Sept. 25, 2016 a.m.

“LET YOUR WOMEN KEEP SILENT….”

Text: **1 Cor. 14:23-40**

*“Let your women keep silent in the churches….”*

Read **1 Timothy 2:11-15** so we can consider it along side this text.

* Is **1 Timothy 2** talking about assemblies as is **1 Cor. 14**? Or her demeanor in all of life?
* *hesuchia* – **2 Thess. 3:12; Acts 22:2** (degrees of this kind of silence)
* *sigao* **(1 Cor. 14:34) –** same as **14:28, 30**.

**Why these restrictions?**

* The creation order. **(1 Cor. 11:3, 8-9; 1 Tim. 2:13)**
* *“They are to be submissive, as the law also says.”* ***(34)***
* What does the Old Law say about a woman being in submission?
* After sin – a more submissive role? **(Gen. 3:16)**
* A role that would be challenging for her. Did she desire to lead but was then told that her husband would be given the role of the leader in the home? **(4:7)**
* “That is, it shall be subject to him: so the phrase is used Ge 4:7.” (BFB)
* Being silent in the assemblies is a show of submissiveness.
* Reminder (consequence of Eve’s sin) of her own sinfulness. **(1 Tim. 2:14)**
* As making a living by the sweat of one’s brow is such for men.
* She played a pivotal role in her own salvation – Jesus, *born of a woman*. **(Gal. 4:4)**

**Before we look at some other considerations…**

* Men were chosen to serve as apostles.
* Men are to serve as elders, deacons, evangelists, teachers. **(1 Tim.3; Titus 1; Acts 13)**
* When someone was appointed to care for widows, men were chosen. **(Acts 6:3)**

**Ways in which she is and is not restricted by these commands.**

* This should be clear - A woman is just as capable as a man is of having the knowledge of God’s will, spiritual understanding (insight, perception) and wisdom.
* She is not to take a leading role in the teaching of the gospel when the whole church has come together in one place nor is she is not to *teach or to have authority over a man*.
* The Lord does not say that a woman can never teach a man under any circumstances.
* Women can teach the gospel, can talk about Jesus, speak the truth.
* *“As also says the law”*
* Anna taught all that came to Jerusalem looking for redemption. **(Luke 2:36-38)**
* Huldah taught 5 men in **1 Kings 22:14-20**.
* A wife can teach her unbelieving husband (if he is willing to listen) **(1 Pet. 3:1)**
* Priscilla and Aquila *(they)* taught Apollos. **(Acts 18:26)**
* Philip had four daughters who could prophesy. **(Acts 21:9;** see **2:17)**
* Only woman and children? Men outside of the assembly? (see Anna)
* Did Timothy’s mother and grandmother teach him? **(2 Tim.3:15; 1:5)**
* If a woman writes an article and an editor decides to include it in a magazine, does it have to be addressed to women in particular? Why or why not? **1 Cor. 14**? **1 Tim. 2**?
* Timothy was to commit what Paul taught him to faithful men *(anthropos –* generic for all of the human race) so that they could teach others also. **(2 Tim. 2:2)**
* *aner* – specific for men (male) – **1 Tim. 2:12**
* When women sing, they are teaching. (but not in the role that is specifically prohibited)
* If a woman says “amen” at the giving of thanks, she has not violated these restrictions.
* If a woman makes a comment during announcements, she has not violated these restrictions. (she is not teaching/leading as one teaching the whole assembly)
* Did this only apply to women who were married to prophets? Or only to married women?
* What about single women? Widows? Wives of unbelievers?
* Perhaps the women who were out-of-line at Corinth were married. (to prophets)
* The general principle is that women are to be silent (shame to speak in assembly).
* Bible classes?! We wouldn’t have most of the questions we have if not for bible classes.
* A bible class is not the whole church together in one place. ***(14:23)***
* Women answering questions or making comments has not placed them in a position of authority so that they are a teacher teaching men in an assembly of the whole church.
* If a husband and wife can teach a man (Priscilla and Aquila), why couldn’t a husband and wife teach a bible class of middle-school children?

**Ladies, there is much to do and you can do it.**

* Don’t let what you are not to do during 2-3 hours a week hold you back from doing what you have the God-given authority found in the Scriptures (learned from statements, examples and necessary inferences).
* And we are all in the same predicament – we have all sinned and our roles may remind us of that from time to time. We need the lessons on humility. We need to learn to trust and obey God.