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Women in Church

By Taylor Braswell on June 17, 2024

TODAY'S READING: 1 Timothy 2

Church, we do not have time to explore everything in this chapter in this short devotion. If you want to go deeper, I recommend you read *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus* by David Platt, Daniel Akin, and Tony Merida.

In 1 Timothy 2:9-10, Paul commands Christian women not to draw unnecessary attention to themselves. Modesty implies not dressing inappropriately or becoming a distraction by drawing people's attention to our physical features. There were obviously women in the church trying to draw attention to their wealth and beauty that Paul is addressing here. Paul is making a point to differentiate between how the sexual culture of his day would dress and how Christians should dress. All Christians (men and women) should dress in a way that does not draw unnecessary attention to our physical features. When we gather for worship, we should want our brothers and sisters in Christ to focus on God, not ourselves. Is your life pointing people to the gospel or yourself?

In 1 Timothy 2:11-15 Paul addresses the roles of men and women within the church. Paul is not talking about our value as men and women, he is talking about God's design for the Church. Within the Trinity, Christ submits to the Father, but this doesn't mean that he has less value than the Father. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit all have different roles within the Godhead. God's design for his church is no different! As we will see in our reading tomorrow, God has entrusted men to lead his church. While women are commanded to use their gifts in the church just like men (Titus 2:3, 2 Timothy 1:5, 2 Timothy 3:14, Acts 18:26, Matthew 28:19-20, Colossians 3:16, and 1 Corinthians 11), it is under the authority of the pastors, who are the primary shepherds of the body of Christ. Lastly, verse 15 doesn't mean women must bear children to be saved; rather, it is through childbearing that Christ was promised to be born in order to save mankind who sinned in the first place. Women, you have value, and you are loved because you are created in the image of God! There are people God has put in your life because you are uniquely gifted to minister to them. Don't underestimate how God can use you!

PRAYER: God, You are sovereign, and I trust you with my life. Remove any distractions in my life that are hindering me in my walk with you, and bring to my attention any way in which I am distracting others from you. Thank you for creating me uniquely to serve you in the body of Christ.

TOMORROW'S READING: 1 Timothy 3

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