

(1-25-15)

DUE PROCESS!:

FEMALE INTUITION (Part 2)

TEXT: Song of Solomon 7:4 Thy neck is as a tower of ivory; thine eyes like the fishpools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bathrabbim: **thy nose is as the tower** of Lebanon which looketh toward Damascus.

John 7:24 Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

Proverbs 18:17 He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.

2 Timothy 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves...

3...**false accusers**...

4 **Traitors**, heady...

Acts 25:16 To whom I answered, **It is not the manner of the Romans** to deliver any man to die, before that **he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself** concerning the crime laid against him.

"A defendant is not to be prohibited from adducing [presenting] all things, by which his innocence may be established." (Tacitus, *Annul.* ii.; b. 56 AD; Roman historian)

"We may remark, that it is a subject of sincere gratitude to the God of our nation, that this privilege is enjoyed in the highest perfection in this land. It is the privilege of every man here to be heard; to know the charges against him; **to be confronted with the witnesses**; to make his defence; and to be tried by the laws, and not by the passions and caprices of men."

(*Barnes Notes*, 1800s)

"To condemn a man unheard, without his being...permitted **to meet and examine his accusers face to face**, is the essence of tyranny; and must be condemned by the judgment and common-sense of the whole world." (*Family Bible Notes*)

"A rule, which as it is common to all nations, (courts of inquisition only excepted,) so it ought to direct our proceedings in all affairs, not only in public, but private life."

(Wesley)

Deuteronomy 19:17 Then **both** the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand...

18 And the judges shall make **diligent inquisition**: and, behold, if the witness be a **false witness**, and hath testified falsely against his brother;

19 Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you.

"This accusation is not to be received, unless supported by **two or three credible** witnesses; **and the accusation must be received before them**, that is, **the accused must have the accusers face to face**, because the reputation of a minister is in a particular manner a tender thing; and therefore, before any thing be done in the least to blemish that reputation, great care must be taken that the thing alledged against him be **well proved...**" (Matthew Henry)

TWO OR MORE WITNESSES - WHO AGREE WHEN EXAMINED:

Deuteronomy 17:6 At the mouth of **two witnesses, or three witnesses**, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.

Deuteronomy 19:15 **One witness** shall not rise up against a man for **any iniquity, or for any sin**, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of **two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses**, shall the matter be established.

Matthew 26:59 Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, **sought false witness** against Jesus, to put him to death;

60 But found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses,

Mark 14:59 But **neither so did their witness agree together.**

Hebrews 10:28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under **two or three witnesses:**

1 Timothy 5:19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but **before two or three witnesses.**

"Recieve not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses; that is, not to proceed to any judicial inquiry upon it." (Poole)

"...young theologians like to use the logic that this means **anytime two people say they saw something**, we are supposed to believe it. That is not at all what the Scripture is saying!...What if you were the one being falsely accused by two 'witnesses'?...Is God saying here that we are to accept the accusations of two homosexuals who have decided to destroy the ministry of a preacher by accusing him...?...If two of these people falsely accuse a person, are we to accept their accusations as truth? Absolutely not! Yet, that is exactly what most Christians do. In fact, most people do not even require one witness. We just believe it because 'someone' said it...*Against an elder receive not an accusation, but*

before two or three witnesses... The key word in this passage is the word 'receive.' These verses do not say not to 'believe'; they say not to 'receive'...We are not even to consider a case against an elder unless there are at least two witnesses. This does not mean he is guilty; it only means that we will at least consider it. The guilt is not to be presumed, and if there are not at least two witnesses, we are not even to receive the accusation for consideration. We are never to receive gossip or hearsay. Refuse to accept it!...God is teaching us in His Word that false accusers should be rebuked before everybody...The sin discussed in I Timothy 5:19 is not the sin of the accused but the sin of the one doing the accusing. Both of these passages state the same reason for this. I Timothy 5:20 says, '*...that others also may fear.*' Deuteronomy 19:20 says, '*And those which remain shall hear, and fear...*' In both cases, the Bible is speaking of false accusations and the rebuking of those who falsely accuse. So, we are taught to deal harshly with false accusers...**just because you have a gut feeling about someone does not give you the right to accuse him...**I have heard preachers say for many years that two witnesses upheld a conviction in a Jewish court. That is not true. Two witnesses made a cause **worthy of investigation**, but it did not convict a person as guilty...No one should be considered guilty until it has been proven beyond the shadow of a doubt that that individual has done what he was accused of doing. I would rather allow ten guilty people to go free than to convict one innocent person...Jesus was wrongly tried because of two witnesses; and Naboth was wrongly tried because of two witnesses. Tragically most Christians do not even need two witnesses to believe an accusation is true. They only need someone to tell them that he heard something, and they accept it as truth. It is wicked to take an individual's reputation in your hand because of something you heard!...Daniel was falsely accused and thrown into the lion's den. God protected him from harm, but notice what happened to those who falsely accused him! They were cast into the lion's den as were their wives and children! The king was obeying the law by punishing the false accusers in the same fashion they intended for Daniel to be punished when they falsely accused him...If you hear gossip or slander, it is wrong for you to begin an investigation to see if you can find a witness or witnesses. It is wicked and unscriptural, for in doing so, you begin to spread the accusations...[It is wrong to hear] only one side..."

(Hyles, *Justice and Witnesses*)

"This the law of Moses required in respect to all...those whose business it is to correct others will usually have many enemies; great caution, therefore, should be used in admitting accusations against such persons." (Clarke)

"The best men the world has known have been thus accused...*Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.*...I am aware that an objection to this interpretation may be offered, on the ground that it may screen from censure some that are really guilty...In answer, it may be noticed, that there are a multitude of crimes committed, no doubt, of which not one witness can be had. Such are cases that must

remain till the final judgment, when He who knows all hearts, and who will bring into judgment every secret thing, shall make a righteous decision, and do justice to all His creatures...it is an old maxim, that two guilty persons had better go free, than an innocent one suffer..."

(The Quarterly Christian Spectator, 1820)

"It were better that Ten Suspected Witches should escape, than that one Innocent Person should be Condemned." (Increase Mather)

"It is better that ten guilty persons escape than that one innocent suffer."

(William Blackstone, English jurist, 1760s)

"It is better 100 guilty Persons should escape than that one innocent Person should suffer."

(Benjamin Franklin, 1785)

"It is more important that innocence should be protected, than it is, that guilt be punished; for guilt and crimes are so frequent in this world, that all of them cannot be punished..."

(John Adams, founding father)

"It is our duty to regard them as innocent, unless the charge is clearly *proved* by competent testimony. An accusation is not to be *entertained* against a minister except it be established by two or three witnesses...such is the credulity of man, that he too frequently credits criminal reports, without sufficient testimony, against God-fearing men."

(A History of the Sandy Creek Baptist Association, 1859)

Titus 2:3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, **not false accusers...**

Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; **whisperers**,
32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are **worthy of death**, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

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