

The Historic-Egalitarian View (In Defense of Women Ministers Called of God)

Donald W. Minkler, PhD

The *historic-egalitarian* view is powerfully set forth (*scripturally, theologically, historically*) as the received teaching and practice of the early Church. Special emphasis is placed on delineating not only between the historic- versus a modern-egalitarian view, but also between the early Church and the rise and development of the institutionalized/liturgically-developed Church. Many (*perhaps most*) think only in bilinear terms of either the complementarian view (*i.e., women are not called or gifted to serve as ministers in the general assembly*) or the egalitarian view (*i.e., that God calls and gifts both men and women to serve as ministers in the general assembly*). However, as Dr. Minkler has stated, “*Not all egalitarians can be lumped together, for much of which goes under the banner of a modern-egalitarian view is emphatically opposed by historic-egalitarians.*” Dr. Minkler’s labor in setting forth the distinction between *historic-* and *modern-egalitarianism* (while answering objections raised by both complementarians and modern-egalitarians alike), proves to be a powerful aid to anyone whose only desire in studying doctrine is to know, “. . . *what does the Scripture say?*”

