

A “Female Ministry”?

by Bill Crews

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writers.

In the process of seeking proof for their conclusions they had to overlook or ignore such facts as these:

1. Not a single woman is found among the apostles, prophets, evangelists, elders or overseers, and deacons in the New Testament. Why?
2. Not a single book of the New Testament was written by a woman. Why?
3. In seeking one to take the place of Judas Iscariot as an apostle of Christ, Peter said, *“of the men (from the Greek word for males) therefore ... must one become a witness with us of his resurrection”* (Acts 1:21-22). The report claimed that some women possessed the qualifications of an apostle, but conveniently overlooked this part of the qualifications. Being a man/male was just as essential as the intimate association and as the being a witness of the resurrection.
4. A bishop or elder is to be *“the husband of one wife,”* as is every deacon (1 Tim. 3:1-2,12; Titus 1:5-7).
Grammatically, all of the qualifications are specifically for men/males (1 Tim. 3:1-10, 12-13; Titus 1:5-9).
5. Paul’s instructions in 1 Corinthians 11:1-16 were related to the customs of men, but they were based upon the foundation principle that *“the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God”* (verse 3). This is God’s order of subjection. Man’s headship over woman was not the result of human custom; it rather goes back to the creation fact that woman was made of and for the man (verses 8-9). The praying and prophesying woman at Corinth was to show her subjection to man by having her head veiled.
6. The husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church (Eph. 5:23), and wives are to be in subjection to their husbands just as the church is subject to Christ (Eph. 5:24). We have as much right to make the church the head of Christ and Christ subject to the church as we have to change the other. God, through creation, and not man through his customs, is the author of this subjection in marriage. Read what older women are to teach younger women in Titus 2:3-5, including *“obedient to their own husbands.”* Read the instructions of Peter to wives who are Christians, even to such whose husbands are not Christians, in 1 Peter 3:1-6 (note especially verses 1 and 6).
7. Hear the words of Paul by the Holy Spirit in 1 Timothy 2:11-14: *“Let a woman learn in quietness with all subjection. But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness. For Adam was first formed, then Eve; and Adam was not beguiled, but the woman being beguiled hath fallen into temptation.”* Please notice that Paul’s instructions and prohibitions are not based upon current social customs, but upon events in the creation and the fall of Adam and Eve.
8. In the Lord’s church women are not found in leadership roles over men, but they are found in the priesthood, for every member of the church is a priest. Read it in 1 Peter 2:5,9; Revelation 1:5-6; 5:9-10. The New Testament teaches the priesthood of believers rather than the limited and special priesthood of Roman Catholicism.

Let us be content with God’s will and God’s role for woman, and let us not be influenced by either such movements as the so-called “feminist movement” or such Bible panels as the above.

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