

**“Men Praying in Faith”; Session # 26 in in the series on the
2nd Commandment, presented in the Adult Sunday School
on March 2nd, 2014, by Pastor Paul Rendall.**

Outline of Men and Women in Worship -

1st Corinthians 11: 4-16, 1 Timothy 2: 8-15, and 1st Corinthians 14: 34-38

- 1. The Abiding Apostolic Traditions and Principles of humility and submission** – This respect for and obedience to the hierarchy which God has established, exemplified by the Trinity Themselves applies all during the Church Age. These holy traditions were rules established by the Apostles for godly order in family and in the Church. Since there is hierarchy and submission within the Divine Trinity themselves, in regard to the outworking of redemption and our salvation, men and women ought to be able to receive their own role responsibilities with joy.
- 2. The Customs and Symbols** which show humility and submission in the worship of that day, and how they apply to us. This has regard to the outworking of these unchanging principles in regard to various cultural situations of that day and this, in relation to what men and women need to do to show forth their submission to God in worship in family, society, and church.
- 3. The Commands of the Lord which are unchanging** and how they apply to the worship of our day as well as that day - Women being silent in the public corporate worship of God, and men speaking and taking the lead as they are called by God and recognized by the existing leadership and congregation of the local church.

We are now under point # 3 in our outline – The Commands of the Lord in regard to the roles of men and women in worship, and their responsibilities in regard to how they are to use their particular spiritual gifts, and how they are to present themselves before the Lord while praying and prophesying. These, the Apostle Paul is telling us, are unchanging during all of this Church Age.

1st - In regard to men praying in Public Worship – They should pray in faith

1st Timothy 2, verse 8 - The Apostle Paul has been exhorting Timothy as his apostolic helper to instruct the church at Ephesus about prayer and prophesying (or what would be preaching and teaching by anyone in the public assembly) Verse 8 – “I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.”

Now I hope that you can see from this passage the difference between a command and a custom. Most of what Paul is saying here is related to command. Verse 8 – Paul states that it is his apostolic desire; the holy tradition that he is inculcating here in relation to the enduring principle of male headship, that the men, (tous andras), “the males”, pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath or doubting. (James 1: 5-8, James 1: 19 and 20, and James 5: 17 and 18) You can see how great a hindrance it is to seeing answers to your prayers, or the prayers of others, if when you pray you are doubting whether God will actually answer your prayers. James calls this: double-mindedness, and says that we cannot expect that we will receive anything from the Lord being double-minded. James says that such a person is unstable in all their ways. In James 1: 19 you can see that the anger of man does not accomplish the righteousness of God. And we can certainly apply this to praying in anger as well. Better to listen, and to ask the question, what can I pray for which would show that I really care about the welfare of people

around me, even those whom I disagree with. Matthew 5: 44 – “But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”