

Does the Bible forbid women from speaking? | 1 Timothy 2:11-12 | Paul's problem verse

Should the woman keep silent in the church? Is she really not permitted to speak? Does the Bible promote a sexist worldview and was the apostle Paul a misogynist?

In this lesson we evaluate the Problem verse in 1 Timothy 2:11-12 and see what the bible really teaches us.

A few things are to be kept in mind when interpreting the scriptures:

- \* We need consistency of interpretation
- \* We must observe and satisfy context
- \* Everything taught must be filtered through the cross of Christ

1 Timothy 2:9-15 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; (10) But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. (11) Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. (12) But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. (13) For Adam was first formed, then Eve. (14) And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. (15) Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Key Takeaways from the sermon:

1. So there's one thing we need to know that God's nature transcends all our bias, transcends all our prejudices. We have to be aware that centuries of tradition are not undone in a single night. So as I clarify these verses there'll be centuries of tradition which are fighting against the truth. We have two types of teachers. Those, when looking at the scriptures, draw out traditions of men and those when looking at the Scriptures, draw out the truth of God's Word.
2. The women addressed here were pornographic in their attire. And that would lead and they would use their sexuality to manipulate men. And so they would dress themselves in gold and cutlery and with braided hair, this is how the priestess of Diana would dress. So Paul, addressing a unique situation. So let the women, because a lot of them were saved from the idol worship of Diana.
3. There was persecution against the church and the Romans were on an agenda to torment and crucify and take them to prison. Paul knew what happened to women in prison. He knew what men did to them. And there was something unique about Christian women. They were the only ones who were literate. They were the only ones who were bold enough to speak in public and proclaim the gospel. They were the only ones who are doing such. So it was easy for the Roman soldiers to identify Christian women. So Paul, in his own volition, he says, I suffer not all men to teach, but as part of what would happen to them in prison.
4. It was Paul's instruction and advice that don't go that route. Don't go there, you know, so that Paul says, I suffer. Not a woman to teach. This is not a doctrinal issue, you know, not even a religious issue. The issue here is purely political because Christian women were being targeted. And as a result, Paul is giving a political solution.

5. Now, some people and they read this, they say, Let the woman be silent. This is she is learning. But that's not what Paul meant. What Paul meant was that let there be silent as the woman is learning. Don't let anyone stop her or interrupt her, let her. Let her learn in peace. Let her learn in silence. Do you see what context does? It gives us a better perspective and it is consistent with all the other teachings of Paul. It is consistent with that.