authority.**

Knowing yourselves, and your strengths and weaknesses, **it is all too easy, if not easier**, to identify their faults rather than place your trust in them.

# The NATURE of Authority and Submission

This next quote I think points to the problems that so many people have with the concept of wives submitting to husbands. Here's the quote:-

**'Show me a man who lays down his life for his wife, and I'll show you a wife who has no problem with submission.'**

K Miller in 'What's so scary about submission?'

Recently, a young wife said that her husband said:-  
**"When I shout at you, you can't shout back at me, you need to be quiet if you want to be a good wife."**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**Paul's message to married couples  
is that with authority comes responsibility.**

**In Paul's day, wives had very little power and  
no authority yet Paul is now telling husbands  
that they need to consider the needs of their wives.**

**and not only that, but to treat the needs of their wife  
as just as important as the needs of his own body.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**Also, if a husband does not listen to his wife,  
then he only has his own perspective to rely on.**

**By listening to his wife he widens his perspective,  
allowing him to make better decisions.  
she is a helper – her perspective helps him.**

**Let's not underestimate  
the revolutionary nature of this  
within the context of both  
ancient and contemporary culture.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**If the husband actually listens to her perspective  
and considers her needs, this has the effect  
of actually empowering the woman.**

**As by feeling that her needs are being considered,  
she lends all her power to support and encourage  
him to find the solutions that work for them both.**

**This actually empowers him to make better  
decisions. If both are operating from love,  
a virtuous circle is created.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**He considers her, she feels loved and valued,  
he looks for win-win outcomes,  
she shows her appreciation, he feels respected:-  
and all is good in the world.**

**This equally applies to, and benefits  
almost all loving relationships.**

**BUT – it challenges both or all parties  
to act from a place of love and mutual regard.  
It requires trust.**

## **Within marriage, submission is something you both do:-**

There was an episode of a TV programme called **'Submissive Wives'** where the main focus was on the woman providing the stable home life so that the husband actually enjoys coming home.

The underlying principles of the programme's message seemed pretty good, but there was a problem with the advice on the practical implementation of those principles.

The programme appeared to assume the woman did not need to go out to work, which then allowed her time to 'make herself pretty', prepare his 'welcome home' drink and snacks' and be ready for a 'quickie' at any time.

**No wonder the husbands  
featured in the programme looked so happy.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**Thankfully, I don't believe women  
have to be a Stepford Wife to create  
the kinds of marriages that God wants.**

**Women need to have an open dialogue with  
loving husbands to agree the division of roles  
that works for their particular marriages.**

**One that calls on our individual strengths,  
and one that both husband and wife  
believes will be acceptable before God.**

**What works for one couple  
may not work for another.**

## **Unbelieving Husbands.**

**1 Pet 3:1; “Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behaviour of their wives,”**

**2 “when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.”**

**Look at the power that is implied here:-  
“without a word, won over”  
that is surely the power of submission.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**How much harder it must be to place yourself  
under the authority of one **who has differing  
or unknowable guiding principles** and  
does not understand the concept of love in this way**

**At least in a Christian marriage the believing couple  
are looking at the same guide book.  
(They might disagree about its interpretation!)**

**I suspect this is why the warning  
'do not be unequally yoked' exists.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**Here are some more warnings:-**

**A husband who uses these submission verses  
to enforce his unloving will or  
to get his own capricious way is acting in error.**

**A wife who manipulates her husband  
to get her own way is acting in error.**

**A man who imposes his authority without  
regard to conscience or God's will is in error.**

**A woman who submits blindly  
to her husband's authority without regard  
to conscience or God's will is in error.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**The example of Ananais and Sapphira  
shows us that each individual  
still retains accountability for themselves.**

**Both decided to lie, and both were judged  
separately. Both will be accountable before God.**

**But the husband will be held to a higher standard  
because he has the ultimate authority.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**Not only that, but:-**

**The family friend or on-looker who witnesses  
the neglect or abuse of authority, but does nothing.**

**Is more like the Pharisee who passes by,  
than like the Good Samaritan  
and will also be accountable before God.**

**These authority and submission verses cannot  
be used as an excuse to justify inappropriate,  
irresponsible, dangerous or unloving behaviour.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**Submission does not mean that a woman  
has to be a doormat. In scripture, we even  
have examples of women apparently flouting  
their husband's authority, most notably:-**

**Abigail (@1000BC 1 Samuel 25;) – Secretly does  
what her husband has failed to do in order to  
prevent the slaughter of her household by David.**

**Esther (Esther 1-8;) – Breaks a palace rule and  
risks death in order to protect her family and  
all Jews from death at the hands of Haman.**

## **Within marriage, submission is something you both do:-**

**These examples show us that if women feel that what they are being asked to do is against conscience, common sense, or against God, then they are not bound to submit.**

**I suspect these submission verses are to protect women and to prevent the kind of abuses of power that we see even today – where coercion plays a part.**

**If we believe that man and woman are equal in the eyes of God, and that they have been given different strengths, then we move towards establishing God's perfect plan within marriage.**

## **Within marriage, submission is something you both do:-**

**Proverbs 14:1; “A wise woman builds her home, but a foolish woman tears it down with her own hands.”**

**A woman can only build her home if she has control of / authority over / herself, otherwise the things that control her, will wield their influence in both her internal and external life.**

**At the same time as taking back her power from those desires that rule her, and beating them into submission and death.**

**A woman also then needs to choose who she wants to be in the new world, and this is where she chooses to submit to Christ, and in choosing to marry, she also chooses to be under the authority of her husband.**

**Within marriage, submission  
is something you both do:-**

**Romans 13:3; “For rulers hold no terror for those  
who do right, but for those who do wrong.”**

**“Do you want to be free from fear of  
the one in authority? Then **do what is right  
and you will be commended.**”**

**4 “For the one in authority  
is God’s servant for your good.”**

**Both men and women are to submit  
to the authority of God:-**

**We are commanded to sacrifice daily,  
both our own worldly wants,  
and by putting God and others before us,  
including our wives and husbands.**

**Husbands have an equal responsibility to treat  
wives with love, as well as he treats himself.**

**In order to create that lovely virtuous circle,  
which is what I think God intended from the start.**

# **Authority and Submission**

## **THE SYMBOL OF SUBMISSION.**

**Men must show reverence and submission  
as well as women.**

**Women show reverence by covering their heads,  
Men show reverence by not covering their heads.**

Not that long ago, Christian women always covered their heads at church, and now many are choosing to once again. While lots of women are going the route of the chapel veil, others are choosing things like hats, scarves, or stylish headbands.

**Veils:-** “Three significant symbolic connotations of a veiled face are chastity, virtue, and modesty; submission, obedience, or commitment; and **divinely recognized authority or power possessed by the veiled person.**”

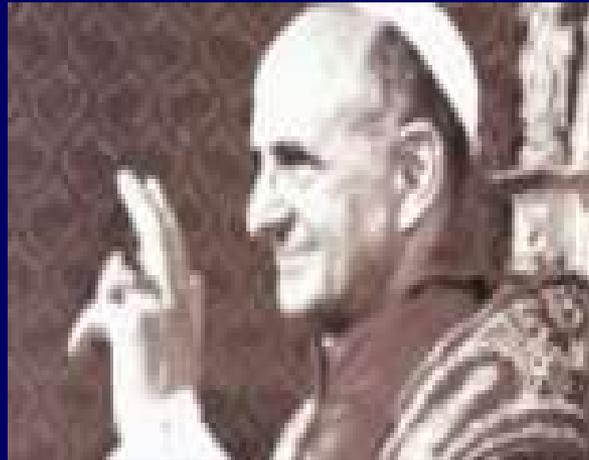
**Demonstrated in teaching other women.**



■ A head scarf that hides the hair ears and neck.



Picture by  
Fr Richard Heilman



These are all different veils (head coverings) that have been used by different groups.

Interestingly Paul says Men are to pray with their head uncovered / and Women pray with their head covered. This is speaking of when we are praying out loud. Men in the worship assembly / Women at ladies meetings etc.

## **Authority and Submission**

### **The sign of the submission**

of the woman to the man was a cultural symbol in those lands where the veil is worn.

It also seems to have been **the custom in Paul's day** because he mentions it in 1 Corinthians 11:1-16; When Paul is dealing with men and women praying and public speaking

In those days men and women also **wore their hair differently.**

It **was expected** that the **woman wear long hair** and **the man short hair.** (1 Cor 11:14-15;)

**Long Hair part of the woman's glory.**



## **Authority and Submission**

**The headcovering,**

**was a sign of the woman recognising  
God's authority when she prayed and spoke  
in public ladies meetings.**

**Headship means authority and responsibility.**

**Long hair** was also **a sign** by which the wife  
acknowledged the **authority of her husband,**  
who is her natural head;

**The veil as an additional covering,**  
which she was to wear **when a woman took  
the lead role when ladies assembled together.**

## **Authority and Submission**

**In our western culture, veils are no longer worn by wives as a symbol of submission to their husbands.**

**But the teaching of the Bible that the wife is to be in submission to the husband as her head is still true.**

**What God appoints is best.**

**Obedience to the Divine role concerning the sexes.**

**If both respect one another and take their responsibilities seriously it will result in blessing to both men and women.**

## **Authority and Submission**

As the spirit of lawlessness increases, the word "**submission**" becomes more and more despised.

**Many associate the word "submission" with the thought of degradation. It is claimed that a woman is degraded by the position given her by Paul.**

**On this point. Atheism makes a bid for woman's patronage by seeking to prejudice her against Christianity.**

**The following quotations are from atheists who reject God's Divine Order of the Sexes. quoted from The Bible in the Balance, by Charles Smith, President of the American Association for the Advancement of Atheism:-**



# Authority and Submission

**Elizabeth Cady Stanton:-**

“I know of no other book that so fully teach the subjection and degradation of woman.”

**Helen Gardner:** “Women are indebted today for their **emancipation** from a position of hopeless degradation,”

“not to their religion nor Jehovah, but to the justice and honour of the **men who have defied His commands.**”

“That she does not crouch today where St. Paul tried to bind her, she owes to the men who are grand and brave enough **to ignore St. Paul and rise superior to his God**” (Men, Women and Gods, p. 30).



## **Authority and Submission**

**Woman is given the place of submission, not for her degradation, but for her honour and protection.**

**And her safety and happiness lie in her acceptance of that place.**

**In Romans 13; all Christians are commanded to be in submission to the civil authorities. Jesus was in submission to God the Father.**

**Are they thereby degraded?  
Who but anarchists will say so?**

## **Authority and Submission**

**In Eph 5:24; The church is said to be subject to Christ. Is the church thereby degraded?**

**No, the relation between husband and wife is illustrated by the relation that exists between Christ and the Church:-**

**“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it. (Eph 5:25;)**

## **Authority and Submission**

Love, respect, protection, care and financial support is **owed** by the husband **to his wife.**

**Is a woman degraded by willingly being in submission to the man who loves her enough to die for her?**

**Is the woman who has promised to obey Her husband to be pitied.**

**No woman ought to marry a man whom she cannot promise to obey.**

**It is about mutual respect and Agape Love, seeking one another's highest good.**



## **Authority and Submission**

**Sadly in much of the world men's attitudes towards women are despicable.**

**In places like Belfast, Liverpool and Glasgow**

**It used to be said**

**“Keep the women barefoot,  
pregnant and in the kitchen.**

**In many parts of the world it is the norm that girls as young as 8 years of age are married off to men of over 40 years.**

**In Islam** men are encouraged to have as many as four wives, so as the first one gets older she has to take a back seat to a younger model.

## **Authority and Submission**

**Without God's guidance many men's attitudes towards women are similar to a dog seeing sausages left unattended on a table.**

**He will grab them, use them abuse them and move on to the next with no thought of the consequences.**

**This attitude of men towards women Is not the ideal that God strives to establish.**

**God challenges men to look for the inward qualities in a woman rather than the outward attraction.**

**To treat women with honour and respect. Eph 5:28-29;**

**1 Peter 3:1-6; “In the same way, you wives must put yourselves under your own husbands' authority.**

**Some of them may not obey the message, but through the lives of you wives, these husbands will be won over without having to say a word”**

**“They will see the kind of pure life you live, which shows respect. Your beauty must not be the outer beauty of fancy hairdo's, wearing gold jewellery, or expensive clothes.”**

**“rather, let your adornment be the inner self with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in God's sight.”**

**That kind of deep beauty was seen in the saintly women of old, who trusted God and fitted in with their husbands' plans.**

## **Authority and Submission**

**In the home the place of authority is vested in the man by God.**

To talk of equal authority between man and wife is unrealistic because someone always takes the lead.

**Equal authority is no authority.**

Things need to be discussed but at some point someone must make the final decision.

**Where has God placed this final authority?**

**With the husband or the wife?**

**God is challenging the man to step up and take responsibility.**

## Authority and Submission

The Bible says it is with the husband.

The father is ultimately responsible

for the conduct and spiritual welfare of his children.



“And **you fathers**, provoke not **your children** to wrath: but **bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**” (Eph 6:4;)

## **Authority and Submission**

In his song of thanksgiving, after his life had been lengthened 15 years, Hezekiah said, **“The father to the children shall make known thy truth.”** (Isa 38:19;)

**The Lord said of Abraham:- “For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him.”** (Gen 18:19;)

# Authority and Submission

The responsibility of the husband and the father, in the light of God's word, is a tremendously solemn matter.

This is a responsibility that sadly many men have neglected to their cost. (Lost opportunities and lost relationships.)

Man's responsibility is the result of divinely ordained authority.



# Authority and Submission

**In the Congregation - Men are to lead.**

**What a need there is for the men of our congregations to realize that the chief responsibility for the condition of the congregations rests upon them. They cannot escape this responsibility.**

**This idea of turning the work of the congregations over to the women and children, as is often done, is contrary to the Word of God.**

**It allows men to shirk their responsibilities.**

## **Authority and Submission**

**Let us make some observations:-**

**God never made provision  
for a woman to occupy the throne of Israel.**

**Woman had no part in the priestly  
ministrations in the tabernacle or the temple.**

**God never made a  
covenant with a woman.**



## **Authority and Submission**

**When the government of Israel had broken down, God described the conditions in a figurative way by saying, “As for my people, children are their oppressors and women rule over them.” (Isa 3:12;)**

**The same principle applies to women in the new dispensation as in the old.**

**Authority and Submission**  
**The APOSTLES were men.**  
**Christ never called a single woman**  
**to be His apostle.**



It was **men** who were given **the responsibility to sort things out** at the **Jerusalem** congregation in Acts 6;

# In the "ASSEMBLY" (Congregation.)

## GOD'S ORGANIZATION

(A FLOWCHART OF SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY)

GOD THE  
FATHER

GOD THE  
SON (HEAD)

GOD THE  
HOLY  
SPIRIT



## Authority and Submission

### ELDERS ARE MEN. (1 Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9;)

1. Here is a saying that you can rely on:  
to want to be an **elder (bishop / pastor)**  
is **to desire a noble task.**

2. That is **why the elder (bishop / pastor)** must have  
an impeccable character. **Husband of one wife,**  
he must be temperate, discreet and courteous,  
hospitable and a good teacher;

3. not a heavy drinker, nor hot-tempered,  
but gentle and peaceable, not avaricious,

4. a man who **manages his own household well**  
and **brings his children up to obey him**  
and be well-behaved:

## **Authority and Submission**

**5. how can any man who does not understand how to manage his own household take care of the Church of God?**

**6. He should not be a new convert, in case pride should turn his head and he incur the same condemnation as the devil.**

**7. It is also necessary that he be held in good repute by outsiders, so that he never falls into disrepute and into the devil's trap.**

## **Authority and Submission**

**Titus 3:5-9;** “The reason I left you behind in Crete was for you **to organise everything** that still had to be done and **appoint elders (bishop / pastor)** in every town, in the way that I told you,”

6. “that is, **each of them must be a man of irreproachable character, husband of one wife,** and his children must be believers and not liable to be charged with disorderly conduct or insubordination.”

## Authority and Submission

7. “The **elder (bishop / pastor)** has to be irreproachable since he is God's representative: never arrogant or hot-tempered, nor a heavy drinker or violent, nor avaricious;”

8. “but hospitable and a lover of goodness; sensible, upright, devout and self-controlled;”

9. “and he must have a firm grasp of the unchanging message of the tradition, so that he can be counted on both for giving encouragement in sound doctrine and for refuting those who argue against it.”

## **Authority and Submission**

### **Deacons are men. (1 Tim 3:8-13;)**

8. **“Similarly, deacons** must be respectable, not double-tongued, moderate in the amount of wine they drink and with no squalid greed for money.”

9. **“They must hold to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.”**

10. **“They are first to be examined, and admitted to serve as deacons only if there is nothing against them.”**

## **Authority and Submission**

**11. Similarly, women must be respectable, not gossips, but sober and wholly reliable.**

**12. Deacons must be husbands of one wife and must be people who manage their children and households well.**

**13. “Those of them who carry out their duties well as deacons will earn a high standing for themselves and an authoritative voice in matters concerning faith in Christ Jesus.”**

## **Authority and Submission**

**Evangelists recorded in scripture are men.**

**Peter & apostles (Acts 2 and 3;)**

**Paul (Acts 13, 17;)**

**Stephen (Acts 6;)**

**Philip (Acts 8;)**

**Women Are Equal To Men**

**Where their Salvation is concerned.**

**Gal 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 Christ Jesus.”**

## **Authority and Submission**

**Women Are Not To Teach Over Men  
In mixed assemblies.**

**It Is NOT Because:-**

**We don't like women.**

**We think women cannot do as well as men.**

**We think women are inferior.**

**We think women don't know the Bible.**

**We want to hold to old traditions.**

# **Women Are Not To Teach Over Men In mixed assemblies.**

**1 Tim 2:11-14;**

**“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. (sin).”****

# Women Are Not To Teach Over Men In mixed assemblies.

A. Context: 1 Tim 2:1-14;  
Roles of men & women



Men (v. 8)  
Pray Everywhere

Women (v. 9-14)  
Subjection

There is **no mention** of a woman  
**Speaking** at the Lords supper  
where **men and women**  
were **commanded to assemble together.**  
There is **no mention** of a woman  
**praying** when men were present.

# Authority and Submission

There were opportunities for women to Speak. Philip had 4 daughters who prophesied



## We Are Not Talking About:

- Women teaching women.
- Women teaching children.



## We Are Talking About:

Women publicly preaching to mixed (men & women) audiences.



## Authority and Submission

**1 Tim 2:12;** I do not let women teach men  
or have authority over them.  
Let them listen quietly in the assembly.

### B. Biblical Restrictions:-

**Not To Teach.**

**Not To Have Auth.**



***Over a man***

### C. Reasons: (1 Tim 2:13-14;)

**Order of creation.** (Gen 2:22-24; 1 Cor 11:9;)

**Transgression (sin.)** (Gen 3:1-6,16; 1Tim 2:14;)

## Authority and Submission

**Reasons for restrictions:- 1 Tim 2:13-14;**

**13; Why? Because God made Adam first, and afterwards He made Eve.**

**14; And it was not Adam who was fooled by Satan, but Eve, and sin was the result.**

**1. Order of creation. (Gen 2:22-24;)**

**2. Transgression (sin.) (Gen 3:1-6, 16;)**

## **Authority and Submission**

These are the **only reasons** found in the Bible for the **submission of the woman to the man.**

To talk about local conditions at Corinth or anywhere else as the ground of the command for the women to keep silence in the congregation assembly **is to add to the word of God.**

**It is a case (wishful thinking) of the wish being father to the thought.**

# Authority and Submission

## Women Are Not To Address The Assembly.

**1 Cor 14:34-35;**

**34 “Let your women keep silent in the congregations 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 the assembly.”**

# Authority and Submission

**Women Are Not To Address The Assembly.**

**A. Context:- Worship Assembly. (1 Cor 14:23;)  
Lord's supper.**

**1 Cor 14:23;**

**“Therefore if the whole assembly comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?”**

**B. Silent: (1 Cor 14:34;)**

**Silent** – i.e. submissive / not over man

**Silent** – not address the assembly

**Yet Commanded to sing. (Eph 5:19; Col 3:16;)**

**Be Silent means not to take a leading role.**

## **Authority and Submission**

The problem with **the misuse of gifts** at Corinth seems to have created some bad feeling and bad practices between Christians.

Paul writes to give some **correction to both attitudes and practices.**

Because God had given women also some of the gifts described in 1 Corinthians in the first century to help to reach other women with the gospel.

Some women had no doubt abused that privilege and were trying to use their gifts in the Worship Assembly thereby creating a greater problem.

**To which Paul responds and gives clear instructions on how things ought to be done.**

# Authority and Submission

*Why we do not have  
women preachers*



**God Placed Man (Not Woman) In Leadership  
Women Are Not To Teach Over A Man  
Women Are Not To Address The Assembly**

## **Authority and Submission**

**Despite the number of women that were described in the gospels and in the rest of the New Testament.**

**Is it not strange that women were thus invariably omitted, if they were meant to do such work, and act in the same role as men?**

**In Timothy and Titus where Paul describes how each congregation is to be governed. Paul lays down quite specific instructions on the roles of men and women.**

**This lack of women described in the scriptures taking on the same roles as men is also quite specific and can only be understood on the basis of a woman's role being different from that of a man**

## **Authority and Submission**

**If Christ calls women to a public ministry,  
how do we account for His waiting  
nearly 2000 years before doing so?**

**Until recent times, no woman claimed such a call.**

**In all Protestant and Catholic Churches  
until recently women were not permitted  
to serve as elders, deacons or preachers.**

**The practice of women speaking to mixed  
assemblies in any congregation is a modern  
innovation that will in time corrupt the congregation.**

**Because the authority of the word of God  
will have been set aside  
to accommodate peoples wishes and demands.**

## **Authority and Submission**

In Protestant and Catholic churches we find **historically** that women **first**, were invited to **pray** in the **mixed assemblies**.

**Then** women were invited to **read** a passage of scripture.

**Then** women were invited To **help serve** at the communion table.

## **Authority and Submission**

**Then** women were given  
“**special Lay Persons**” duties.

**Then** women were given  
“**special Deacons**” positions.

**Then** women were encouraged  
to become **Vicars or Preachers.**

**Then** in the Church of Scotland  
women have been Promoted  
to the position of “**Elder of the Kirk.**”

**Despite** the **biblical qualifications**  
for an **elder** is described as being  
the “**husband of one wife.**”!

## **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**Much skill is being used today in an effort to set aside the plain teachings of the Bible.**

**Those who have a conscience upon the question are often ridiculed and brow beaten.**

**They are called **woman haters** and **uncooperative** because they will not support that which is obviously **opposed to the word of God.****

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**The commands of the Bible may be classed as moral and positive:-**

**A moral command is a command for which a moral reason can be seen, such as:-  
"You shall not kill," and "You shall not steal." etc.**

**A positive command is a command for which no moral reason is apparent.**

**It lies in the sovereign pleasure of God.**

**God's command to Moses to speak to the rock rather than to strike it is a positive command.**

**Uzzah Struck Down for Disobedience.  
2 Sam 6:1-7; 1 Chron 13:9-12; Num 4:15;**



## **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**The prohibition against touching the ark,  
for which Uzzah lost his life  
is a positive command.**

**The command to  
“repent and be immersed”  
is a positive command.**

**The command for women to keep silence  
in the congregations is a positive command.**

**The only reason that can be given  
for obedience to positive commands  
is that God has given them.**

## **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**The greatest test of spirituality is not obedience to the moral commands, for the unregenerate may keep them.**

**But to keep God's positive commands is to walk by faith.**

**I would like to appeal on behalf of the sisters. We men often fail to do them justice, and that our lack of suitable arrangements for them deprives the congregations of a potent agency for good.**

**In some instances** we might arrange for sisters' meetings, where they might pray, read the Scriptures, and speak and encourage one another.

**In other instances** we might only require to make it possible that the sisters make their own arrangements for their meetings.

**In addition to sisters teaching sisters,** might there not be women 's outreach meetings?

**Meetings conducted solely by women, and with only women present, would be on New Testament lines.**

**Systematic visitation of women by women, both within the congregation membership and beyond it, is equally desirable.**

**And 'widows indeed' could be employed in such useful service as visiting and conducting women 's meetings.**

**The value of such service would be incalculable.**

**Women would then find openings for every desirable aspiration to serve their Lord.**

**Work would be undertaken that men cannot do, and the extreme of pushing some women into the role of men would be avoided.**

**While we may take an unflinching stand  
against women being made men.**

Let us be correspondingly thoughtful and watchful  
**to employ women in every aspect of service  
sanctioned by Scripture.**

To help them, within their own sphere,  
**be co-labourers in the Gospel,  
and co-servants in the Lord's work.**

**Women have tremendous talents and abilities  
to use in the service of the Lord  
in every congregation.**

## **Paul challenges us all in Rom 12:1-2;**

**“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, this is your true and proper worship.**

**“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, His good, pleasing and perfect will.”**

# Conclusion.

The divine role of the sexes is a positive command given by God continued in the New Testament.

The concept and teaching is carried over into the Christian Church as is evident by the clear and unambiguous teachings of the Apostles as referred to in this study.

Both men and women will be happier and more effective in teaching others and raising their families if they respect God's Divine role for the Sexes.





**“We are members of His body. ”For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery- but I am talking about Christ and the church.” (Eph 5:30-33;)**

**God challenges us all to use our talents and abilities to help others see Jesus to gossip the gospel to others.**

**May we all look for ways to serve God better through a quiet word, through holy lives may we reflect the beauty of Jesus and by His grace help others to know His salvation.**

**Psalm 119:33** “Teach me, Holy One,  
the way of your statutes,  
and I will observe it to the end.  
34 Give me understanding,  
that I may keep your teaching  
and observe it with my whole heart.

## **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

**35 Lead me in the path of your commandments,  
for I delight in it.**

**36 Turn my heart to your decrees,  
and not to selfish gain.**

**37 Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;  
give me life in your ways.**

**38 Confirm to your servant your promise,  
which is for those who fear you.**

**39 Turn away the disgrace that I dread,  
for your ordinances are good.**

**40 See, I have longed for your precepts;  
in your righteousness give me life.”**

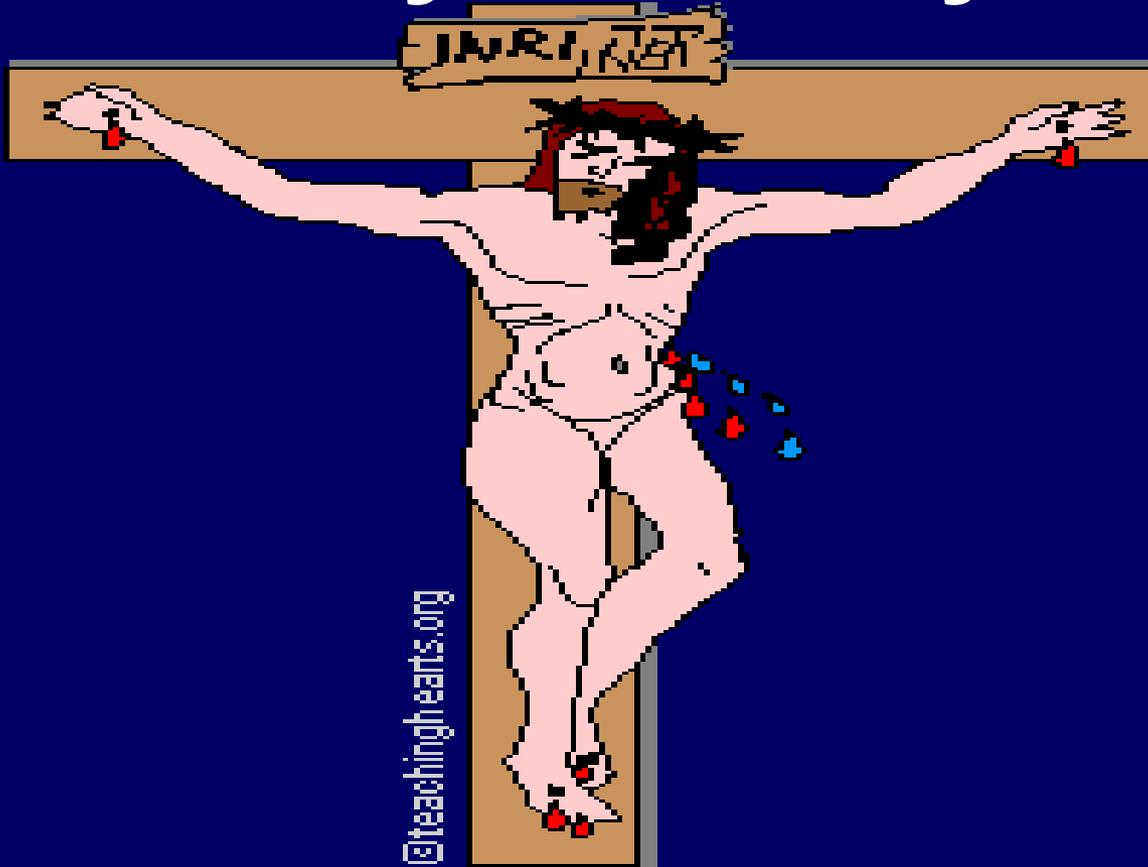
## **A Poem by Ellis Jones.**

**When the Christ was sacrificed,  
The Roman spear went deep.  
In His death, at His last breath,  
He went into death's sleep.**



**From His side came Jesus' Bride,  
With water and the blood.**

**We are She, in purity,  
Cleansed by that Holy Flood.**



**From the Dead arose our Head  
To rule on heaven's throne.  
Now we pray that some sweet day  
He'll come back for His own.**



**One of the soldiers pierced  
Jesus' side with a spear, bringing  
a sudden flow of blood and water  
(John 19:34-35;)**

**There are three that testify:  
The Spirit, the water and the blood;  
and the three are in agreement.  
(1 John 5:8-9;)**

**...the church of God, which  
He bought with his own blood.  
(Acts 20:28;)**

**Christ loved the church and gave  
Himself up for her to make her holy,  
cleansing her by the washing  
with water through the word.  
(Eph 5:25-26;)**

# **The Divine Role of the Sexes.**

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