

“MY WORDS SHALL NEVER PASS AWAY!”

by Mark Legendre

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Over the past several weeks, there has been a lot of controversy in the Baptist Church over the role of women in the church.
- B. The question “Should women be allowed to be pastors over local congregations?” is at the heart of this issue.
- C. Some Baptist preachers have said “Yes”; while yet other Baptist preachers have said “No.”
- D. A vote was then cast in the Southern Baptist Convention meetings in favor of “not allowing women to be pastors in local congregations” based upon the scriptural teachings of the word of God on these matters. (1 Tim. 2:11-12, etc.)
- E. Some of the statements that have been made by various individuals involved in this issue have been very interesting to say the least.
- F. I would like to examine some of these statements first of all and then address the “role of women in the Lord’s plans.”

THE RELEVANCE OF THE WORD OF GOD TODAY!

- A. One Baptist preacher made the following comment in the Beaumont Enterprise dated June 13, 2000.

“I believe these biblical instructions intended for a first-century culture were not meant to be normative or authoritative for the church in future generations and cultures.”
- B. What does the word of God say about a comment like this? (2 Tim. 3:16-17; Mt. 24:35; 1 Pet. 1:22-25; Jn. 12:48)
 - 1. If the scriptures such as 1st Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:5-9, 1st Timothy 2:9-14, and 1st Corinthians 14:34-35 do not pertain to today, then just “how do we go about determining what part of the Bible is applicable for today?”
 - 2. If the gospel is to be “preached to all the world until the end of the world”, then it must be because it is “applicable for people of all ages.” (Mt. 28:18-20)
- C. Another statement from the Beaumont Enterprise dated June 21, 2000. (Robert Troutman – Baptist preacher)

“Paul might have had a bad day when he wrote what he did.” (1 Tim. 2:11-12) “Better we should place our faith in the actions of Jesus, not the words of Paul,” he went on to say.

D. What does the Bible say about these comments?

(Acts 1:1-2; Gal. 1:11-12; 1 Cor. 14:37)

E. Does all of this somehow mean that “women are inferior to men when it comes to their service to God?” (NO!)

(1 Tim. 2:11-15; 1 Pet. 3:7; Gal. 3:26-29; 1 Tim. 3:2,12)

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN GOD’S PLANS!

A. The first role that a woman has is that of being a “helpmeet to the man.”
(Gen. 2:18-25)

B. The woman is also to be a “mother in the home.”
(1 Tim. 5:14)

C. A woman can also be a “teacher of the word of God.”
(Acts 18:24-26; 2 Tim. 3:14-15; Tit. 2:3-5)

1. A woman however “cannot teach, nor usurp authority over the man.”
(1 Tim. 2:11-12; 1 Cor. 14:34-35)

2. A woman can “preach, teach, and in the 1st century even prophesy” as long as she does not “teach, nor usurp authority over the man.”
(1 Cor. 11:3-11; Acts 21:9; Lk. 2:36-38; Judges 4:4)

D. A woman can also be a “helper in the church in various ways.” (Rom. 16:1-2)

E. In all that we have discussed there is “not one hint of the woman being inferior to the man in any way.” (She simply has different responsibilities given to her by God than what were given to the man.)

CONCLUSION:

A. “What kind of attitude do you have toward the Bible?”
(2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Cor. 14:37; 2 Pet. 1:3; 1 Thes. 2:13)

B. Your attitude toward the Bible will determine whether or not you will be saved! (2 Thes. 2:10; Rom. 1:16)

C. THE INVITATION!