

Women and Ministry

Under the New Covenant, women's role in ministry is greatly expanded

- In fact, this is an evidence of the arrival of the New Covenant. Joel 2.28-32; Acts 2.15-21
- Acts 21.9
- I Corinthians 11.4-5
- It is evident that women were prophesying in Corinth

- Apollos was instructed by Aquila and Priscilla, Acts 18.24-27

But there is a limitation

- I Cor. 11.10
- I Timothy 2.11-12

What is the issue?

- The issue is authority, not ministry
- In I Cor. 11, “power” is authority
- In I Timothy 2.12 (the only NT use of the word) the word means compulsion, sovereign rule, authority over, the exercise of jurisdiction (examples from Classical Greek writings)

Why can't women wield this kind of authority?

- I Timothy 2.13 / I Corinthians 11.8: Creation order. Genesis 2.7-25
- I Timothy 2.14: Her role in the fall. Genesis 3.1-19
- This is not a commentary about her intellect
- It is a commentary about Satan's subtlety

- Creation's purpose: I Corinthians
11.9-10

With the entrance of sin, this created tension

- Genesis 3.16
- Genesis 4.7 helps us see what this means—just as sin desires to overpower Cain, it creates a desire in the woman to overpower man

Here are some of the more prominent ways that tension displays itself

1. “Paul’s leadership passages shouldn’t even be in the Bible”
2. “Paul was only prohibiting women in ministry at that time because of cultural considerations: like the shortage of educated women”

3. “Paul is ignoring the passages that teach male and female equality, like Galatians 3.27-29”
4. “But God called me,” or “God told me to

Ultimately, the issue isn't women
pastors

- It's the authority of Scripture
- And the nature of the relationship between God and Jesus. I Cor. 11.3