



THE CHURCH AT ELLERSLIE

SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

ERIC LUDY

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# THE POSITION OF THE WOMAN

*A Study in the Beauty of the Feminine Role in the Church*



## The Vow of the Woman

If a woman also vow a vow unto the LORD, and bind herself by a bond, being in her father's house in her youth; and her father hear her vow, and her bond wherewith she hath bound her soul, and her father shall hold his peace at her: then all her vows shall stand, and every bond wherewith she hath bound her soul shall stand. But if her father disallow her in the day that he hears; not any of her vows, or of her bonds wherewith she hath bound her soul, shall stand: and the LORD shall forgive her, because her father disallowed her. And if she had at all an husband, when she vowed, or uttered ought out of her lips, wherewith she bound her soul; and her husband heard it, and held his peace at her in the day that he heard it: then her vows shall stand, and her bonds wherewith she bound her soul shall stand.

**Numbers 30:3-7**

## The Silent Husband

Adam - the passive priest

*The Talking Woman + The Silent Husband = **The Great Fall***

## The Speaking Husband

Jesus - the rescuing priest

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 savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing . . . This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning **Christ and the church**. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

**Ephesians 5:23-24; 32-33**

*The Silent Woman + The Speaking Husband = The Great Redemption*

## The Bride (the Woman)

The great treasure, worthy of the life of Jehovah

Who can find a virtuous woman? For **her price is far above rubies**. The heart of her husband does safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

**Proverbs 31:10-12**

## Let's Catch a Vision Together for the Beauty of Femininity

### First, The Awkward Stuff

But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becomes holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women **to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed . . .** For the grace of God that brings salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all

iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

### **Titus 2**

I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully (1 Timothy 5:14) . . . Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law (1 Corinthians 14:34) . . . 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 savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing (Ephesians 5:23-24) . . . Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord (Colossians 3:18) . . . Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence (1 Timothy 2:11-12) . . . Likewise, you wives, be in subjection to your own husbands (1 Peter 3:1) . . .

## Silent that the Groom May Speak

Believe thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwells in me, He does the works.

### **John 14:10**

## Becoming the Bride, the Governess

## Keepers at Home

That they may teach the young women . . . To be . . . keepers at home . . . that the word of God be not blasphemed.

### **Titus 2:4-5**

## The Cultivator of Order, Beauty, Truth in the House of God

The Privilege of the Levite

For by the last words of David the Levites were numbered from twenty years old and above: Because their office was to wait on the sons of Aaron **for the service of the house of the LORD**, in the courts, and in the chambers, and in the purifying of all holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God; Both for the shewbread, and for the fine flour for meat offering, and for the unleavened cakes, and for that which is baked in the pan, and for that which is fried, and for all manner of measure and size; And to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at even; And to offer all burnt sacrifices unto the LORD in the sabbaths, in the new moons, and on the set feasts, by number, according to the order commanded unto them, continually before the LORD: And that they should keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the holy place, and the charge of the sons of Aaron their brethren, in the service of the house of the LORD.

**1 Chronicles 23:27-32**

## Keepers of the House of God

Know you not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. (1 Corinthians 3:16-17) . . . What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? (1 Corinthians 6:19) . . . And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (2 Corinthians 6:16)

## The Extraordinary Beauty of the Governess

### The Hebrew Bondservant

**One of circumcised ears**

If thou buy an Hebrew servant, six years he shall serve: and in the seventh he shall go out free for nothing. . . and if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master . . . I will not go out free: Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and he shall serve him for ever.

**Exodus 21:1-6**

**Bondservant** – **doulos** (Greek) – a slave, a bondman, one given up to another's will.

**Deeper Spiritual Meaning** – One bonded to Christ out of love and affection. One enslaved to the awesome power of love, one given wholly to its mastery over heart, mind, soul, and strength. One set free from the chains and punishments of Sin by the Blood of Christ who has now returned, ravished with love, to pay his rescuer homage and worship. One wholly given to the Person of Christ as Lord, Master, King, Ruler, Bridegroom, and Friend. A Bond-servant is one of circumcised ears, pierced with the aul of the Spirit, eager and able to hear his Master's voice, and ready and attentive to His every command. In the New Testament, a bondservant's life is one owned and operated by the Spirit of Almighty God.

## The Circumcised Ear

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and **incline thine ear**; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house; so shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.

**Psalm 45:10-12**

**Incline your ear**, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

**Isaiah 55:3**

To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? behold, **their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken**: behold, the word of the LORD is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it.

**Jeremiah 6:10**

And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear. And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him.

**Luke 22:50-51**

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His **bond-servants**, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His **bond-servant** John,

**Revelation 1:1**

**He that hath an ear, let him hear** what the Spirit says unto the churches; To him that overcomes will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

**Revelation 2:7**

He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

**Matthew 11:15**

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

**Matthew 13:9**

If any man have ears to hear, let him hear,

**Mark 7:16**

## The Blessing of Being a Keeper

. . . Then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD; So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

**2 Chronicles 5:14**

. . . Then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD; So that **(those who were its Keepers)** the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

**2 Chronicles 5:14**

## The Girl, Mary

The Chosen Vehicle of God to Reveal the Messiah to Adam's Race

. . . **Mary**, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.

**Matthew 1:16**

**Mary** (Maria - their rebellion / Miryam - rebellion)

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, **Mary Magdalene and the other Mary** came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. But the angel answered and said to the women, Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was

crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And **go quickly and tell His disciples** that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you. So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word. And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, Rejoice! So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, Do not be afraid. **Go and tell My brethren** to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me . . . Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **Go** therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching** them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

**Matthew 28:1-10;16-20**

## The Lineage of Majesty

Christ chose to come forth from the Unlikeliest Place

- Tamar - the feigned prostitute
- Rahab - the Gentile prostitute
- Ruth - the Moabitess
- Mary - the Rebellious

## Understanding Proper Order

Whoso offers praise glorifies me: and to him that orders his conversation aright will I show the salvation of God.

**Psalm 50:23**

As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

**Isaiah 3:12**

But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

**1 Corinthians 14:28**

Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

**1 Corinthians 14:34-35**

Let all things be done decently and in order.

**1 Corinthians 14:40**

## The Nature of Proper Silence

There is a nature of things. Kipling disciplining Rees. An order has been violated that even a toddler can identify and feel. The flow of authority is deeply significant in our wiring. However, there is a distinction between Kipling speaking to Rees and Kipling taking a position in Rees' life that is authoritatively domineering.

## Laleō - Lă-le' -ō (verb)

Laleō means simply, “to speak” - but the use of this word is 17-fold throughout the NT. It can mean anything from “to talk, to say” to “to prattle--be loquacious as a child; to speak in answer--to answer” to “to speak, discourse, discuss in a set manner, harangue, plead” to “to direct, command” to “to chatter, babble; of birds, to twitter, chirp; strictly, to make an inarticulate sound, opposed to articulate speech” to a “a pertinacious, inquisitive, domineering, dogmatical kind of speaking,” which, in 1st Corinthians would appear to be the idea that Paul is describing as “shameful” for a woman to do while in the church.

## The Big Meanie at the Front Door

There is a time for a man to speak, to move, to respond, and if a woman were to usurp his position in such a situation it would be both shameful and denigrating to the man.

## So, Is a Woman Never Supposed to Speak in the Church?

But **every woman that prays or prophesies** with her head uncovered dishonors her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.

**1 Corinthians 11:5**

And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and **your daughters shall prophesy**, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

**Joel 2:27-28**

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, You men of Judaea, and all you that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as you suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and **your daughters shall prophesy**, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

**Acts 2:14-17**

## Talking Women?

- Justin Martyr, who lived till about A.D. 150, says, in his dialogue with Trypho, the Jew, that “both men **and women** were seen among them, who had the extraordinary gifts of the Spirit of God, according as the prophet Joel had foretold, but which he endeavored to convince the Jews that the latter days were come.”
- Dodwell, in his dissertations on Irenæus, says, "the gift of the spirit of prophecy was given to others besides the apostles; and, that not only in the first and second, but in the third century--even to the time of Constantine--all sorts and ranks of men had these gifts; **yea, and women too.**"
- Eusebius speaks of Potomania Ammias, a prophetess, in Philadelphia, and others, "who were equally distinguished for their love and zeal in the cause of Christ.”

## What is the Position of the Woman?

For ye are all the children of God by faith **in Christ Jesus**. For as many of you as have been **baptized into Christ have put on Christ**. 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**.

**Galatians 3:26-28**

## So, What is the Position of the Woman?

*She is IN Christ!*

*In Christ, she is free from the bondage of legal oppressions and the long-held guilt stranglehold that rests upon her. She has been redeemed from the curse, and she is no more a slave to cultural patterns of times past.*

## Should She Throw Off Her Femininity?

Judge among yourselves. Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered?

**1 Corinthians 11:13**

## She is Yet Still a Woman

And, therefore, a vivid picture of the redemptive picture of the Feminine position

Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

**Ephesians 5:24**

## Is the Church Subject unto Christ?

Are we behaving as the Bride? Or, are we on our feministic rant?

## Silent that the Groom May Speak

Believe thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwells in me, He does the works.

**John 14:10**