

## INTRODUCTION

By God's grace, He calls people to assemble, in the time and place He ordains, which is the meeting of His churches in every place. He calls for the men and the women and the children, including any who are ignorant of His law and His gospel, and any who do not believe.

In such an assembly, the worshipers speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. They sing out to one another,

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life gate that we may go in!

I praise the Lord above  
Whose counsel guides aright

In such an assembly, the worshipers pray for all men:

that by God's grace they may be saved through faith in Jesus Christ  
-may the Holy Spirit so bless the preachers all over the world, that sinners may hear the good news preached, and may believe, and so be saved  
-may the Holy Spirit so work in the hearts of sinners who have heard the good news preached, that they may be born again on the inside, and so repent and become disciples of Jesus Christ

that by God's providence those who are in the government will use the power of the sword, assigned them by God, to secure our rights  
-our right to be undisturbed as we worship according to what we understand the Bible to say  
-our right to be unmolested as we live our daily lives according to what we understand the Bible to say

In such an assembly, someone stands before the people assembled and teaches the word of God.

- the man reads a portion of the Holy Scriptures
- he explains the sense of it, at whatever points it might be difficult to understand
- he points out how it expresses God's law, the things the Lord commands
- he shows how it communicates the Gospel, the good news of forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord

In the assembly of the church on the Lord's Day, when it is time for such preaching and teaching of the Word of God, the women of the church are called to learn, just like the men are

- but unlike the men, a women does not take a turn speaking, teaching the Word of God to the congregation
- instead, she learns in silence or quietness in the assembly
- certainly she teaches children at home, drawing from what she has learned
- certainly she asks questions at home, especially if she is blessed with a husband to ask
- certainly she, if she is an older, more experienced woman, she is a teacher of good things, working to train younger women in how to love their husbands and children, and how to live in Christian graces
- but when the Word of God is preached and taught in the church, the woman is not permitted to be the one speaking, but is commanded to learn in silence, in quietness

So much we have considered in the past sermons. Today we go on to see that the woman, as she learns in silence, also learns in all subjection or submission.

As we do, we are reviewing what we learned together four years ago when we were studying through Ephesians. Starting in Ephesians 5, and continuing into chapter 6, there is the doctrine of being filled with the Spirit. One of the ways that being filled with the Spirit shows itself is in submitting: church to Christ, wife to husband, children to parents, servants to masters. So if you have heard that, some of what you hear today will ring familiar.

**Since we see here in 1 Timothy 2 that the woman is to learn in all subjection or all submission, we want to know what subjection or submission is, that we may learn to trust in God through Jesus Christ, and to obey all things that our Lord has commanded us.**

TEXT

1 Timothy 2:11-12

## BODY

**Since we see here in 1 Timothy 2 that the woman is to learn in all subjection or all submission, we want to know what subjection or submission is, that we may learn to trust in God through Jesus Christ, and to obey all things that our Lord has commanded us.**

- I. Explained By An Army Officer with Great Faith in Jesus - Luke 7:1-8
  - A. verse 8a to be in all subjection or submission is to recognize that you have been set or placed in an arrangement, in which you are under the authority of someone else
    1. your position is under another position in the organization
      - a) the rank of centurion is under the rank of a higher officer, such as a chiliarch
      - b) the lower ranks are under the centurion
    2. you personally are under another person because of your positions in the organization
      - a) that particular centurion personally is under whatever man is at that time in the higher rank above him
      - b) that servant who lies sick is at that time personally under that particular centurion
  - B. verse 8b to be in all subjection or submission is doing what you are told by the one under whose authority you have been set or placed
    1. he says, “go” and you go
    2. he says, “come” and you come
    3. he says, “do this” and you do it
  - C. verse 7 this army officer apparently believed that Jesus had great authority, to be able to order that a sick person be healed!

Subjection or submission is understanding your place as under someone else, and being ready to come, go, and do as that person says.

## II. Seen in a Holy Woman of the Past Hoping in God 1 Peter 3:5-6

- A. verse 6 for a wife to be in all subjection or submission is for her to obey her husband
- B. verse 6 for a wife to be in all subjection or submission is for her to call her husband her “lord”
- C. verses 5a, 6b to be in all subjection or submission is to hope or trust in God rather than being afraid
  - 1. it can seem very frightening to be in all subjection or submission
  - 2. you are a daughter of the holy women of the past if you do not give in to such temptations to be afraid, but instead trust or hope in God
    - a) He is the one who has made the arrangements that place you under someone else
    - b) He is the one who has placed you personally under your husband personally and the others in authority over you
    - c) so He is the one who should be trusted to protect you and your family; and indeed He can be trusted!

Subjection or submission is

-understanding your place as under someone else, and being ready to come, go, and do as that person says.

-being ready to obey those in authority over you

-telling yourself that your own husband is your lord

-instead of being afraid of what will happen, trusting God to bless you as you obey Him

III. Observed in a Proud Person Humbling Himself Before God James 4:1-7

- A. verse 1 Naturally, because of the sin in your flesh, you are tempted to lust after the things of this world
  - 1. you are tempted to try to get them by fighting
  - 2. if you pray to God, you are tempted to pray only that God will give you what your flesh desires
- B. verse 6 If you give in to temptation, and live like that, you show that you are proud or prideful
  - 1. the world praises pride as virtuous
  - 2. but the word of God condemns pride as sinful
- C. verses 6-7 If you humble yourself in the sight of God, accepting that He is over you, and you are under him, that is subjection or submission
- D. verse 6 Note that Proverbs 3:34 is quoted here
  - 1. which says
    - a) God resists or opposes the proud
    - b) God gives grace to the humble
  - 2. when a person will not submit to God directly, or will not submit to the authority God has placed over him, he should expect that God will be resisting him, opposing him
  - 3. but when that person submits to God, and submits to the authority God has placed over him, he should expect that God will be helping him

Subjection or submission is

-understanding your place as under someone else, and being ready to come, go, and do as that person says.

-being ready to obey those in authority over you

-telling yourself that your own husband is your lord

-instead of being afraid of what will happen, trusting God to bless you as you obey Him

-instead of proudly lusting after the things of this world, humbling yourself in the sight of God

#### IV. Specified By The Apostle Paul

- A. Remember that when Paul wrote in verse 11 that a woman is to learn in silence, he specified in verse 12 that he means she is not permitted to teach
- B. See that by the same pattern, when Paul wrote in verse 11 that a woman is to learn with all subjection or submission, he specified in verse 12 that he means she is not permitted to exercise authority over a man
- C. In the God-ordained structure by which the church assembled is taught, there is no subversion of the created order
  1. the woman does not assume the office of pastor, and so exercise authority over her own husband or other men
  2. the woman does not even take a turn teaching the bible, and so exercise that kind of authority over her own husband or other men

Subjection or submission is

- understanding your place as under someone else, and being ready to come, go, and do as that person says.
- being ready to obey those in authority over you
- telling yourself that your own husband is your lord
- instead of being afraid of what will happen, trusting God to bless you as you obey Him
- instead of proudly lusting after the things of this world, humbling yourself in the sight of God
- not seeking to be in authority over men in the church

#### V. What Is It, Then, To Learn in All Subjection or Submission

- A. Not to take a position of authority over the men; not to try to take such a position; not to wish you could have such a position; but instead
- B. To take your place under your husband and your pastors and whatever man is taking a turn to teach,
- C. To be contented, thankful, and joyful in that arrangement, as ordained by God

## VI. How Is This Subjection or Submission to Be Achieved?

### A. Humble yourself before God

1. He is over you; not slightly but completely, utterly
2. you are under Him; not slightly, but completely, utterly
3. acknowledge this in yourself and to Him
4. proceed to think, speak, and act accordingly

### B. Accept rather than reject the humiliation that this doctrine teaches.

1. it has become a cultural norm to us that something humiliating is bad and to be avoided; that humiliation is bad for a person; that is not the path
  - a) I first heard about this when I read a Puritan book from the 1600s. The book was originally a series of lectures delivered at a humiliation meeting!
  - b) early American proclamations about days of fasting or days of thanksgiving talked about things like, “prayer and humiliation.”
  - c) it used to be the Puritan way and the American way intentionally to humiliate ourselves before God and other people
2. recall from James chapter 4 that submitting is rejecting pride, which the world loves, and embracing humility, which the world hates, but God loves
3. tame your wild, proud flesh with this thought, “God opposes the proud.”
4. If you think, “It is humiliating to think that my husband is over me, and I am under him!” you are right; it is. If you have pridefully resisted that way of things in the family, then humiliating yourself is the way forward in obedience to Christ. Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord, which carries with it promises:
  - a) “and He will lift you up.”
  - b) God gives grace to the humble

### C. Look not to the feminist culture in which we live today, but to the holy women of the past, for your models of how to place yourself in the family and in the church

### D. Understand that in the arrangements God has made, you are over your children, but under your husband and under your church pastors

1. to be thankful to the Lord for that arrangement
2. to acknowledge His perfect wisdom in making that arrangement
3. to put down in yourself any temptations to subvert that arrangement

### E. Pray that the Lord Jesus, who gave you this command by His Holy Spirit inspiring Paul to write this, will help you by that same Holy Spirit working inside you

F. Look to Jesus Christ, in all subjection in the Garden of Gethsemane

1. Remember that in the garden of Eden, we did not submit
  - a) Eve did not submit to God;
  - b) we all, in Adam, did not submit to God
  - c) at the mere suggestion by the devil that we could have some kind of pleasure for ourselves if only we would not do the will of God, we did our own will instead of God's
  - d) so all of our sin flows from not submitting to God in the Garden of Eden
2. Consider that in the garden of Gethsemane, the second Adam, Jesus Christ, did submit
  - a) it was the will of God the Father that Jesus Christ our Lord live in perfect obedience; and our Lord submitted to Him perfectly in that
  - b) it was the will of God the Father that Jesus Christ our Lord take the punishment that sinners deserved; and our Lord submitted to Him perfectly in that
  - c) the understanding of imminent, brutal, violent torture and death did not move our dear Lord Jesus out of submission to God the Father
  - d) in the midst of His great agony, sweating great drops of blood, our Savior cried, "Not my will, but Yours."
3. By natural descent, and by God's legal reckoning, you came into this world being of Adam, the one who would not remain in all subjection or submission, but rebelled against God's will
4. But the good news is that when you trust yourself to Jesus Christ, you will be reckoned by God as being in Jesus Christ, instead of Adam
  - a) by your being in Adam, you would be condemned
  - b) but by your being in Jesus Christ, you can be justified
5. So now the grace of God commands you repent, to turn from you non-submitting; and to believe on Jesus Christ, to trust in His perfect submitting;
  - a) and so Jesus Christ's death on the cross will be counted as satisfying the wrath of God for your failure to submit;
  - b) and the righteousness of Jesus Christ in submitting to God will be credited to your account; you will be counted submissive to God in and through the great submitter, our Lord Jesus

6. God the Father has raised the Lord Jesus from the dead, and has seated Him at His right hand, and placed everything in subjection under Him
  - a) right now, you don't see everything placed in subjection to Him
  - b) but when the Lord Jesus Christ returns, which could be any moment, you will see all things in subjection under Him
  - c) do not be among those who will, on that day, be forcibly subjected to Him as they are cast into the lake of fire forever
  - d) be among those who have willingly subjected themselves to Him, who will enter into the eternal life prepared for them

## CONCLUSION

Women who hope in God; women who are disciples of Jesus Christ,  
-do not think of taking a position of authority over the men in the church, or at home  
-take your place under your husband and your pastors and whatever man is taking a turn to teach  
-be contented, thankful, and joyful in that arrangement, as ordained by God  
-and, for the sake of your own soul; for the sake of your own husband; for the sake of your own children; for the good of your own church; for the sake of the unbelievers around you...

Learn in all silence with all subjection.

Jeff: Call to Worship and Opening Prayer - Galatians 1:3-5

Willie: Scripture Reading - Hebrews 2:1-18

Dillon: Congregational Prayer

Allison - Prelude (you choose, please)

Allison - Trinity 667 "To God Be the Glory"

Rita - Trinity 581 "To Thee, O Lord, I Fly"

Rita - Trinity 432 "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners"