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GEORGE ALLEN & UNWIN

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

GEORGE AKALONU

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Introduction

THE CHALLENGE OF WOMANHOOD

Within the pages of this book lies an exhaustive exposition, representing the full counsel of the Scriptures as it relates to Women and the Call to serve Elohim in Ministry.

Since the day of the fall in the Garden of Eden, womankind has faced a peculiar problem: a certain kind of perception of being harbingers of the sad loss of the awesome mantle of Elohim for humanity. Unfortunately, contributions to the Garden of Eden story tend to flow from that narrative alone.

There are two key facts that will help us put the issue of womanhood on a more balanced footing.

1. CREATION OF THE FEMALE WAS NOT AN AFTERTHOUGHT.

The problem with religion is the thick veil it casts upon truth. From a religious perspective, the creation of Eve was an afterthought. This is based on a textual interpretation of Genesis 2:18. Proponents of this theory of creation would have us believe that Adam was the only one in the mind of Elohim when He first created the world. Let scripture deal with that foundational lie:

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. 29And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. 1:26-29

It is necessary that we look at the fine prints of the Word and the intent of Holy Spirit to understand the vital truth in verse 27 above: all that Elohim was saying about the dominion mandate of man who He was to create was in the context of both male and female!

2. WOMEN WERE NOT CREATED AS “INFERIOR” TO MEN.

In the creation of man, Elohim took time to do an original work with earth as His raw material, so to say. Here is the account:

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. 2:7

The breath of Elohim or measure of Holy Spirit which was imparted into the lifeless figure caused a quickening

which led Adam to come alive with a distinct soul. This is the triune nature which has been passed down to all humans.

There has been a strong wind of delusion propelled by religious perceptions that Eve was an inferior being. This is based on a negative reading of the account of how Eve was created. In creating Eve, Elohim could have repeated the same procedure He used in making Adam. However, He chose not to because He was still at work on creation and had not entered into His rest. How He chose to create Eve is a classic study in the Law of Process! Elohim made Eve out of Adam as a ‘more’ refined product, so to say!

And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.¹⁹And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.²⁰And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. ²¹And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; ²²And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. ²³And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. ²⁴Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. Genesis 2:18-24

This refined product was obviously equipped with a womb as Adam rightly discerned in verse 23. More importantly, this refined creature called Eve had some capacities which we need to understand as we allow Holy Spirit to take us into the deeper waters of the subject. Let us examine a few of those capacities:

1. A “womb” to conceive and bring forth that which Elohim had ordained in Genesis 1:28 which is fruitfulness and ability to multiply. Take note of this capacity and the fact that Satan, an enemy of mankind has been “jealous”, so to say of this facility through which mankind would perpetuate the rule of the earth which he (Satan) coveted. To corrupt this capacity of womanhood is one of the battles Satan has continually fought. That fight did not end with the fall. It is still raging till this very day.
2. An advanced soul and body which had greater sensitivity to things of the spirit. Ordinarily, this implied a greater capacity for women to ‘see’ things, even far in the horizon and their very active ability to flow in the revelatory gifts. When applied to Elohim and His ways, this produces near perfect discernment and declaration of His mind.

Unfortunately too, with this capacity also came the easy tendency to contact spiritual persons and mysteries even on the negative side of the spectrum. That fact was exploited by Satan who bypassed Adam to tempt Eve! Over the millennia, Satan and his spiritual and human agents have actively sought to exploit the desire of women to “know” and “see” leading many to be attracted and easily soul-tied with prophets, prophecies and various revelatory gifts which in the process have led to the opening doors of divinations by negative spirits too.

In Genesis 3:15, the pronouncement made by Elohim that the Seed of the woman (Yahshua, Jesus) would crush the head of the Serpent (Satan), was received by Satan as a declaration of war! Rather than relent, he went on an all-out war to destroy the capacity of women to produce the Seed. It is interesting that Satan bypassed an obviously careless (and one may add irresponsible Adam) to converse with Eve and tempt her like he did. A careful reading of Genesis 3:1-6 reveals that Adam was close to Eve in the Garden. The inability to cover his spouse by Adam has been passed on throughout the ages leading many women to operate without effective spiritual coverage by their husbands.

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?² And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:³ But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.⁴ And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:⁵ For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. Genesis 3:1-6

It is needful that we examine the two lines of attack Satan utilized in fighting both womanhood and the Seed that she was to bear. Satan, who is not omniscient, simply waged a war that spanned centuries against women in the lineage that

would produce Yahshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus the Messiah (see Genesis 3:1-6.)

1. There were fierce attempts to pollute the lineage Elohim had ordained to produce the Messiah with gross immorality and all manner of sexual sins. This was to be through misuse of the very organs of the body created to fulfill this divine purpose as they lent them to Satan and the flesh. The result was instructive:
 - Tamar seduced her Father in-law Judah, disguised as a prostitute, to produce Pharez (see Genesis 38:11-29)
 - Rahab, the prostitute of Jericho lived in the flesh before being grafted into Israel after saving the spies;
 - Ruth, one of the forebears of King David was a Moabitess who later married Boaz. By the way, Moab and Ammon were products of the incestuous relationship between Lot and his daughters after they were saved from Sodom and Gomorrah (see Genesis 19:29-38.)
 - We also know the story of David and women which led to the matter of Bathsheba who bore Solomon. In Solomon, debauchery and immorality went to new heights when a single man had 1000 women for himself.
2. The spirit of religion was deployed to negate women and keep them in a permanent state of guilt. The idea was that as long as women were seen as troublesome and difficult to manage, whatever Elohim had planned to birth through them would be received with suspicion and ultimately rejected. Due to the hardness of their hearts, Elohim allowed those of the

Old Testament to enjoy the dichotomy between genders, with females playing second fiddle. In that dispensation however, whenever circumstances and situations led Israel to the cliff edge and men scampered for safety, the Lord brought forth a peculiar woman who was used to redeem the situation. The case of Deborah the Judge/Prophetess is instructive.

DIVINE SIGNS OF A NEW PARADIGM FOR WOMEN IN THE NEW COVENANT

The New Covenant was sealed by the Blood of Yahshua, Jesus at the Cross and confirmed with His resurrection on the third day. Let us note the reality that at the beginning (Conception), on the Day of Atonement on the Cross and on the Day of Resurrection when the deal of Redemption was sealed, Elohim orchestrated it that women, rather men would be the dominant actors!

- The ONLY person who knew when the incarnation took place was Mary (see Luke 1:30-38). Joseph was to know later when the pregnancy became apparent.
- Women were principal witnesses to the last breath of Yahshua, Jesus while the men, except John ran away! In the case of Peter, he denied Yahshua three times. (see John 19:25-30)
- A woman, Mary Magdalene, was the first to see the resurrected King (see John 20: 1-18)

We believe that the special role of women in these three critical phases of the redemptive mission of Yahshua was not accidental but a carefully designed process by which Elohim was making a bold statement: that His sons in female bodies were marked out to be active participants in the New Covenant which is far superior to the Old.

It was not by accident that Yahshua is called SEED of the Woman! The Male seed which carried the Sin gene was actively retired so that Holy Spirit would use the female womb to do the remarkable miracle which is the incarnation of Yahshua!

*But when the fullness of the time was come,
God sent forth his Son, made of a woman,
made under the law Galatians 4: 4*

THE KINGDOM CONCEPT OF MINISTRY

Religion conveniently forgets that at the Cross, Yahshua, Jesus, knocked down all middle walls of partition and created a pathway of equal access to Abba for intimate relationship, receipt of Holy Spirit and the privilege of ministering to Him, to fellow saints and to the lost. In Yahshua, the paradigm of ministry changes from title or position to function. The finest definition of ministry in the Kingdom context, therefore, is: The Expression (bringing forth) of what saints (male and female) are impressed with by Holy Spirit! “Impressed with” simply defines the gifts of the Holy Spirit we receive by grace, irrespective of our gender!

It is instructive that Paul, the apostle, was the vessel Yahshua, Jesus used extensively to describe the nature of ministry within the context of His Church as a living, loving organism of different body parts ministering to each other for the profit of all rather than a dry religious organization with a pyramidal hierarchy of authority are master pieces that exposit on ministry as Holy Spirit activated expression of grace that is used to build up the Body of Yahshua and affect lives. To this agrees the words of 1 Peter 4:10-11. (See Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31; Ephesians 4:7,8, 11-16.)

It is impossible for Paul, who Yahshua, Jesus used extensively to bring forth the deep revelation that ministry proceeds from Holy Spirit's prompting and manifestation of His presence and power through the spirit man of human vessels (which is neither male nor female) to turn around and propose exclusion of women from public ministry. In any case, the ministry of Paul was hallmarked by the extensive ministry of women who he commended profusely as we shall see in this course. Let us take note that among the revelations granted to Paul is the reality that the one New Man of Elohim in the earth realm is a spiritual personality! The heart of the redeemed is where the identity of redemption is, not the racial back ground, nature of physical body (male or female), socio-economic status, political persuasion or any other carnal divisions humans revel in such as age.

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.²⁹ And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3: 26-29

This is why, to all intents, women can be rightly called sons of Elohim in female bodies with the same inheritance in the Lord as the men/brothers who are sons of Elohim in male bodies. This is the Kingdom perspective of gender.

In Satan's fight of the agenda of Elohim for saints, one clever approach which he uses is to take the words of scripture, quote them out of context and use them as a bait to trap the unwary! This was on full display when he tempted Yahshua, Jesus Himself, very Elohim and very man as

Matthew 4:1-11 shows. Just as Yahshua, Jesus used the right interpretation of scripture to silence Satan, so are we called to do in these Last Days!

The Old Serpent knows that women are the secret weapon of Elohim for conceiving and birthing paradigm changing ministers and ministries as he discovered too late in the matter of the incarnation of Jesus in the womb of Mary in Luke 1:35. Knowing that as in the case of Mary, Abba will do great things through womanhood that are outside his fiendish loop and influence, Satan wants to tar brush femininity as a liability and cause many to reject off-hand the great deposits of grace in them in these Last Days.

SYNOPSIS OF THE STUDY: WOMEN IN MINISTRY

As we proceed with this exhaustive exposition, representing the full counsel of the Scriptures on the issue of Women and The Call to serve God in Ministry, below are germane questions that need to be addressed through the course. Much additional materials will be covered.

- Are females who are redeemed by the Blood of Yahshua, Jesus supposed to carry the stigma of Eve and on that basis live with inherited guilt all the days of their lives?
- In what way did Yahshua, Jesus relate with women which was deemed as absolutely revolutionary for the generation in which He lived?
- Did Paul recognize, receive and promote the ministry of women?
- Are redeemed females who spiritually are “sons of Elohim in female bodies” supposed to just marry, work a job, bear and raise children and attend church to be told how to cook well, take care of husbands

and children and allow men to do the work of ministry?

- Are some functions, callings and ministries ‘no go’ areas for women on account of assumed defects that have to do with their gender?
- Is it abomination, as some say, for a woman to head a ministry where men are?
- What are the three main scriptures which some religious leaders and organizations lay hold of to insist that women should have no public role or exercise leadership in the Church? What were the contexts of those instructions? Do those instructions negate the basic operating system of the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedeck?

In closing this prologue, let us take note that the chief purpose of Satan in using the veil of religion to make the Church reject the full ministry of women is to knock out of the ministerial ring, between 50 – 70 percent of potential personnel! When we combine this with another religious attack which is to cause the Church to reject the ministry of saints in the Market Place (by deeming them as engaged in secular or carnal activities), it can be seen that his chief purpose is to reduce the number of laborers for the final harvest!

We trust Holy Spirit to use this study to bring forth an exhaustive treatise which examines all sides of the issue of Women in Ministry and show in clear, unambiguous language, the mind of Abba for us even in His rightly divided Word!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) Please present a robust summary of this chapter.
- (2) What resonated most as a revelation to you?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

CHAPTER 1

THE SATANIC PLOT

There is no doubt that extreme possibilities exist for the fulfillment of the Great Commission and the fuller expression of the present phase of the Kingdom if saints come to an understanding of how the incarnation, death, resurrection and exaltation of Yahshua totally changes the identity of those who receive His vicarious sacrifice by faith. Once we come to this understanding, some of the strongholds Satan has constructed to limit the advancement of the gospel will easily be identified and dismantled. These include:

1. The Babylonian notion that the vast majority of saints are still sinners in need of redemption. They are therefore referred to as the laity who engage in secular work and come to church on certain 'holy days to be "ministered to" by a tiny professional clergy. Many Christian denominations have by this paradigm written off the potentials of the vast population of their "members." This is one of the things the marriage between Rome and the segment of the Church created to limit the spread of the gospel.
2. The Babylonian notion that the Market Place is unholy or secular where Christians engage in carnal activities. They therefore come to Church on holy days to receive ablution for the pollutions they encountered only to go back to them and repeat the cycle of rituals and carnal activities. With this

paradigm, only those engaged in full time pulpit ministry are deemed to have actually answered the call of Elohim for ministry by many Christian Denominations.

3. The religious notion that women are inherently inferior to men and the 'sin gene' their inherited from Eve makes them inherently unholy and unfit to serve Elohim in ministry. In some denominations, there is a small window of opportunity for females to serve in women, children and youth ministries; the hospitality departments and 'dress the altar' or sanctuary to make it beautiful for the men to use as leaders. This servile pigeon-holing of women has been based on religious interpretation of Pauline epistles which are taken out of context. We will take some time to examine those Pauline instructions to see what the Lord was clearly saying.

ULTIMATE PURPOSE OF THE ENEMY

The ultimate purpose of the enemy in using religion to manipulate ignorance of womanhood, and rejection of them as unfit for ministry in several Christian denominations (or at best limiting their capacity to be optimized), lies in his attempt to limit the number of laborers available for the harvest. Let us consider these clear instructions of King Yahshua which required all the redeemed to put their hands on the plough of Kingdom service:

Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;³⁸ Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. Matthew 9: 37-38

And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear.¹² He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.¹³ And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. Luke 19: 11-13

The enemy has labored to negate the presence of more laborers for the final harvest! By their build and general persona, women have excellent communication skills, easy ability to connect and relate with people and have great passion in pursuit of divine purpose. Satan knows that the full engagement of women in the Great Commission would lead to liberation of more of his captives! This is why he resorted to deceiving the religious Church to deny women their rightful place in ministry.

In the same way, Paul the apostle who is often misquoted by those who insist women should not be involved in strategic levels of ministry and leadership, was used of the Lord to share the clear truth that the entire redeemed are automatically enrolled into the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.¹⁸ And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;¹⁹ To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.²⁰ Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did

beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.²¹ For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

Peter, a close associate of Yahshua was used by Him to explain the nature of the present phase of the Kingdom where all saints have similar privileges as a royal priesthood.

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light;¹⁰ Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.¹¹ Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;¹² Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. 1 Peter 2: 9-12

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RELIGIOUS TRIPOD FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION

The creation of this dichotomy of a tiny priestly caste as the clergy and the vast number of Christians as the laity, the strength of the Church and its ability to be an instrument of fulfilling the Great Commission and demonstrating the Kingdom is automatically constrained. The negation of the ministries of saints called to use the Market Place as their platforms of Kingdom expression is also thrown into the

mix, the strength of the Church is further depleted. When this is topped off with rejection of women as fit for full ministry in a world where sons of Elohim in female bodies are being fulfilled in all areas of life except in the Church, it can be clearly seen that the enemy was very strategic in seeking to limit the ability of saints to occupy the earth realm until the King returns!

WORLD POPULATION TRENDS AND THE GREAT COMMISSION

In examining the world population as at 2010 presented on Geohive.com, some interesting statistics lend themselves for further spiritual analysis. (The growth of the world population follows a trend which makes these proportions fairly valid for today).

1. As at 2010, there were 6,895,889,018. On a global level, it will surprise many to learn that there are more males (3,477,829,638 billion) than females (3,418,059,380 billion)
2. The reason why there are more males than females is easily accounted from the reality that this trend is limited to fewer countries with greater population densities such as China, India and a few others.
3. Nations which have ideologies or religions that are strongly opposed to the Kingdom of Elohim in the earth realm (or Christianity as some would call it) tend to have a greater number of men than women. As they are caught up with the human tendency to see women as created for the pleasure of men and to live for them, there is a general sub optimization of the female population with official or unofficial glass

ceilings that limit upward mobility. We will rely on population estimates for 2010 presented by Geohive.com to make the facts that are relevant to this lesson.

- China, for instance, is a Communist nation with great emphasis on maleness. Out of a then population of 1,341, 335, 152 it had 696, 340, 752 males and 644, 994,400 females
 - India, a Hindu nation, with a population of 1,224,614,327 people had 632,546,781 males and 592,067,546 females.
 - Egypt, an Islamic nation with some degree of tolerance for Coptic Christians had a total population of 81,121,077 with 40,733,602 males and 40,387,475,101 females
 - Saudi Arabia, strongly and exclusively Islamic, had 27,448, 086 people out of which 15, 196,132 were male while 13, 212,251, 954 were female
4. It is also interesting to note that in Western nations and places where there is no institutional rejection of the gospel, there is a tendency for the population to have more women than men. Is this a coincidence?
- United States of America had 310, 383,948 people with 153,139,563 males and 157, 244,385 females.
 - France had 62, 787,427 people with 30,548,615 males and 32, 238, 812 females.

- United Kingdom had 62,035,570 with 30,515,530 males and 31,520,040 females.

Source: Geohive.com whose source is UN Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. "World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision.

5. The truth is that in the nations where faith in Yahshua, Jesus is not subject to negative sanctions, there is a large pool of manpower (male and female) that are already saved. If their strength is properly harnessed, fulfilment of the Great Commission in this day and age will become a reality. If the ramparts of organized religion are torn down and all available manpower is deployed, there will be enough manpower to take the gospel further and deeper!
6. The world population does not reveal another reality: in the Church, the majority of faithful devotees of most denominations and congregations are women. They are more consistent in attendance, more engaged in discipleship and are least utilized as a Kingdom resource. More women are hungry to respond to the call of the Master for the Great Commission. Unfortunately, because of misconceptions based on the wrong interpretation of a few scriptures given to resolve specific challenges which arose in the Alpha Church, the majority of females have been held down. Those who dare to respond to the call of the King are derided, profiled as rebellious and in some cases persecuted or harassed.

The way forward is simple: In this last chapter of the gospel, the least we owe the Lord who has set the fulfillment of the Great Commission as a benchmark for His return is to systematically harness all available manpower and deploy same strategically across the world.

*And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.
Matthew 24:14*

We must never forget that everyone in the household of faith is expected to have these critical Kingdom experiences:

- a. Converted from Sinner to Saint.
- b. Consecrated to be a vessel of the Lord for His holy and sole use.
- c. Committed to seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness.
- d. Enjoy intimate Communion with the Lord and fellow saints.
- e. Respond to the Call to serve.

The above steps are necessary in order for the following to happen:

1. Christian Religion being understood for what it is: a weak alternative to the gospel of the Kingdom! It is a bewitchment which Rome injected as a spiritual virus to limit the ability of the Church to be fully optimized as the Body of Yahshua in the earth realm.
2. Normal ministers trained in the old seminary and Theological College or Bible School traditions with all their distortions of the Truth and denominational slants recognizing that by fostering religion with

spiritual glaucoma imparted into their eyes of understanding, results in their limited usefulness to the King in His grand purpose of redeeming saints from the world to prepare them for the age to come.

3. Realizing that the Lord is raising His remnant to tear down all ramparts of religion. As they throw such down, they are also like Jeremiah the Prophet:

See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant. Jeremiah 1: 10

The remnant's now and urgent assignment is to build according to the Kingdom pattern with the right substances and the right compass which is Yahshua Himself

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.¹¹ For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.¹² Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;¹³ Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.¹⁴ If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. 1 Corinthians 3: 10-15

4. The Remnant need to engage with their eternal souls and specific destinies by deliberately giving room to

those who walk in their Five Fold functions and assigned to impart and impact them with revelatory truth and liberating unction. This is the only way they can come into an understanding that their ages, gender, races, socio-economic status do not count . They are therefore able to understand the organic nature of the church as a living, loving organism rather than a religious organization! To discover and fulfil their roles in the organic church universally as well as specific Kingdom communities where they are planted then becomes a consuming passion of their lives

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.⁸ Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.⁹ (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?¹⁰ He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:¹³ Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:¹⁴ That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:¹⁶ From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working

in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. Ephesians 4: 7-16

5. Saints will realize that what matters most is their spiritual maturity and stability which comes from being led entirely by Holy Spirit in all things with the flesh having been crucified. In that regard, their genders and ages are not part of the equation of spirituality. They therefore, live and minister from the realm of their spirit-man , not their flesh

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.³ For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:⁴ That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.⁶ For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.⁸ So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.⁹ But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. ¹⁰ And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.¹¹ But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal

bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: Romans 8:1-16

Saints, it is all about being set free with the Living Word of King Yahshua! If we recognize and reject traditions of men, we will grasp and run with the liberating truth of the Word of the King!

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. 36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. John 8: 32,36

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Galatians 5:1

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(1)What specific revelation in this chapter resonated the most in your spirit man?

(2) Explain the way forward for women in ministry to come out of religiously imposed glass ceilings?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

CHAPTER 2

MISUNDERSTANDING OF PAUL'S CHARGE TO WOMEN –PART 1

As we proceed with this exposition, representing the full counsel of the Scriptures on the issue of Women and The Call to serve Elohim in Ministry, these are germane questions raised at the beginning of the Course need to be raised again:

- Are females redeemed by the Blood of Yahshua, Jesus supposed to carry the stigma of Eve and on that basis live with inherited guilt all the days of their lives? The answer is No!
- Are redeemed females supposed to just marry, work a job, bear and raise children and “go to church” to be told how to cook well, take care of husband and children and allow men to do the work of ministry? The answer is of course an absolute No!
- Are some functions, callings and ministries “no go” areas for women on account of assumed defects that have to do with their gender? The answer again is No!
- Is it abomination, as some say, for a woman to head a ministry where men are? The answer is again a resounding No!

We trust Elohim to bring forth an exhaustive treatise which examines all sides of the issue of Women in Ministry generally as well as if there are some leadership positions they are barred from. We now need to take on some

scriptures which the enemy has been distorting to deceive the religious Church to hold onto and use to deny sons of Elohim in female bodies the opportunity to preach and teach in public. The zeal and passion with which some denominational councils clutch at these particular verses and the way they ignore all other scriptures which establish the unique inclusiveness of the Melchizedek Royal Priesthood is enough proof that the Enemy of the Church is at work!

The Book of Isaiah established a critical principle for rightly dividing the Word of Truth that most refuse to take heed to even in our day when it is so easy to cross reference the Word due to availability of digital search engines.

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: Isaiah 28:10

To this agrees the counsel of Paul to Timothy concerning need to truly study the Word?

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2: 15

Study is different from skimming or simply parroting what a group of men claimed the word to say in a denominational council. It was through traditions of men added to the word since the past 1700 plus years of organized Christian Religion arising from marriage of State and Church which has produced the massive wrinkles of old age that Yahshua wants to take away by the washing of Water of the Word! The Protestant Reformation did not produce a pure Church it was touted as objective, rather, the

foundation was laid of a massive culture of division and splinters each of which formulated its own human understanding of the word and added traditions to give it a distinct image. Saints living in this end of the age cannot afford the luxury of clinging to such traditions and humanistic interpretations of the Word! Ahead of His soon return, King Yahshua, Jesus is releasing the full force of the Word to dislodge religious strongholds and bring forth the dazzling beauty of the New Covenant Church which is His Bride!

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:25

The remnant is called to study the word with an open heart and right attitude to the depth of its mysteries as Holy Spirit breathes upon the written Word, the breath of life which makes it come alive as rhema from heaven. To close the heart and mind to understanding the full meaning of any precept is to play the adult with an Elohim Who calls for a childlike openness to His dealings.

At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Matthew 11:25

BACKGROUND OF THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

Of all the Mission fields in which Paul labored Ephesus ranks among the most challenging. Here, the apostle to the gentiles encountered the worship of one of the ancient wonders of the world, the giant statute of Diana, the goddess of the land. The worship of this idol was rocked by the preaching of gospel of Yahshua, Jesus and the Kingdom to the extent that one of its devotees, Demetrius stirred up a riot against Paul Acts 19:1- 41.

The Church that was planted out of spiritual warfare, power evangelism and deep teaching on the nature and identity of saints and the New Testament Church was an exceptional one. Please read the whole epistle to the Ephesians to grasp the base upon which the first converts stood. Unfortunately, false teachers who had backslidden from the truth preyed on this vibrant church! In Acts 20: 17-38, Paul addressed the leadership of the Church to warn them of the impending invasion by false teachers and effects of that pollution. Those false teachers were to wreak havoc on the church so much so that when Yahshua, Jesus appeared to John at the Island of Patmos, He found them wanting in a vital area: loss of first love or intimacy with Him Revelation 2: 1-7.

Paul was so concerned for the Church in Ephesus to have the right oversight that he posted his trusted protégé, Timothy as its first Bishop Philippians 2:19 – 24; 1 Timothy 1: 1- 4. Let us note that Jewish women in the city who embraced eternal life in Yahshua, Jesus were coming into a real culture shock. Gentile women who were loose in morals had unbridled freedom to do whatever they pleased and were generally given to fashion that was seductive in nature.

Because of the influence of the goddess Diana, women in the area saw themselves as liberated to live anyhow. As Diana was a goddess (female principality) many women in that culture took it as an endorsement to enjoy a dangerous form of liberty and tendency to control and rule their husbands and indeed all males. The Church that was planted in this environment needed to understand some principles of the Kingdom. Those principles Paul instructed Timothy to teach had to do with moderation in fashion and the need for order and respect for lines of authority both at home and in the House of Elohim.

EXPLAINING CONTEXT OF DISTORTED SCRIPTURES 1 TIMOTHY 2:9-14

It is against this background that Paul gave these instructions to Timothy concerning how women should behave in the fledgling Church at Ephesus:

In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. 11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 1 Timothy 2: 9-13

Within this text are the following precepts:

1. Decent and appropriate clothing should be worn by women who professed faith in Yahshua so that their liberty does not occasion stumbling in brothers who may still be in transition to spiritual growth. With moderation in fashion, they would not “dress to kill” like heathen women around them.

2. Women, who were coming into the faith of Yahshua, were instructed to concentrate on studying rather than seek to teach and instruct (see 1 Timothy 2: 11 – 12.) For Jewish women in the city, this opportunity to share fellowship and learn with the men publicly was an extraordinary one. In the synagogues, they were basically on the margin (in the Tabernacle of witness, they were confined to the Court of women which was separate from the Court of Israel). Faith in Yahshua had broken down the middle wall of partition and they were now given the opportunity to diligently study the word of Elohim even in public.

3. Verse 12. Paul was speaking to married women not to usurp the authority of their husbands but to be submitted to them. This is consistent with his teachings on marriage in 1 Corinthians chapter 7 and Ephesians 5:22- 32. We need to note that the word ‘usurp’ clearly implied an illegal power grab by one who is not authorized. If a woman is not called but tries to use her husband who is lawfully installed in an office to do her bidding, usurpation has taken place.

4. The truth needs to be clearly stressed that there is no way Paul, who was used to reveal that sisters are simply sons of Elohim in female bodies with equal access and rank in the kingdom to brothers would in the same measure decree them as unfit for ministry. A careful study of all the Pauline epistles including such passages on spiritual gifts and

ministry such as Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4:7-16 will reveal the absurdity of casting him as one to decree the exclusion of females from public ministry. Paul clearly preached about turning aside the tables of tradition including circumcision because the thrust of revelation granted to him was about life in the Spirit, not flesh. His epistle to the Galatians clearly demonstrates this reality. Paul did not want saints to labor under the yoke of bondage to traditions of men and dead religious rituals.

5. To drive home his point, Paul pointed out what happened in the Garden of Eden when Eve upset the line of authority Yahweh had created for them, bypassing Adam to converse with the stranger, Satan who took the form of a serpent 1 Timothy 2:13,14. This allusion was tied to the fact that false teachers who had reared their ugly heads in Ephesus were targeting women first and may have made some progress in their nefarious designs.

CONTEXT IN WHICH THE ALPHA CHURCH EXISTED

It is important that we bear in mind the context of the early Church which was birthed amidst Judaism.

1. The full counsel of Elohim was yet unfolding. Because of this the Church was growing as a work in process/progress based on the degree of light that was released and accepted. Men generally had the head start in hearing and receiving the word in many of the cities of the Diaspora. Logically, they became the first set of ministers available.
2. At various times, certain truths were fully understood and integrated into practice of the early Church. We need to recollect that the Church had to

even convene a conference for the purpose of settling the cultural issue of circumcision. At issue was whether gentiles needed to be circumcised (a practice Elohim required of Abraham and his off springs as seal of His covenant with them) before they can be accepted as Christians. James, the half-brother of Yahshua, Jesus who moderated that First Jerusalem Council was to deliver a wise judgement which saved the day when he ruled that circumcision was not necessary for gentiles as a precondition for conversion. He went on to counsel that gentiles who come into faith in Yahshua need only to abstain from idolatrous contamination, from sexual immorality and from eating strangled animals as well as blood. Acts 15: 1-29. The point here is that the Church was addressing issues as they came up.

3. Furthermore, the entire counsel of Elohim for the present dispensation of the Kingdom had not yet been collated as they were still being downloaded from Elohim to His people through various vessels. Even Peter found it exciting to note the depth of some of the great revelations committed to Paul 2 Peter 3: 15, 16. In this regard, let us note, for instance, that almost all the first set of disciples of Yahshua Jesus had died by the time John the beloved received the massive prophetic master piece, the Book of Revelation!

To successfully discuss the issue of Women in Ministry therefore, we need to firstly go through the whole gamut of the Word to see what is said in various sections. Secondly, we will need to compare scripture with scripture in order to

ascertain the mind of Elohim. Thirdly, we need the fresh insight of Holy Spirit to reveal the mind of Yahweh. These, we will do, by the grace of Elohim as we examine this critical issue.

EXPLAINING DISTORTED SCRIPTURES 1 CORINTHIANS 11: 3-16

But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.⁴ Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.⁵ But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.⁶ For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered. ⁷ For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. For the man is not of the woman: but the woman of the man.⁹ Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.¹⁰ For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.¹¹ Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord.¹² For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.¹³ Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?¹⁴ Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?¹⁵ But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.¹⁶ But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no

such custom, neither the churches of God. 1 Corinthians 11: 3-13

Apart from 1 Timothy 2:9 – 13 and 1 Corinthians 14:34-35, one of the other scriptures which is used to justify excluding women from ministry is this 1 Corinthians chapter 11: 1 – 15. It is necessary therefore that we understand what Paul the Apostle was saying and the context in which he spoke. Let us take note of these issues:

1. Setting/Context:

Paul was writing to Christians in Corinth. In this gentile city, idolatry was a big deal as well as immorality, including male prostitution and high level incest. The Jews of the Diaspora who received Yahshua came from a culture where covering of hair by women was a sign of reverence for Elohim. The Greek women of the city had no such custom. In the city of Corinth also, there were male prostitutes easily recognized by the very long hair they kept to look feminine. As both groups met in the local congregations, the culture clash became an issue, capable of distracting from the main issue which is worship of Elohim in unity of spirit and truth. In 1 Corinthians 10, Paul had dealt with another issue which caused confusion: eating of things sacrificed to idols. One principle he established there is that true Christians should not just act in liberty but also ensure that in pursuit of what they are at liberty to do, they do not constitute a stumbling block on others of like precious faith by what they allow 1 Corinthians 10: 23 – 33.

Paul then moved on, by the Spirit, to address the issue of fashion and creating an atmosphere of reverence for Elohim in worship services. He then connected the matter

to the issue of relationship between married men and women.

2. Relationship and Authority.

Paul made a strong case for the emergent Christians to recognize that for the sake of preservation of order in His house, Elohim had established authority lines, even in human relationships of marriage. In that order, Elohim has ordained that no matter how anointed, beautiful, intelligent and powerful a woman is, once she marries a man, she has submitted to his leadership in the home. The man who is now set as an authority and covering over his own wife must also walk as one who is under the authority of Yahshua, Jesus! He cannot be an authority all on his own without submitting to the Lordship of Yahshua! If he submits to the Lordship of Yahshua, then man will obey the Lord in all things including recognizing, accepting and honoring His call on his wife. Paul went on to say that while in the flesh, Yahshua, Jesus modelled submission to authority of the Father at all times. Scriptures bear eloquent testimony that from the day Yahshua willingly agreed to be the Only Begotten Son of the Father, the dynamics of relationship was marked by submission to the will of the Father (See 1 Corinthians 11: 3; John 5: 30; John 6:38; Philippians 2: 5 – 11.)

Let us take note that in that same scripture in 1 Corinthians 11, Paul made the relevant point that ultimately, both men and women are mutually dependent:

Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord.¹² For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God. 1 Corinthians 11: 11

The reason for this verse is not farfetched: Paul was not advocating that husbands should be tyrants who owned their wives to do whatever they wanted with them!

3. Fashion and reverence in the presence of God. 1

Corinthians 11: 4-16. Paul then went on to charge the Corinthians and indeed all saints to bear in mind that once people congregate in the name of the Lord, the divine presence is activated. This conforms to what Yahshua, Jesus Himself said in Matthew 18:20. Paul proceeded to assert that angels, who are messengers of Elohim, are on standby to bring His answers to their prayers and worship! For this reason, Paul commanded the gentile women who were now in Yahshua to abandon their irreverent ways and put on the level of sobriety which recognizes that the Omniscient and Omnipresent Elohim is present among His people. The simple act of covering the hair by women became, so to say, an acknowledgement that they were subject to the authority of both their husbands and of Yahshua as their Lord. In the same way, men were commanded to cut their hair and not to cover it while praying as a simple indication of their heart acceptance of Yahshua, Jesus as Lord of their lives.

- Application. We have pondered on what this means for saints of our generation with the dress code and fashion sense of today. For several years, we have reflected on this matter on and off. It seems to us that Elohim used Paul to institute an ordinance of the Kingdom here! Like all ordinances, they will test our heart inclination towards Elohim. Do we hold Him in reverence? Can we be trusted to obey Him with all our heart even when what He requires is not convenient or seems out of fashion with our age?

- It seems to us that this very matter of women dressing in decency, avoiding suggestive fashion wears that are seductive as well as covering their hair when in prayer and in congregational meetings as well as men not wearing caps when in congregational or private worship may well rank at par with three commands that may not make much meaning to modern day saints:

a) Necessity of Water Baptism after salvation (see Mark 16:15, 16)

b) Participation in regular breaking of Bread and Wine in the Communion to remember His propitiatory sacrifice (Luke 22:14-20) In 1 Corinthians 11: 23 – 34 note that Jesus appeared to Paul and specifically showed him deeper mysteries of the Communion! This reinforces the fact that it is an ordinance of the present phase of the Kingdom which pointed to His ultimate return in future.

c) Washing of Feet of Congregations by leaders in emulation of Yahshua, Jesus (John 13: 1-17). These ordinances may seem ancient and out of tune with our modern psychedelic age. However, if Yahshua, Jesus is Lord and He is the same yesterday, today and forever, we must realize that the King allowed these Kingdom ordinances partly to test our allegiance and obedience! When the Son of Man comes, shall He find faith on earth?

One other thing we need to see to realize Paul was not shutting down public ministry of women:

But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven. This clearly showed that women

could and did prophesy in public in his time.
1 Corinthians 1: 5

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(1) What issue in this lesson resonated most in your heart as a revelation or re-enforcement of what you knew before (2) Please cite the two scriptures religious people use to debar women from public ministry and briefly explain what Paul was saying.

[illegible]

CHAPTER 3

MISUNDERSTANDING OF PAUL'S CHARGE TO WOMEN –PART 2

After writing on Spiritual gifts as the basis of true Kingdom Ministry in 1 Corinthians 12, Paul the Apostle was used by Holy Spirit to quickly write further on two things that should be pillars of how Christian congregations should function. 1 Corinthians chapter 13 expounded on the principle that all expressions of spiritual gifts and Kingdom life should be on the basis of love. Without love, he explained, all ministry amounts to vain jangling! Then he went on in 1 Corinthians chapter 14 to do an epic exposition on how public worship should be conducted so that spiritual gifts are exercised properly for the mutual benefit of all participants. Towards the end of that chapter, Paul the Apostle asserted:

Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law. 35 And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. 1 Corinthians 14:34

Many religious male chauvinists have seized upon these two verses to insist that women should not engage in public ministry. Ignoring the context of the two verses in the entirety of 1 Corinthians chapters 12, 13 and 14 cannot in any way serve the purpose of Yahshua or His Church. It is a classic example of how Satan operates that just as he used

scriptures to tempt Yahshua, he is also in the business of distorting the intent of certain instructions in the word to send those who are not watchful and diligent on a wild goose chase. Setting the Church against itself has always been a favorite strategy of Satan since he cannot subdue it from outside.

With the enormous amount of problems faced by the Church in these times, it is interesting that somebody would be so angry with women in ministry to the degree that he would put a permanent sign ostensibly at the back of his car in Facebook photo posted by Apostle Pearl of South Africa. It can only be Satan who has blinded the eyes of some brothers to think like this:

“Women Pastor are abomination in the sight of God, repent or perish (See 1 Timothy 2:10-13; 1 Corinthians 14: 33-38; 1 Peter 3:1-4; Acts 6:1-7.)

The question is what did the apostle Paul mean in 1 Corinthians 14:34-35? What was the intent of scripture? From all that the Lord showed us in this course, it is clear that Elohim Who used Paul to reveal that regeneration is granted to all by grace through faith regardless of gender (Ephesians 2:1-10) ; Elohim Who gives Holy Spirit to all saints as a Seal of redemption and activates gifts and callings thereby in their spirit-man which is neither male nor female (Romans 12: 1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31); could not have at the same time instituted an ordinance to exclude all women from ministry. The same Apostle Paul who said in 1 Corinthians 11:5 that a woman who prays or prophesies with uncovered hair dishonor her husband and Elohim could not, by any stretch of the imagination, ban all women from all ministry as religion has suggested.

In order to understand what Paul meant, we need to examine the context and intent. In Corinth, there were four things about women which had become real issues:

1) Until the gospel of Salvation by faith in Yahshua and the Kingdom came, the women did not have the privilege of studying the Law as their male counterparts. When the gospel came, women were clearly at disadvantage as far as ministry went.

By the time Paul was writing to the Corinthians, only few women had the privilege of sound training in the word. As we saw earlier in this study, Priscilla and her husband Aquila were privileged to receive closer mentoring from Paul. Because she was well equipped, Priscilla put her knowledge and skills in the Word to use in helping Apollos to have a more perfect understanding of the gospel. Acts 18:1-3, 18, 24 – 27. She and her husband were thus instrumental in the transition of Apollos from being a half-baked religious zealot to become a frontline Apostle who the Corinthians compared with Paul and Peter! 1 Corinthians 3: 1-6. Priscilla was one of the exceptions!

2) Many women in the area who became Christians were in a hurry to celebrate their liberty in Yahshua and were going to the opposite extreme. That opposite consisted in the tendency to interrupt speakers, disagreeing with some of what is said in meetings. This behavior was clearly disruptive and unhealthy!

3) There were some women who tried to flaunt their half knowledge and make contributions which were not edifying. Unlike Priscilla, the vast majority of women in Corinth were still babes in the Lord and needed to be fed and trained

before being sent. Yet many of them were impatient and just zealous to speak at public meetings

4) Some women were fond of asking questions in public meetings which would have been better handled by their more knowledgeable husbands at home.

What did Paul men? Paul was addressing the Corinthians on the correct way to conduct public meetings so that Elohim would be glorified and saints edified. Disruptive behavior was decried. Paul was clearly addressing MARRIED WOMEN who had believing husbands with sufficient knowledge of the Word to help them at home so that proper order and edification was achieved in the worship services. Let it be re-emphasized that Paul was dealing with one of the sources of disorder in the Church at Corinth for which the 14th Chapter of his first Epistle to them was written.

The statement of Paul was both to address the disorderly conduct of some women who took their new found liberty in Yahshua, Jesus to mean license to do and say whatever they wanted, anytime they wanted and anyhow – while in congregational ministry settings as well as to set down a marker for generations to come. The reality that at Corinth, some married women could interrupt preachers and teachers while others would raise opinionated questions, ready to argue their points of view, oblivious of the disorder caused is interesting. Let us receive this Hebraic insight from Texas based Renate Pattis-Mcwright:

“If I may interject also that in Hebrew Synagogues where most teachings took place there was a divider between men and women called a Mechitzah. Sometimes the women would

call over this divider to their husbands and ask them "what did he say?" seeking an explanation on things they had not fully heard or did not quite understand. Paul exhorted the women to be silent and ask their own husbands at home for an exposition of the scriptures discussed that day so as not to disrupt the Torah service."

For this reason, the bible exhorts us to study (not just read) to show ourselves approved so that we can function effectively as workmen who cannot be ashamed. To take scripture out of the overall context it was given will easily lead many astray. To prove that Paul was not the chauvinistic champion of male-dominated clergy as he has been wrongly cast as, we need to examine his own relationship with women in the gospel of the Kingdom and also the doctrines Elohim used him to release to the Church concerning the New Creation and New Covenant.

The Pauline Epistles must be seen in context as one whole revelation of the One New Man of Yahweh on earth! Considering the totality of the revelation God granted Paul which emphasized reality of The Church as the Body of Yahshua where all humanity – Jews, Gentiles, Free, Bound, Male, Female – find a commonality and community based on the shed Blood (Galatians 3:26-29; Ephesians 1, 2,3, 4; Colossians 1,2,3) there is no way this distinguished vessel was asking all females to keep quiet and only be passive learners in the Church. If he wanted all women to be quiet at home, Paul would not have so glowingly commended the ministry of Priscilla and Aquila neither would the Holy Spirit have moved Luke who was Paul's biographer to record the deeds of this couple and even put the woman's name first a number of times!

Paul had a revelation from Holy Spirit that for the Church to be healthy and strong, Christian families must be united in love, practicing the dual principle of men having supreme love for their wives and willing submission by wives to their own husbands(Ephesians 5: 21 – 33). The entire 1 Corinthians 14 was given therefore to make a case for order and unity of the Body and not to lay the basis of excluding women from active ministry in the Church of Yahshua, Jesus as the more than 1700 year old Christian religion born in Rome whose DNA has spread in the Protestant Movement falsely projected!

DID PAUL RECOGNIZE, RECEIVE AND PROMOTE THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN?

Some people have wrongly branded Paul a woman hater or one who looked down on women. This assertion is simply not true. Paul made a consecration to remain celibate not because he did not like women but because it was a necessary sacrifice for fulfilment of his awesome assignment within the limited years Elohim assigned to him on earth. By the grace of Elohim, he successfully fulfilled his ministry while still in his 60's and embraced death with joy! Let us remember that Paul was only between 65-67 years when he was beheaded for the testimony of Yahshua, Jesus by Rome (See 1 Corinthians 7: 1,7, 8, 25,26, 29-33;2 Timothy 4: 6 – 8.)

The truth is that Paul recognized, received and promoted actively, the ministry of women. Paul was properly taken care of in various cities by holy women Elohim placed in his path that recognized and supported his ministry as a greatly needed one in the Body. These include but are not limited to:

1. Priscilla. This woman and her husband Aquila were tent makers. In Corinth, they met with Paul and became part of a holy company of ministry partners

After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;² And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:;) and came unto them.³ And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. Acts 18:

The next thing we hear of this remarkable couple is that they became instruments of making a true disciple out of Apollos, who was to become a notable Apostle!

And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.²⁵ This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.²⁶ And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly. Acts 18: 24-26

It was a short, sharp mentorship which produced real fruit. Quick to learn, Apollos did not waste time when the Light of Truth penetrated and dispelled the darkness of religion.

And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed

through grace:28 For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publicly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ. Acts 18:27

In effect, Priscilla “taught a man” and was commended for doing so by Paul. The couple were among those who built up the house church system and were the earliest practitioners of active couples in ministry Romans 16:5. It is noteworthy that Paul describes the couple as “my co-workers in the ministry of Christ Jesus”.

3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my well-beloved Epænetus, who is the first fruits of Achaia unto Christ. Romans 16:3-5

As a measure of how significantly Priscilla and her husband Aquila impacted Paul, he also took note of their remarkable ministry with him also in other passages

The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. 1 Corinthians 16: 19

Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. 2 Timothy 4: 19

2. Phoebe. This remarkable woman was a Deacon in the Church at Cenchrea. She served so well and in total consecration that Paul sent an outstanding recommendation concerning her to the Church in Rome.

I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at

Cenchrea: 2 That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also. Romans 16:2-3

3. Mary, Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis were part of the company of women who secured niches for being active co-laborers with Paul.

Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us. 12 Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord. Romans 16: 6

4.Junia, a woman, who with her husband were recognized as of note among the apostles and senior in the faith to Paul.

Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow-prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me. Romans 16: 7

5. Euodia and Syntyche were commended by Paul for laboring with him in the gospel. This was indeed no mean commendation from the apostle to the Gentiles!

I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellow labourers, whose names are in the book of life. Philippians 4: 2

The wrong response must be avoided. Rather than just be offended, sons of Elohim in female bodies need to understand that it is the enemy who is truly at work using

religion to blind fold his victims. This understanding is important to avoid a fleshly response to the provocations of rejection. To call Paul names or mischaracterize him is potentially dangerous to the soul. To hate brothers and males or recourse to the spirit of “female liberation” and competition syndrome to prove we are better” embedded in most female ministry sororities that is now prevalent in many regions of the world is to respond in the flesh!

This spiritual battle is therefore not against flesh and blood. It is time to fight with the right spiritual equipment so that all lies of Satan can be exposed and dismantled.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Ephesians 6: 10-17

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:⁴ (For the weapons of our

*warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)*⁵ *Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*⁶ *And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.* 2 Corinthians 10: 3

It is also an ignorance and tradition of men issue to be won with knowledge of Truth! To fight and win, the starting point is to recognize and reject traditions of humans set by modern day Pharisee which end up depleting the work force of the gospel in order to feed the insecurities of those who feel threatened by the sight of women in ministry serving the Lord and His people as He ordained.

Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye. Mark 7:13

Let us truly study and dwell in the word which has more than enough light to illuminate our minds. As mentioned in two previous lessons of this course, the Book of Isaiah established a critical principle for rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: Isaiah 28:10

It is therefore wrong to pluck a scripture out of context to use as a cudgel against fellow saints, filled with Holy Spirit and willing to lay their lives down in service of the King and His Kingdom for the simple reason that they are females. It

is disingenuous to manufacture side shows where they can operate and deem them unqualified to fully answer the call of Elohim or be used by Holy Spirit Who resides within their spirit-man , just because they are women. Let us study the Word which offers the greatest capacity for true liberation of mindsets!

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2: 15

Action speaks louder than words! Who is on the Lord's side? As Satan had planned to retire the most dynamic and passionate part of the Church so that there won't be enough laborers for the final harvest, the time has come for those who know the truth to step up and shut down the false arguments of religion. Please refer people to the Word when they mouth their ignorance. Furthermore, you are invited to consider being part of the concerned to distribute these teaching notes on Women in Ministry as widely as you can – on and off Facebook. There are no Babylonian copyright restrictions. But please do not use the revelations to publish a book.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(1) Please share the main things that ministered to you in this lesson.

(2) Please do brief exposition of 1 Corinthians 14: 34- 35.

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CHAPTER 4

WOMEN, THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF YAHSHUA, JESUS

After debunking the satanic lie that Paul was a woman hater, it is needful to back up to examine how the Author of Life and Groom of the Church related with sons of Elohim in female bodies. The uniform testimony of the Holy Writ is that in the flesh, Yahshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus the Messiah, enjoyed a healthy and holy close relationship with women and received active ministry from them. One of whom was Mary the Virgin whom Yahweh chose to be the woman to bear the prophesied Seed of Genesis 3:15. She had the privilege of receiving a divine implant in her womb by Holy Spirit.

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. 30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. 32 He shall be great, and shall be

called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. 36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible. 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. Luke 1: 26-38

The intricacy and sheer sensitivity of this spiritual operation of planting Yahshua in the womb of a woman for a full term pregnancy and to be delivered like any other child signaled the end of the age-old reproach which womanhood bore for the original sin of Eve! The real Mary, not the one created by Religion, is a paragon of faith as her question in verse 34 and response shows. If we contrast the response of Mary with that of Zacharias the male High Priest who had a similar encounter with Angel Gabriel a few months earlier, we will properly appreciate that with Elohim what counts most is state of heart and submission to His perfect will!

And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. 14 And thou shalt

have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. 15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. 16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. 17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. 18 And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years. 19 And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings. 20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season. Luke 1: 11-20

By making the Messiah a Seed of the Woman and not a product of the seed (sperm) of a man, heaven was announcing that the sin gene was actually transmitted through Adam and the men after him! This conforms to the law of responsibility as was eloquently penned by Paul in Romans 5: 12 – 21. It is significant that Elohim completed His dealing with Mary and later informed Joseph only when the pregnancy became evident.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel

of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. 24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: 25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name Jesus. Matthew 1: 18-25

“Elohim, please grant us wisdom to understand what you are saying in the now”!

YAHSHUA, MINISTRY TO AND FROM OTHER WOMEN

Throughout His ministry, Yahshua, Jesus broke all the barriers which the religious system set as barricades against women. Even while He was in the womb and as an infant, the barriers came crashing down!

Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist had recognized that the baby in the womb of Mary was not ordinary!

And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; 40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth. 41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: 42 And she spake out with a loud

voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.⁴³ And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. 45 And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord. Luke 1: 39-45

Anna, the Old Prophetess was one of the first three outside Mary and Joseph to recognize who Jesus was; Luke 2: 36 – 38.

As Yahshua, Jesus grew up, He made clear to Mary and His siblings that doing the will of Elohim is the most critical qualification for those who would live the Kingdom life.

There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. 32 And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee. 33 And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren? 34 And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! 35 For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother. Mark 3: 31-35

Until today, Elohim counts knowing and doing His will as the true mark of spirituality and qualification to live as His sons in the earth realm, not gender as is written in

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. Romans 8:14

Yahshua Jesus allowed women to come near Him, the same way men came to Him. Yahshua, Jesus related with women in a way no rabbi could do.

The woman with the issue of blood even touched the hem of His garments and was made whole.

Mary and her sister Martha and Lazarus ministered to Him regularly, the way deaconesses do. He ate freely in their house.

Even the woman at the well of Samaria was shocked that she could have access to a Great Rabbi like Yahshua, Jesus! John 4: 1-26. It is interesting that His disciples who still struggled with a Hebraic mindset were not amused that Yahshua related freely with this Samaritan woman:

And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her? John 4: 27

Women actively supported the ministry of Yahshua with what He needed to be sustained

And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, 2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, 3 And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance. Mark 8:1-3

Mary anointed His feet with costly oil of spikenard after washing them with her tears and drying with her hair, an act of strong devotion which scandalized the religious leaders and Judas who watched.

Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. 2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. 3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. 4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, 5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein. 7 Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. 8 For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always. John 12:1-7

As a matter of fact, women were faithful to Yahshua till the very end, even when all but one of the men (John) fled. They were at the Cross when He paid the price of redemption

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! 27 Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. John 19: 25-27

On the day He rose from the dead, it was Mary Magdalene who had the privilege of seeing the One who had completed the redemption mission! He made her the first Evangelist recorded in the Bible

Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her. John 20: 16-18

Let us repeat a truth we shared in an earlier lesson: when it came to the Great High Priest of the New Covenant, Yahshua Jesus, it can be safely said that women had the first knowledge of His incarnation and were there at the Cross when the price of redemption was paid. They were also the first to see the risen Christ. It was no co-incidence! Elohim was announcing a new order in which access to the throne and services to the King were no longer based on religious structures, gender or family inheritance but on the state of the heart!

Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must

worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4: 21-24

It is important to remember that the Old Tabernacle had compartments which were strictly conformed to. At the outermost was the court of gentiles followed by the Court of women. Thereafter was the Court of Israel which was accessible only to men. Thereafter, there was the Holy Place where only priests and Levites of the old Levitical priesthood could minister. A thick veil separated this place from the Most Holy or Holiest of Holies in which only the High Priest could enter, once a year to make atonement for the whole nation. It was in this last compartment that the Ark and Mercy Seat were located. It is significant that at His death, the very first thing that happened was the renting of the veil which signified exclusion!

Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. 51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; Matthew 27: 50

As if that were not enough, in AD 70, the invading army of General Titus completely destroyed the Temple as prophesied by Jesus on the Olivet discourse. Matthew 24:1,

2. A new and living way of access to the Father had come into effect in which no one was excluded on the basis of family background, race, ethnicity, gender, age or socio-economic status! We are to share real fellowship in the Spirit with one another based on our unity in Yahshua! The Heart, not Gender or Skin color is now the Heart of True worship and no one is qualified to exclude any Who Elohim Has approved!

Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, 16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. 18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. 19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) 24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. Hebrews 10: 15-25

What this clearly meant is that before the eyes of Israel, Yahshua Jesus had just fulfilled all the Law and the Prophets! The Old Levitical Priesthood which was based on the principle of exclusion for which ONLY ABLE BODIED MEN of the Tribe of Levi and the family lineage of Aaron were deemed qualified (Hunch backs and other with physical deformity were excluded)! In that Order, women could not be priests. Occasionally though, Elohim threw up a Judge and Prophetess like Deborah who declared His counsel and led Israel out of bondage.

Even unto today, many religious Christians do not seem to realize how mind boggling the assignment of Yahshua Jesus was. He completely fulfilled everything that the Old Covenant required of mankind and then proceeded to institute the New Covenant based on better promises. The New Covenant was also based on a better and more inclusive priesthood – the Royal Priesthood of all saints according to the Order of Melchizedeck! In this new priesthood, your family background, gender, former life and all potential limitations do not count. What counts is summed up in John 1:12.

“As many as received Him, to them He gives Power to become the Sons of God” and John 3: 16 “you must be born again.”

To be born again is a spiritual exercise requiring a change in the nature and primary loyalty of the human spirit which is quickened from a state of spiritual death to come alive in Him by Grace through faith. Ephesians 2:1-10.

Yahshua, Jesus came therefore not to foster a religious system or priestly construct but to announce the arrival of the long awaited Kingdom of Elohim! In the Kingdom, Yahweh is Father and Yahshua, King of all those who accept the basis of the Kingdom which is the Blood that He shed at the Cross.

Such people become four things to Him: His Sons and His Citizens John 1:12; Galatians 3:26 – 29; Ephesians 1: 3-7, Ephesians 2: 11-19; His Priests and His Ambassadors 1 Peter 2: 9; Acts 1:8. The first two deal with their personal and legal relationships with Him while the last two deal with their strategic roles to those who are outside the

Commonwealth of Israel, the Kingdom: sinners who have made themselves the new gentiles!

**Essential reading: please diligently read Hebrews Chapters 4- 10 and 1 Peter 2:9 – 12.*

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(1) Please share on which truth in this lesson resonated most in your heart.

(2) Give 5 instances of how Yahshua related with or received ministry from women.

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CHAPTER 5

BIBLICAL BASIS FOR WOMEN IN MINISTRY

After laying the extensive foundation for Women to function as called by Elohim in the previous lessons, we now need to re-emphasize and expand some issues already raised. A systematic exposition of the Word will reveal the following:

1. There is no biblical basis for the age old concept that women are inherently inferior to men. The notion that the woman was an afterthought of Elohim flies in the face of a true understanding of His intent and purpose. It is necessary to go back to Genesis chapter 1: 26 – 29 which defines why He created mankind. We see there that:
 - Genesis 1:27 indicates that Elohim clearly had the male and female gender in view when He decided to create mankind.
 - The dominion mandate of man was over all the creation such as animals, plants, fishes and the environment was equally given to male and female.
 - Mankind was to be fruitful, reproduce and fill the earth. Since the male cannot reproduce alone neither are other created beings allowed to cross breed, Elohim had to create the woman out of the man. (see Genesis 2: 18 – 21.)

- The process of creating the woman showed additional skill and care on the part of Elohim to bring forth additional refinement in the woman that emerged. Rather than create the woman out of raw earth, she was made as a refinement from the roughhewn Adam. This accounts for why women tend to have greater sensitivity to things of the spirit and thus flow easier in the prophetic realm (see Genesis 2: 21, 22.)
- In effect, the woman is the man with the womb or the womb man! The capacity to receive, incubate and bring forth seed at maturity is an inherent gift of Elohim in the woman to play a crucial role in advancing the divine cause on planet earth.
- The deception of Eve by Satan was because of realization that the best way to truncate the plan of Elohim for mankind to increase and multiply was to trip over the one with the womb. While Paul acknowledged that Eve was the one who fell first in 1 Timothy 2:14, he also acknowledged the fundamentally flawed gross irresponsibility of Adam Romans 5:12 – 21.
- As we shared in a previous lesson, a careful reading of Genesis 3: 1 – 6 shows that Adam was present when Satan tempted Eve. In the law of responsibility as a covering, Adam failed to resist Satan and protect Eve.

2. The incarnation of Yahshua through the womb of a woman, Mary, was Elohim's own way of wiping off the age old blame on womanhood and their demonization by religious folks for the fall of man at the Garden of Eden. It must be borne in mind that Elohim laid the foundation of this

vindication when He told Satan that the SEED of the Woman (who he tricked) would crush his head! The Lord went on to make it clear that the Messiah would indeed come through a process that would exclude the seed of man. In effect, man was the carrier of the sin gene through semen. The womb of the woman could be sanctified and made holy as a vessel through which the purpose of God will be fulfilled (see Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7: 14; Isaiah 9: 6, 7; Luke 1:26 – 35.)

3. Yahshua Jesus brought forth a revolutionary message of the Kingdom of Elohim. That Kingdom is to be populated by a new race, a breed of humans who will be known by their identity as the new creation in Yahshua as 2 Corinthians 5:17 says. In other words, they will not be known by such objective classifications as gender, age, racial and ethnic back ground. This radical gospel was one which would give everyone a chance to make a choice which Elohim respects: to receive Him and His Kingdom unto acceptance or reject same unto condemnation. (See Matthew 4:17; John 1:12, 17; John 3:16.)

4. Yahshua, Jesus came to fulfil all the rites of passage which religion represented. His ministry and death put to an end the following:

- A priesthood that was essentially ethnic and gender based. That Levitical priesthood was exclusive to the sons of Aaron who were men and had no physical deformity! The death of Christ effectively put an end to that order and instituted a new one based on redemption and justification by His shed Blood. Hebrews chapter 5: 1 – 14; Chapter 6:13 – 20; Chapter 7: 1-28; Chapter 8: 1-13; chapter 9: 28. At His death, the veil which represented the ultimate

limitation to the Presence of God of God was rent into two indicating that a new way of access had been consecrated through His broken body! Matthew 27:51; Hebrews 10:19 – 22.

- Demonization of women. In the Old Covenant, women had limited access to religious leaders. That is why the Pharisees were scandalized when they saw Mary Magdalene anoint Yahshua, Jesus! He however extolled her actions; John 12: 1-8. This is also why it was a radical faith thing for the woman with the issue of blood to press through the crowd and touch the hem of His garments. Women actively ministered to Yahshua, Jesus throughout His earthly life and stuck to Him at the Cross and even in death!

5. The New Priesthood that Christ came to institute was to be based entirely on release of spiritual gifts and other graces which saints receive from Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit comes into the spirit man of saints, dwells therein and operates from that realm. As was shared in a previous lesson, the correct definition of ministry is “EXPRESSION of what we are IMPRESSED with by the Holy Spirit. The spirit man of saints is neither male nor female. Both the office gifts of Yahshua, Jesus (Ephesians 4:11,12); The gifts released by The Father (Romans 12: 3-8) and the gifts of Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12: 1- 14 are all received in the spirit realm! Ephesians 4:7 and 1 Peter 4: 10, 11 when taken together reveal that every saint has received one or more spiritual gifts from Elohim!

The ministry paradigm of the Kingdom for ministry at the present time is this: whoever has the gift needed by the Body or an individual should give Holy Spirit space to release it to meet the needs of saints!

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 1 Corinthians 12: 7

*As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **11** If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4: 10*

CONCERNING WOMEN AS APOSTLES

With the foregoing in mind, it then becomes necessary to confront head long another strategy of Religion: the concession that women can engage in some levels of ministry but are to be excluded from some “strategic level” “roles” which places them in leadership positions over males. There is no doubt that the voice of Religion can be persistent, even in error! The broad principles enunciated here are valid in considering women for any office or function in the present dispensation of the Kingdom manifested through the Church of Yahshua, Jesus.

It is interesting to note that in some ministries that are above the basic religious fray, they are willing to accept women to function as Prophetess and even Evangelist where the soul winning capacity and charismatic flow is very evident. Concerning the calling as Apostles, Pastors and Teachers (not Sunday school but Fivefold), many recoil and seem uncomfortable.

As to the question of whether women can be called as apostles, the answer is unequivocal: yes indeed! It is not a

gender exclusive mandate. It is a spiritual assignment and function, bestowed on people who are willing to die to the demands and pull off gender, self-ambition, demands of their bellies for ease and comfort.

Living with Yahshua, Jesus as compass means that a true apostle will emulate Him by loving righteousness and hating iniquity; Hebrews 1:9. Drawing on the grace released through the aforementioned means that one called to be an Apostle must find it necessary to press into the fullness of Yahshua, giving no place in the heart for the things of Satan, Flesh or the World. This by no means implies the apostle will be sinless. It simply means that the one so called understands that light and darkness cannot dwell together in the same heart and a conscious decision is made for the Light in Yahshua by His Holy Spirit to reign supreme.

The totality of life is thus entrusted into the hand of Yahshua, Jesus who supplies grace for His servant to do the work of the Kingdom above reproach. Because of the great esteem with which the commission is apprehended, the question an apostle will ask when faced with temptations and life threatening persecutions is akin to what Paul asked in Romans 8: 31-39.

Nothing of course including money, power, fame, sex or persecution, evil speaking, conspiracies or martyrdom should ever have the power to cause an apostle to miss the mark. When life is lived this way, the authority of Yahshua over His Church is thus delegated to a worthy vessel who has not received the grace of Elohim in vain. Elohim has always valued discipline, contrary to what many false preachers advance.

In the New Testament, saints are enjoined to work out their salvation with fear and trembling Philippians 2:12 even though it is Elohim Who, by Holy Spirit does the actual work of holiness as Philippians 1:6 and Philippians 2:13 reveal. 1 Thessalonians 5:22-24. We have a role to prove our love of Elohim by our obedience; and those called to this high office of apostle must lead the way. John 14: 15; John 15:14; Philippians 2: 12 – 16. The Kingdom of Elohim is thus built on obedience of the Word of God, out of love and holy reverence.

Deriving from this complete submission of self to Yahshua, Jesus and enthroning Him first above life and all else according to Matthew 16:24 – 26, emerges a man or woman who is dead to the old nature, life, ambitions and inhibitions. One that is crucified with Yahshua has nothing to boast of in the flesh and of the flesh. Galatians 2:20; Galatians 6:14. Out of this broken being whose sacrifice as laid on the altar has been accepted by Elohim, emerges a son of His who is neither male nor female any more John 6:33; Romans 12: 1,2; Galatians 3: 26 - 29. Such a one, functions primarily in the Spirit and knows no one after the flesh because of the renewed mind.

Let us always remember that it is in the realm of the spirit man that the spiritual gifts and callings of Elohim are received. It is in the realm of the spirit man that the apostolic commission is received. The flesh profits nothing because flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom and Elohim does not want any flesh to glory in His presence. This is why He uses the weak things of this world most of the time to bring to pass His purposes(see John 6:33; 1 Corinthians 1: 26 – 31.)

When we understand this dynamic, the religious mindset which questions whether women can be apostles will naturally fizzle away. The core issue is the election and calling of Elohim Who consults no one but calls vessels according to the good pleasure of His Own will. It is not of him that wills or he that runs but of He who shows mercy. And this Elohim says He calls who He wishes and fortunately, no one is qualified to ask Him any questions or to counsel Him (see Romans 9:14 – 16.)

Instead of engaging in dry religious arguments of whether a woman can be an apostle, the main issue is to understand who is an Apostle, the functions and mandate. When you see an individual manifest what the word says of that Office and calling, please give him or her right of way, lest you strive against Yahshua, Head of the Church Who has personally vested that vessel with a measure of His authority through Holy Spirit at work within him or her!

6 IMPERATIVES FOR FEMALE APOSTLES

She who would accept and operate in this Office:

1. Cannot live in the flesh and its entrapments. It is impossible to seek to fulfil an apostolic commission and still be beholden to Hollywood and the catwalks. While you should take good care of your body, it is not expedient to make yourself a sex object by the way you dress and your demeanor. You cannot remain in some of those entrapments to the spirit of the world and seek to please He who called you (See 2 Corinthians 6:14 – 18; 1 John 2:15 – 17.)

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. 2 Timothy 2:4

2. Must not buy the lie that female ministers must have a husband in order to be optimized or accepted! You cannot eat your cake and still have it. If you believe that lie and rush into marriage at all costs, you must realize that marriage has its own specific laws including primacy of the husband in the home. 1 Corinthians chapter 7 should be read in full for an understanding of this construct.
3. Ideally, a woman who is called to the Apostolic office should be happily married to Yahshua, Jesus so that He can pass through her by His Spirit to fulfill His will.
4. Where she is married, she must lovingly submit to her own husband in the home and take good care of their children so that the name of Yahshua is not reproached. If she cannot submit to him, she has already failed! The husband of a vessel called to this office needs to recognize, love and honor her lest the heavens over the family be closed and all end up suffering lack and oppression. 1 Peter 3: 7.
5. She who will be an apostle cannot be seen swaggering to lord it over men or have a spirit of feminine triumphalism. Doing so will negate the authority of Yahshua that she ought to be carrying. She should not seek vain glory over her husband or

treat the Church as her personal estate to do what she likes with it.

6. She who is called to the apostolic office will ultimately prove it by her ability to do the work Yahshua, Jesus sent her to do, in spite of reproaches, rejection, abuses and indeed all kinds of suffering for His sake. She should commit everything to Him who judges righteously, just like Yahshua (see 1 Peter 2: 21 – 24.)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(1) Make the case for why the New Testament Priesthood is not gender biased citing one or two scriptures to back your points.

(2) Debunk the religious lie which accepts women in ministry but not the office of Apostle (3). Mention and explain at least 4 things that are not expected of a son of Elohim in a female body called as an apostle.

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CHAPTER 6

THE LEVITICAL ORDER REPLACED

For the “hard of hearing,” a recap of what we have downloaded so far will not hurt. The sum of the thesis so far is this: the Old Levitical priesthood which was essentially an exclusive caste limited to the sons of Aaron was valid only as far as the Old Covenant went. The Old Covenant was a shadow of better things to come. When Yahshua Jesus, the reality of all the types, symbols and shadows of the old order came to earth, He was anointed to fulfill them in every respect! As He fulfilled the righteous demand of the Law concerning sin, it was meet that He be the Lamb of Elohim on Who the sins of the whole world from Adam to the very last generation was cast upon.

In Him is the only valid life acceptable to Yahweh, The Father. As He instituted the Communion and decreed its regular performance, He announced the New Covenant in His own blood. That New Covenant was not just based on better promises; it was to be mediated by a new priesthood. The writer of the Book of Hebrews took time in an extensive stretch of the Holy Writ to show that Yahshua, Jesus was not qualified under the Old Covenant to be a priest since He was born of the tribe of Judah. So He became a priest, not after the Levitical order but after the Order of Melchisedek (See Hebrews chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.)

The Order of Melchisedek was a priesthood made in heaven. It was a priesthood based entirely on divine election,

publicly confirmed by the anointing of the Holy Spirit that came upon Him at the baptism of John in River Jordan. This new priesthood was passed on to, not just to the 12(save Judas Iscariot) but also to all of the 120 who gathered in obedience for the same anointing of the Holy Spirit in the Upper Room at Jerusalem. With those original 120 saints and all those who received Him and yielded themselves to Him to use them since then, the Kingdom of Elohim is being preached by those who, like Him, have become priests after the Order of Melchisedek. We are all part of the Royal Priesthood who are sons of the same Yahweh, neither male nor female.

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light; 1 Peter 2: 9

In the Kingdom of Elohim to which we are called, everyone has been ordained before the foundation of the world to function as priests and kings. In this present life, we are engaged in a dress rehearsal for what we will be doing when Yahshua returns.

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Revelation 1:5-6

And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast

redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. Revelation 5:9-10

The problem with those who question whether women, Gentiles, uneducated and uncultured people can become ministers of the gospel is essentially that of trying to put new wine in old wine skins. Yahshua, Jesus Himself considered this an abnormality.

And he spake also a parable unto them; No man putteth a piece of a new garment upon an old; if otherwise, then both the new maketh a rent, and the piece that was taken out of the new agreeth not with the old.³⁷ And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish.³⁸ But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved.³⁹ No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better. Luke 5:36-39

Brethren who question if a woman should be a minister or better still serve in any of the fivefold offices are trying to live the New Covenant life with Old Covenant mentality and mindset. Just as Yahshua received unlearned fishermen, tax collectors and all manner of men and mentored them to be world changers, so is the New Testament Priesthood open to all who will respond to the new life in Yahshua and relationship with the Father by the in dwelling Holy Spirit – irrespective of their gender or status!

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: John 1:11

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.²⁹ And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:26-29

The more weak and unqualified in the eyes of religious leaders such people are, the more the Lord will even use them to confound the mighty!

For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:²⁷ But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;²⁸ And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:²⁹ That no flesh should glory in his presence.³⁰ But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:³¹ That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 1:26

ROLE OF ROME IN THE NEGATION OF WOMEN IN MINISTRY

What Rome adopted and which makes it a unique religion, powerful and rich beyond measure is the Old Levitical exclusive priesthood with its pomp, pageantry and exclusive priestly caste! The architects of the religious giant declared with imperial decrees fashioned by its brilliant early theologians and scholars, that Jews were excluded from the favor of Elohim because they killed the Messiah and therefore all His promises for Israel were now appropriated by the Roman Church.

This is the heart of what is called the replacement theology. As Rome had replaced Jewry, in their estimation, it was meet for it to take over continuity of the Levitical priesthood. So the Pope had to take the place of the High Priest wearing the rich and colorful robes of that office. In the same manner, the Roman priest hood had to be exclusively reserved for those who passed the rigorous universal system of training and liturgy management. With the Levitical themed priesthood, what Rome gave organized Christian Religion was a rejection of the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedeck. The new Priesthood which would mediate between a holy God and an unholy laity of “consumerist parishioners was a professional, male priestly caste adorned with robes that resembled the Levitical Order in pomp and pageantry.

With time, Rome made room for women to serve as nuns in convents to pray, serve the parishes and dioceses and do good works to the poor but not minister the Sacraments to members of the Church.

ROLE OF “PROTESTANTS” IN FOSTERING WHAT THEIR “MOTHER” INSTITUTED

The so-called Protestant Movement and its off springs the Anglican, Pentecostal, Evangelicals, Prosperity gospel movement betrayed their profession of faith by adopting this Levitical concept of a tiny professional clergy which does all the ministry to a largely passive laity whose main assignment is to bring tithes, offerings and possibly play committee politics! Purported “Kingdom preachers” who love the colorful robes of ‘Christian Religion’ and relish in religious titles not found in scriptures betray their calling and re-enforce the perception that the world has eaten the strength of the organized Church through their unholy embrace.

It is Time to come out of Babylon, union of the World and the Church! This embrace of The World and the Organized Church creates a pseudo Church that is best known as Babylon. The Lord is still saying to His true saints to come out of Babylon and its seductive religious system!

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.² And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.³ For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye

be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.⁵ For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Revelation 18:1-

5

To all women in ministry, we can safely admonish, come out of Babylon! Come out of the popish robes and attires that some are so attracted to with their pretensions to power and piety! Come out of love of the microphone, klieg lights, strobe lights and Hollywood type stages and yearning to face so called Christian paparazzi! Come out of the fake nails, fake busts, fake hair, ungodly exposure of sensitive body parts in pulpit pornography and indeed all kinds of plasticity! Come out of the world and its attractions which are turning women in ministry into imitators of Hollywood and the Catwalk! Come out of seductiveness and become carriers of the Water of Life in pure vessels!

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.¹⁶ For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.¹⁷ And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever. 1 John 2:15-17

Women in ministry must be real and holy! They must be who Elohim made them to be and not seek to be any other! It is to such women that The Great I AM Has committed the ultimate birthing of His end time will: that war declared between the Seed of the Woman and Satan did not end with Yahshua, Jesus! Every woman who is on the Lord's side must realize that the battle that was joined at Eden will be

consummated by Holy, anointed and fearless women in ministry who will look Satan and his human cohorts eyeball to eyeball and re-enact the slaying of the mighty warrior Sisera by an insignificant Jael, wife of Heber the Kenite!!! Will all the Jael's stand up to be counted?

Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.²⁴ Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be, blessed shall she be above women in the tent.²⁵ He asked water, and she gave him milk; she brought forth butter in a lordly dish.²⁶ She put her hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workmen's hammer; and with the hammer she smote Sisera, she smote off his head, when she had pierced and stricken through his temples.²⁷ At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down: at her feet he bowed, he fell: where he bowed, there he fell down dead.²⁸ The mother of Sisera looked out at a window, and cried through the lattice, Why is his chariot so long in coming? why tarry the wheels of his chariots?²⁹ Her wise ladies answered her, yea, she returned answer to herself,³⁰ Have they not sped? have they not divided the prey; to every man a damsel or two; to Sisera a prey of divers colours, a prey of divers colours of needlework, of divers colours of needlework on both sides, meet for the necks of them that take the spoil?³¹ So let all thine enemies perish, O Lord: but let them that love him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might. And the land had rest forty years.
Judges 5: 23-31

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) Please present a summary of this lesson.
- (2) What is your personal take away for purpose of implementation?

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CHAPTER 7

CONSTRAINTS TO WOMEN'S MINISTRY

There are many constraints to women ministry which are worthy of consideration. The key ones can be broadly summed up as follows:

1. Opposition by Satan, the arch foe of womanhood

It is evident from the account of the fall of mankind in Genesis 3 that Satan deliberately targeted Eve because he must have seen a tendency for her to yearn for colorful and exotic things and also act independent of her husband, given by Yahweh as a covering.

Unfortunately, this weakness has subsisted till today, even among women who are redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb and filled with the Holy Spirit but open to the attractions of carnal things which war against the soul. As it was with Eve, so it with any woman in ministry whose soul yearns for things that are “forbidden”. The Lord makes it clear from a careful comparison of these scriptures that Satan has a central strategy of making saints to miss Elohim by offering them “carnal things” that is what they can see, hear, smell, desire and feel to “be special.”

Genesis 3:1-6(Temptation of Adam & Eve);

Matthew 4: 1- 11(Temptation of Yahshua Jesus) and

1 John 2: 15-17(the core tools Satan uses to tempt saints).

That is why the charge to be separate from the world, its attractions and dainties – including seductive fashion and accessories which make them objects to be desired above others - must be taken seriously by any woman who wants to serve Yahshua and His saints acceptably (see 2 Corinthians 6: 14 – 18; Revelation 18:4.)

It is the role of every woman in ministry to guard her heart least Satan tugs it away from an Elohim centered pose. What to eat, what to wear and look special, what perfume to spray on, what will make heads turn and cause men to grovel has always been a chief strategy of Satan to unhook the hearts of women in ministry away from Yahshua, Jesus. When a woman in Ministry begins to look to Hollywood for her dress sense; when a woman in Ministry begins to be overly concerned with impression she will make on television audiences and those who will watch the video, her heart inclination can focus more on what to wear and how to make up so much so that waiting on the Lord to receive a fresh word for the people becomes a secondary consideration.

Because the anointing of Holy Spirit is without repentance and the name of Yahshua/Jesus has power in itself to deliver miracles, such a backslider in heart can still manifest the Charismatic gifts, even though her heart is far away! Prating over the stage, showing off her figure and becoming, so to say, a “superstar” may cause such a minister to turn aside into vain jangling.

Because she is now projected by Christian Television and media as a successful minister, such a person may be flaunted as a role model. She begins to sell doctrines of demons or secular humanistic reasoning as the gospel truth, leading many astray. Such people essentially begin to use the pulpit to model bad behavior, infuse a spirit of error into the congregations where they are received and generally become Satan's chief tool to destabilize families and the household of faith.

Spearheading a satanic "women liberation movement", such ministers begin to teach women not to give their husbands honor but at the same time take their every word as gospel truth! The same preachers, who will cause women to despise their pastors, exercise a real control over every aspect of the lives of those same women! Satan is a patient foe who can target his quarry for many years. What we have described here often does not come suddenly but rather creeps in subtly just like the tiny foxes of Songs of Solomon 2:15.

2. Opposition by the Religious Spirit

The religious spirit is manifested by principalities which cause saints to take the word of Elohim out of context. The truth that Yahshua, Jesus meant to set free becomes a tool of bondage and self-flagellation! John 8:32, 36; 2 Corinthians 3:17. Religion is essentially the things that people add to the gospel and do, trying to please Elohim. It is about looking

for Him by things that are done by rote or habit, even when the heart is far away.

In some places, the religious spirit has caused people to believe the lie that women are meant for marriage and home related issues only. The religious spirit hates woman hood because its master Satan has been at war with this specie of humans from the Garden of Eden. The religious spirit is on a very strategic assignment to keep between 50 – 60 percent of the potential army of the Lord on pews and in the home front. (Women make up 50 – 60 percent of the population of local congregations in several parts of the world).

The religious spirit does not stop here. It has another equally dangerous assignment: to make the Church adopt the Roman model of Levitical priesthood. This leads to a situation where the work of ministry is done by a tiny professional clergy of between 1-5 percent of the population. They spend many years in seminaries and Bible Colleges learning how to be part of an exclusive all-male priestly caste, complete with special robes, special chairs and restricted access to the altar.

From the lofty bully pulpit, they minister to the vast majority who are referred to as “Laity”. These laid back people are to “come” to a particular building once or twice a week called “the Church” to ‘experience the presence of God’, hear from the preacher, sing some songs and be prayed for. In so doing, the religious spirit is on assignment to make the saints set aside clear provisions of scripture which paint a different picture!

Scripture teaches that the Church is not the building but the saints who have been called out of the world system! The Scriptures teach that these people who are individually called out are joined together by Holy Spirit to become the Body of Yahshua, Jesus. Just as a human body is made up of many parts, His Body is made up of individuals who function as cells and body parts, based on their gifts and callings. This organic presentation of the Church as a living, loving and holy organism is opposite to the model the religious spirit offers of the Church as an organization! 1 Peter 2: 9-12; Romans 12: 1-8; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4: 7; Ephesians 2:11 – 22.

The job of leadership in this organic mode is to teach, train, equip, activate and release each saint under their charge into the fullness of the Person and Purpose of Yahshua, Jesus. The leadership which will deliver this outcome is not a Pastor who is the founder/owner of a “church” but the fivefold offices of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers acting in concert to deliver the fullness of the Presence and Power of Yahshua, Jesus! Such a congregation becomes mature as sons of the Most High – irrespective of gender - , able to discern between truth and error! Ephesians 4:11, 12 – 16

The latest postulation of the religious spirit is that women can indeed serve in other offices except that of Apostle and Pastor! This spirit is tenacious and must be seen for what it is: on assignment to ensure that women are not able to function fully as Elohim intends in the Church. The religious spirit is also on assignment to foster the dichotomy which Yahshua broke down at the Cross: the age old issue of

classification of humans on the basis of gender. It must be noted that the remnant of Elohim are called to embrace the wholesome truth that in Yahshua Jesus, such classifications are obsolete for our life in His Body, even the Kingdom life. Galatians 3: 26-29.

Woman hood is however valid in the marriage institution and there, the rules vary from relationship of spirit filled saints who are collectively “The Church” to those who have been brought together in love to be a union or couple where the male has some Elohim-given primacy that is not to be exercised oppressively but for the benefit of his wife!

3. Perception Problems arising from Cultural Mindsets

Culture permeates into lives of people from the womb! The life of parents is transmitted through the umbilical cord into the human foetus. The DNA of the parents that a baby receives also carries their cultural baggage. When a baby grows up, it is within an environment and value system. As the child grows those values and environmental influence shapes his or her world view.

In some cultures, women are essentially cannon fodder for economic expansion of the husband. In some cultures, women are to be seen and not heard. Those cultural mindsets can affect a saint, though born again. They can immobilize women from answering the call of Elohim or given the call the best shot possible.

Those mindsets, where found in men, can cause them to reject ministry from women. Some other men who are more refined may accept ministry from women but on limited basis with less trust. There are some men who have allowed their cultural mindsets to cause pride to get the better part of them. They disrespect Pastors and other fivefold leaders Yahshua sets over them by election on the basis of culture which says women should not lead men! The solution is for saints to be given a systematic training in the culture of the Kingdom of Elohim as found in the New Testament.

4. Inadequate understanding of the nature and principles of the Kingdom even by self-professed Kingdom preachers and teachers.

The sad truth is that many so called Kingdom preachers, teachers, speakers and writers are afflicted by ignorance of the Kingdom and its constitution, on the one hand and confused about the glorious truth it entails. If we will systematically explore and practice the true Kingdom message, neither the spirit of religion nor cultural mindsets would have the potent hold they have on saints till today. The message of the Kingdom of is truly revolutionary and liberating! It says, unequivocally, that Elohim has made a way back to Himself for fallen humanity in Yahshua, Jesus. Embracing the person and sacrifice of Yahshua at Calvary therefore leads to a transition from Satan's to Elohim's Kingdom.

This translation which was instantaneous, is reinforced and experienced when saints are soundly taught that the Kingdom is in their hearts(Luke 17:21). Therefore, they are

to stop the old self based life and begin to live for Yahshua and His Kingdom. This happens when they willingly submit to His total rule in every area of life and ministry (Matthew 16:24-26; Romans 12:1). When this is so, they demonstrate they are truly under His dominion as Sovereign!

Though physically here on earth, such people are not of this world system. They are actually dual citizens: of the world to come when Yahshua will return to set up His reign as well as citizens of the land where they live or were born. So they put their whole strength into pursuit of the purpose, agenda and priorities of their true King, Jesus (Matthew 6:33; Romans 14:17, 18). As they do so, people may consider them foolish but they are actually wise.

They trust Elohim to deliver on His promises to be their sole source here on earth and are strongly motivated by the eternal rewards. Matthew 6: 25 – 35; Matthew 19:27-30. In this present phase of the Kingdom which is spiritual, they are given gifts and callings according to His Sovereign will of Elohim. Our obligation is to receive people not according to fleshly considerations such as gender, age or socio-economic status but according to what the King has committed to them! Luke 19:11-27

Those who live by these Kingdom principles mature to the state of son ship where their core identity is neither male nor female but Yahshua in them by Holy Spirit and His gifts/callings. Such people are no longer to be known by gender, socio-economic background or financial weight but by their standing in the realm of the Spirit! Their authority is not derived from genealogy or the desires of humans but from the Lord Who called and commissioned them. Romans 8:12 – 17; Galatians 3: 26-29; Galatians 4: 1-7. However,

the same Lord requires that in His Kingdom, every authority must be subject to another authority so submission to other leaders is not a struggle! Romans 13: 1- 7.

The Lord is at work to break these yokes and liberate His appointed vessels under captivity. The revelations in this course are part of that process and we receive same with Grace to run with it!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(1) Please mention and briefly explain each of the 4 constraints facing women Elohim has called into ministry.

(2) Which of these constraints is prevalent in your local area?

[illegible]

CHAPTER 8

POTENTIAL CANDIDATE THE EUROPEAN UNION

In receiving these revelations, the Lord wants us to live like the children of Issachar who knew the times and seasons and what ought to be done! Let us begin this lesson by reflecting on these scriptures again:

And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment. 1 Chronicles 12: 32

And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Romans 13: 1-12

Let us remember the profile of the kingdom or entity which will exercise global influence at the time King Yahshua will return as described in Daniel 2:

his feet part of iron and part of clay. 34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to

pieces. 35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. Daniel 2:33-35

As said in the previous lesson, here is the interpretation that Daniel gave of the dream indicating the nature of the last world empire

And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. 43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. 44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure. Daniel 2:41-45

The features described above fit not just the United Nations but also another potential candidate which is the European Union. This is not a ‘thus said the Lord’ issue but rather one that is based on using the Scriptures to interpret history and current affairs.

But let us issue a caveat: let no one begin to use the facts before us here to abuse that wonderful creation of wise men which has substantially taken away the famed warlike tendencies of various European nationalities! Abba just wants to supply us sufficient light so that we will not walk blind folded into the times that are about to be! In the end, the European Union may have nothing to do with the End Times or may be a marginal player. It is safe however to keep it in view because several trends suggest that there will be a resurrected “world power” from the territory of the Old Roman Empire. After the collapse of the Roman Empire (Western half in AD476 as Eastern half based in Constantinople lasted for about 1000 more years), Europe filled the void through these nations and their impact on world affairs:

- Britain gave the world a language, social, political and economic system bequeathed from Rome and ruled about 2/3rds of the earth through the Commonwealth of nations.
- France gave the world another global language, French and ran a global empire.
- Spain gave the world another global language, Espanol, ruled South America and other nations.
- To varying degrees, Portugal, Italy, Germany did likewise within their spheres of influence.

Most historians conveniently ignore Europe but rather focus on the Othman Empire and Islamic conquest of Europe up to Spain. It is when you put the pieces together that the European influence over the world becomes clearer. Not many remember that Europeans with their daring spirit launched out across Oceans, subdued indigenous people of North America and took it over. They did likewise in South America, Australia and New Zealand! The result today is that of all the developed economies, these major ones are European or have their roots in Europe: United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand.

Up to the 1970's many people had assumed Europe was dead. In America, it was derisively called the 'Old Continent'. The picturesque buildings of Victorian England and those on the Continental mainland were popular in picture books across the world. The humiliation Germany suffered by the sheer savagery of the Nazis who executed the most barbaric act of genocide in history, the Holocaust and total collapse of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich meant that Germany would live under the protectorate of America for a long time. After World War II, the angst among European leaders was real. What riled them was how a continent that was supposed to comprise the most sophisticated set of Homo Sapiens could engage in such wanton waste of lives, property and dignity in the World War I (1914 – 1918) and World War II (1939-1945). Before then, the continent was one huge killing field as ethnic warlords carved out territories to feed their king sized egos.

Unknown to the world, the series of Summits, meetings and Treaties European leaders engaged in after World War II were about to produce fruit. Europe was undergoing a

metamorphosis that few could discern. Today, that outcome is the huge European Union head quartered in Brussels, capital of Belgium. The European Union with its Parliament, Council and Commission, is truly a study in “Unity in Diversity.”

Through their famed work ethic and ruggedness, the German economy has resurrected again and holds the aces in the EU! It is true that full integration into a United States of Europe has not happened yet. But many observers say it is no longer a question of ‘how’ but rather of ‘when’. The Russian annexation of Crimea and destabilization of Ukraine has given European leaders food for thought and provided a much needed reason why their nations must stick together. Let us use the eyes of biblical prophecy to see what the EU says of itself in the EU motto: "United in diversity" is the motto of the European Union. It signifies how Europeans have come together, in the form of the EU, to work for peace and prosperity, while at the same time being enriched by the continents many different cultures, traditions and languages.

There are a number of things about the European Union which recommend it as a potential candidate for the 5th Kingdom in Daniel 2. We shall examine them briefly.

1. It occupies territory that fits most into the base of the Old Roman Empire and in that sense can rightly be said to arise out of its ashes, just like a Phoenix.
2. The concept of a united Europe acquired momentum arising from the Treaty of Rome which created the European Economic Community in 1957, a highly significant prophetic season indeed which saw two

World Wars, birth of United Nations and modern State of Israel.

3. It is in Europe that Christendom was created to replace the Gospel of the Kingdom and it was also here that the Replacement Theology was birthed. Roman Catholicism which is based on Union of State and Christian Religion was therefore founded in Europe, is based in the continent and grew to become a religious behemoth: the largest and most pervasive in the world. It is estimated that one in Five Americans is Roman Catholic for instance. In Latin America, the ratio is higher as well as most parts of Africa.
4. It was within Italy, part of Europe, that the wonder that is The Church of Rome got the fullness of status as a State entity through the Lateran Treaty of 1929 in the highly prophetic 20th Century! This conferred The Vatican with its own sovereignty, instruments of State including diplomatic relations with the nations of the earth. It is thus an independent State within the State with the Pope not just a religious leader but one with constitutional power as a Head of State, enjoying full diplomatic immunity! That way, the uniqueness of the Church of Rome was permanently cemented as part and parcel of the world system and its moral compass, in a sense.

5. Both Catholic and Protestant nations of Europe see the Pope as Moral and Spiritual leader of the Continent. This excites the feeling that both Religious groups will cohere and re-unite with time. Pope Francis has launched a highly successful outreach to Evangelicals, Pentecostals and Charismatics which has started bearing fruit. Leader of the largest Pentecostal congregation in Sweden after 30 years of ministry, converted to Roman Catholicism two years ago. Let us not forget that Europe is also 'Mother' of the Protestant variant of Christianity and therefore its off-springs. From Lutheran to Anglican; from Evangelical to Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements, their umbilical cords can be traced all the way to Europe.

6. The European Union, in its composition, comprises nations with varying degrees of political, economic and military strength. There are the prosperous nations like Germany, United Kingdom and France as well as many weaker ones that are struggling economically and politically. Remember that the EU motto is "different cultures, traditions and languages."

7. The EU has moved from passive to an aggressive growth in size and power to become one of the largest trading blocs and economic powerhouse in the world. The fact of birthing and sustaining a single Currency, the Euro, is significant.
8. The EU is able to muster one of the greatest armies in the world, if the need arises. Active duty personnel: 1,695,122 Reserve forces: 2,852,500; Paramilitary: 798,700.
9. The EU both corporately and as an aggregation of the tendencies and capacities of some of its member nations has become a major player in the Middle East. Billions of Euros are poured into the West Bank and Gaza to build capacity and infrastructure to make the future Palestinian State viable.
10. Two members of the EU: United Kingdom and France are among the 5 permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. Working with the United Nations, the US, China and Russia, the EU has the capacity to arm twist Israel to surrender land for Peace or face crippling sanctions.

11. Many Hebrews believe that waves of anti-Semitism seen in this continent in the past such as in Germany are alive today. They also believe there is a narrative in the European Press which clearly favors the Palestinian cause and casts Israel as an aggressor. Even now, there is a movement to label Israel as an Apartheid state, BDS (Boycott, Divest & Sanction), has great strength in Europe.
12. It is very significant that Europe, more than any other continent, was a key player in formation of both United States and the United Nations, the other two candidates for the feet of iron and clay.
13. As at September 7, 2015, a petition in the United Kingdom Parliament website seeking arrest of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu for war crimes against Gaza and Palestinians had attracted over 100,000 signatures of support. Former Justice Minister Tipzi Livni could not visit London for a long time because of a similar campaign until it was lifted.
14. A careful examination of histories of nations in the world will reveal that with exception of Russia and China, perhaps as much as 75

percent may have an umbilical cord that can be traced to Europe either by colonization; conquest or simply cultural dominance via Language and systems.

15. Europe thus inherited the two features of the Roman Empire – the Legs of Iron: Its Military and Cultural strength and its Religious Strength.

A careful examination of this scripture will reveal that most of the features attributed to the successor kingdom to Rome show tendencies that can be attributed to the history of Europe and the various powers which have risen at one time or the other such as Greece; Spain; Portugal; France; Britain; Italy; Belgium; Germany.

Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; 20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. 21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; 22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom. 23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all

kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. 24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. 25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. 26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. 27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. Daniel 7:19-2

So many things that will happen in future are introduced in Daniel 7 above. These include: The nature of the successor to Rome (V.20a; V.24a) and an introduction to the Anti-Christ to come (Verse 20b, 21; V24b, 25).Downside: The EU project has not grown at the pace most Bible scholars predicted. It has also not contracted into 10 Super nations as some predicted based on Daniel 7: 24. Moreover, the move towards integration (which would have made it a United States of Europe) has not happened as many had expected. The result is that The EU is an extraordinary maze of agencies many may get lost trying to locate who has what power!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) Briefly discuss how the European Union also fits the description in the Prophecy in Daniel Chapter 2.
- (2) Please share any personal revelations from this chapter.

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CHAPTER 9

BALANCING DEMANDS OF HOME, MINISTRY AND CAREER

As has been repeatedly stressed in this course, singlehood is of great advantage for those called to ministry. However, with the grace of Elohim, those called to be married can and should succeed holistically provided they minister according to spiritual rules He Himself set in place.

As much as women in ministry have been enjoined to submit to authority of their own husbands at home, it is also essential that we remember a cardinal, primary rule of the Kingdom: no spouse or indeed any human being by whatever name or title called, should be allowed, for any reason under the sun, to take the place of Elohim in the heart of a woman in ministry.

Elohim is jealous for His undivided place in the hearts of the redeemed and demands pride of place that cannot be displaced by spouse, children, ministry, business or quest for fame and “success!”

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Matthew 16:24

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. Matthew 10:34

Yahshua, Jesus enjoins citizens of His Kingdom to make the “main thing” the main thing: Know Abba intimately, love Him above all else, seek first His Kingdom and posture to do His will in all situations.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness. The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say unto you, Take no

thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Those who live by this rule learn the great virtue in dying to self so that Yahshua by indwelling Holy Spirit is enthroned securely as the fulcrum of life. When spouse, children, ministry, business and other commitments emerge, they all take their bearing in the heart of the woman in ministry on the basis of her relationship with Yahshua, Jesus. Matthew 6:19 The outcome is a Zoe or Elohim kind of life displaying the three benchmarks of the Kingdom according to Romans 14:17-18: righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Those three benchmarks sum up the teaching in

the Sermon on the Mount articulated clearly in Matthew chapters 5, 6 and 7. As long as women in ministry observe this simple rule, all other relationships will fall in place except where the Lord allows a Cross to emerge. When this is so, He will supply sufficient grace to carry same.

The gifts and callings of Elohim are without repentance as stated in Romans 11:29. It is easy to miss Elohim and still be “flowing” in the charismatic gifts! Satan can use this flow to confuse a woman whose life is falling apart at the seams on the home front or engrossed with the cares of this life in business which tears her heart away from Elohim. Further conceit can arise when financial and social successes seem to be in the bag. Romans 14:17-19, clearly say that the Kingdom is not food and drink! The presence of much finances, fully booked speaking engagements and flow of charismatic gifts can confuse one who is carnal to believe that she is “successful.”

If a woman in ministry is married, the need to give her husband adequate attention, second only to Elohim, cannot be over emphasized. This matter is so serious that Paul the apostle was used of Holy Spirit to state clearly that the need to fast or pray cannot take precedence over fulfillment of conjugal obligations, except there is prior mutual consent!

Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency. 1 Corinthians

7

When becomes a mother and in is in ministry must avoid the temptation to have them take pride of place over her husband. Neither should they be loved more than Yahshua, Jesus Himself otherwise children become idols! Matthew 10: 34-39. The same way Elohim tried Abraham by demanding Isaac, the apple of his eyes; will He require surrendering that child the woman in ministry loves so much!

7 PRINCIPLES FOR HOLISTIC SUCCESS

Women in ministry who are called to the Market Place will discover great grace to flow therein without sacrificing their personal relationship with Elohim or responsibilities to family. The grand secret is ensconced in application of a few concepts.

16. Tap into the grace of Elohim at the place of unceasing prayer so that she can cease from her own works which drain the anointing.

Pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5: 17

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. Hebrews 4: 9

In wisdom, women in ministry need to pray about all things, rather than talk about or worry over such things! Beyond lifting up to the Lord their burdens, there is a special realm of blessing when praying in the Spirit at the private

altar which bypasses the mental realm to tap into the mind of Yahweh. It is also of great value to build up the inner man.

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. Romans 8: 26

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Jude: 20

2. Trust Elohim completely by walking in Faith, not sight in all things.

Satan likes it when women walk by sight so that he uses the five carnal senses to arrest their attention and possibly cause them to stumble. The way out is for women in ministry to dwell in the word which renews the mind and refreshes the spirit-man so that they can communicate with heaven through faith by their spirit-man and not their natural senses.

(For we walk by faith, not by sight) 2 Corinthians 5: 7

3. Women in ministry need to apply balance in all things.

Holy Spirit is available, 24/7 to lead in this regard so that mature decisions according to the perfect will of the Father can be made at all times

*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God,
they are the sons of God. Romans 8: 14*

4. Women in ministry must constantly walk in the understanding that they are human beings who have felt needs to be whole and grow.

Attending to others in the home and ministry without being ministered to, will depreciate their spirit, soul and body quicker than Elohim intended with disastrous consequences. They need to invest in taking good care of their bodies by eating right, exercising the body, getting adequate rest and giving other people including husbands, children and brethren right of way to minister to them.

From a spiritual point of view, they should give Holy Spirit right of way to connect them with destiny helpers or mentors they can receive spiritual impartations that keep them on the cutting edge of spirituality. That way they do not stay in cocoons of self-deception that they are okay with revelations within themselves. To ignore their personal well-being therefore is to create enabling environment for failure. Take care of the vineyard that is your being before you can take care of the bigger vineyard of the Lord.

*Look not upon me, because I am black,
because the sun hath looked upon me: my
mother's children were angry with me; they
made me the keeper of the vineyards; but
mine own vineyard have I not kept. Songs of
Solomon 1: 6*

5. Woman in Ministry who seeks to please Elohim and succeed in all realms of life like the virtuous Proverbs 31 woman will find it necessary to shut

down all potential avenues for the enemy to get at her.

This includes abstaining from all appearance of evil including ungodly chatter on Face book, separating from the spirit of this age (Babylon) and its purveyors, even if they are old friends and not accepting the satanic lie which makes ungodly women fashion icons to be emulated even when their primary motive for endorsing certain dress styles is to spread the spirit of lust, seduction and general immoral living! This may sound radical but nevertheless entirely necessary.

The overall key is to seek holistic or wholesome success and be willing to pay the price! Yahshua Himself made it clear that saints should radically separate from anything which has potentials of landing them in hell!

And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. Matthew 5: 29

Women in ministry are wired with special grace to succeed against works of Satan in spiritual warfare!

To tap into this grace will be a very good thing to do on a regular basis as they flow in the revelatory gifts. What is

discerned is not to be subject of conversations or gossips but the fuel to fire up spiritual warfare, wearing all the armor of Elohim!

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Ephesians 6: 10

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled. 2 Corinthians 10: 3

6. Women in ministry need to tap into the special grace of faithfulness to visions committed to their trust and to obey instructions promptly!

This grace has consistently worked in women over the ages displayed by those who stuck to Yahshua all the way to the Cross and on resurrection morning. Faithfulness pays and will always attract divine rewards!

It is that grace to implement the Divine vision for the Omega Church that the Father will lay hold of to use women in ministry mightily to bring about the final reformation! The Glorious, Radiant Church of Ephesians 5:25-27 will be the outcome, ready for the King!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(1) Please share what you learnt from the first part of this lesson

(2) Briefly summarize the 7 keys to holistic success

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CHAPTER 10

UNIQUE PITFALLS OF WOMEN IN MINISTRY

To repeat a profound truth, the Lord has called all saints—male and female alike--into the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedeck.

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:26-29

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light; 1 Peter 2:9

This truth is a non-negotiable reality, sealed with the Blood of Yahshua/Jesus, and declared with conclusive finality in the Word. Those who use the instructions that Paul the Apostle gave to Timothy (to address certain inappropriate conduct in the church at Ephesus and the unruly behavior of some married sisters in Corinth),, to insist that women should not preach or operate in the role of leadership are in error of a strictly religious interpretation of the Word. Their error derives from a lack of understanding of The New Covenant and The New Creation.

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away;

*behold, all things are become new. 2
Corinthians 5:17*

THE PITFALLS OF CARNALITY

Unfortunately, the above error in interpretation is stratified with certain pitfalls, which have caused many women in ministry to stumble. In previous lessons, we examined some of the fleshy tendencies women in ministry needed to understand and reject as unprofitable. Let us quickly re-examine ten of the pitfalls those called to serve Elohim and His saints must proactively avoid. If any are already manifesting, they should be violently rejected and overcome. The word carnal denotes a saint who is still ruled by the five carnal senses. Such a person makes decisions and is influenced by what she sees, hears, smells, touches and feels rather than what Holy Spirit is saying. In other words, carnality requires abandoning the key principles of faith, and faith is our bridge to the Throne of Elohim, in favor of the unsteady and ultimately unreliable motions of the human soul and physical body. Carnality will drive a female minister to seek the things that war against the soul. Romans 8:5-8 says that such people are in a state of war against Elohim and can never please Him!

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.⁶ For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.⁸ So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.⁹ But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. Romans 8:5-9

1. The Love of Worldly Fashions and Lifestyles

The world is ruled and motivated by what can be seen, heard, smelt, touched and felt as 1 John 2:15-16, clearly speaks against. This is called carnality. In addition, carnality breeds worldliness. Therefore, spiritual women invest substantially in the growth of their spirits, and increase their confidence in Elohim with an intimate relationship developed through prayer. Their confidence and poise is not derived from the external accessories with which their physical bodies are decorated. This does not mean that spiritual women should ignore their physical appearance! It is a simple matter of getting their priorities in proper order.

If love of the world displaces the primal love of Elohim and takes root in the heart of a woman in ministry, what remains is the dead works of religion. Such people may have a name that signifies success and popularity, but are truly dead in worldly pleasure! The command is to “come ye out from among them and be ye separate!” 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

2. The Love of Eminence and Preeminence

Worldliness often leads to the desire for prominence, or to stand-out above others. This quest for prominence often morphs into an undue craving for pre-eminence; to be first. This can drive female ministers into competition with their peers and contemporaries. They become focused on who wears the best clothes and fashion accessories, who is star of the show, who preaches more powerfully at conferences, which television programs draw the largest crowd, who has the best church, and even who drives the best car. For some, it can elevate to such ludicrous levels as competing for and ranking husbands. John the Beloved warned the saints to beware of Diotrephes who loved the pre-eminence 3 John 1-9.

3. The Love of Power and Domination

The Lord would like women in ministry to fulfill their assignments without allowing anyone to despise the authority that He vested in them. This principle applies to all who are called by Him, including very young ministers.

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12

Therefore, the Lord expects any woman who exercises her authority in and from Yahshua, Jesus to observe the following rules:

4. Women must be under Proper Authority

After Elohim, the first authority a woman must be truly under is that of her own husband. She should be a good wife and mother, and if married, blessed with children. She cannot seek to exercise authority in the Church of Yahshua, Jesus if she is not fully under the authority of her husband (see Romans 13:1-7; 1 Corinthians 11:1-16 .)

A woman, who has been called by Yahshua into the high offices of the fivefold ministry, cannot live under the illusion that just because her husband has not been called to that same office, he has somehow become her subordinate. The sight of a so-called women minister crossing the line of having authority in the pulpit to taking authority over her own lawful husband at home is absolutely repulsive to both Elohim and man! To sit down on a throne at home and order around a husband is a sure ticket to hell!

If the husband of a woman in ministry has not risen to the same spiritual level in Yahshua, she would do well to get under other godly authority (male or female) in the fivefold

that the Lord reveals to her. According to the will of Elohim, she may be connected to a male or female authority for the purpose of insight and discipline (otherwise called “covering”). It must be clarified here that what people do in the name of having spiritual fathers and mothers and coverings has two bad sides. First, it is erroneous to have a covering who literally dictates what you do in a personal ministry committed to your trust by Yahshua. Coverings are not to dictate to those who submit to their authority. Women in Ministry are better suited to those who are aligned to them for accountability of how they live and do ministry in accordance to the Word. Secondly, it is dangerous to have a covering whose mouth is swayed by regular tithes and offerings, causing them to offer only sweet nonsense and non-edifying banter as conversation.

Many who purport to have mentors or coverings have simply heaped unto themselves the religious equivalent of boyfriends or sugar daddies! The mentor who cannot rebuke, correct, chasten, and discipline you, including asking you to step down for a period if you fall into sin, is not a covering. If they are blind to your faults and do not address them, they are giving you a false sense of security! True love for a protégé must flow in line with the love of Yahshua, which is holy, pure, and tough when necessary. (See Hebrews 12:5–13.)

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Revelations 3: 19

5. Women in Ministry should not be easily offended

Women in ministry must grow up and mature to the point where they do not take contrary viewpoints as evidence of opposition or rebellion. Perceived opposition may arise over their function in pulpit ministry or when they are leading

people in projects such as planning buildings, media operations, and other activities where expert opinions may differ from hers. She must avoid the tendency to project the “super woman” persona: one who knows all things. Listening to the professionals when ministry projects are being planned or executed will save everyone a lot of trouble!

6. Women in Ministry should not Gossip and Misuse of the Tongue.

Some women like to know everything about everyone around them. This seemingly harmless habit is potentially lethal to ministry. The reason characteristic can be so deadly is because the tendency to use information about people to gossip, even inadvertently, in the name of sharing burdens with fellow laborers. One of the worst hazards in ministry is using people’s personal information to preach and teach, including what has been shared during counseling.. Breaking the confidence of congregants creates an atmosphere of mistrust and insecurity. There are many hardworking women in ministry who have simply destroyed what the Lord built up through them with the wrong use of the tongue.

7. Women in Ministry should not have Controlling Behavior/Jezebel Spirit.

Very few women are able to recognize the Jezebel Spirit, and understand that using their emotions to manipulate others is unacceptable to the Lord. For example, shutting down when you are not happy looking glum and sulking because things did not go your way, and trying to make those around you do what you want--at all cost--are all variants of controlling behavior! Such controlling behavior is much worse when a woman in ministry uses it to manipulate her spouse, leadership, or congregants.

Another form of the Jezebel Spirit seeking control is when women in ministry go beyond the task or areas officially assigned to them, and seek to control their Overseer or Senior Pastor husbands from the background. The Jezebel Spirit does not want the woman to step out and lead openly, but prefers to use her to lead from behind the scenes, while the man is a mere powerless puppet for her to manipulate. There are various manifestations of the Spirit of Jezebel, which can be crippling to ministry. To overcome such an Achilles heel, women in ministry must visit the cross willingly, and allow the old man to be crucified with Yahshua/Jesus so that the new man can live a true life of liberty in the spirit (see Galatians 2:20; Revelation.

Since the soul of humans should never lie fallow (be unused or neglected), Elohim invites all women to consider two extraordinary women as models—Mary, Mother of Yahshua/Jesus and Mary Magdalene. The first Mary was the simple woman, chosen as vessel to bring forth the Messiah, Yahshua/Jesus. This extraordinary woman was distinguished for yielding to the voice and demands of Elohim in humility and simplicity. She was willing to suffer rejection and abuse in order to fulfill the assignment for which she was brought into the world – to receive the divine seed, to nurture the baby Yahshua/Jesus, and to be there for Him until the very end (see Luke 1:29-38.) The next woman, Mary Magdalene, had multiple demons cast out of her. In gratitude, “she sold-out” completely, to serve Jesus with everything, and was commended for so doing in John 12: 1-8. Mary Magdalene made sure that Yahshua/Jesus received attention and care whenever he visited Bethany.

8. Women in Ministry should not operate in Jealousy and Insecurity

Some women in ministry have fallen because of a simple stumbling block --the sight of more anointed or more beautiful women in the ministries that they are leading, or are so-called First Ladies. Those who are First Ladies--a strange concept borrowed from Babylon, not the Kingdom--have been known to regard almost all beautiful women in church as “witches” and “Jezebels” on assignment to take over the heart of their husband. These women usually do not rest until the object of their envy has been harassed and pushed out. This is very sad, and it certainly grieves Holy Spirit.

If women cannot stand another woman booking appointments to be counseled by their husbands as Pastors, they should stop praying to be married to ministers of the gospel! Another sad fact to note is that many women in ministry simply refuse to empower fellow women with proper mentoring, affirmation, and ministry opportunities. The fear that their protégés might outshine them causes many women to withhold knowledge and opportunities. There also seems to be an undue desire to be worshipped, glorified and praised by other women around them.

9. The new craze for armor bearers rather than intercessors

The introduction of several Babylonian practices, such as the love of retinue or courtiers called “Armor-bearers,” has led to men in ministry to negate a primary concept of the Kingdom--equality of all saints. The simplicity of the gospel is thus lost at the altar of ego stroking.

If this isn’t bad enough, the sight of women in ministry going all out to advance this anomaly is simply a betrayal of the King of Kings, who called and exalted them! Men and women in ministry need Intercessors and Prayer Warriors, not Armor-bearers. Our security is in the hands of Elohim, Who dispatches His holy angels to watch over His servants.

Those who have speaking engagements also commit rank iniquity when they insist upon extra hotel rooms for such “Armor bearers.” If you must travel with companions, please do so at your own expense, and spare poor congregations the extra burden.

Let it never be forgotten that our High Priest and King, Yahshua, Jesus was so simple and uncomplicated that religious leaders of Israel needed to bribe an insider--Judas Iscariot--to identify Him out of twelve other men. Let women in ministry be instruments of restoring simplicity to the gospel! All should champion this cause.

10. The Tendency to pursue vendettas and harbor animosity

Many people have suggested that whereas men can often brush off an insult or abuse and move on, while women seem to find it harder to get over such attacks, especially if committed against their persons, families or personal agendas. The tendency to have memories that remember all evils done by other people is a dangerous one. For women in ministry, this is a pitfall that needs to be overcome and avoided. Our King clearly commanded His saints to love their enemies and remember that vengeance belongs to the Lord.

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.⁴⁴ But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;⁴⁵ That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. Matthew 5:43 -45

*For we know him that hath said, Vengeance
belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith
the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his
people. Hebrews 10:30*

REASON FOR SHARING THE PITFALLS AS WELL AS THE CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES.

In the previous lessons, the Lord released extensive truths about constraints, challenges, and now pitfalls women in ministry need to recognize and overcome. By sharing these pitfalls, our Heavenly Father is simply providing His sons in female bodies the degree of Light that is needed to dispel all aspects of darkness. The idea is to make women in ministry so full of His Light that there will be nothing for critics to clutch as basis to condemn or resist their authority. In this same context, the idea is to help them live lives that are transparently holy, simple, and uncomplicated. This is the hallmark of reformers throughout the ages, including Yahshua, the original apostles, and the leaders of the Alpha Church.

In a world where the major of male ministers are using the Anointing of Holy Spirit to accumulate wealth by drawing crowds of milk drinkers, achieve prominence in the media, and loom large over the brethren; so much so that congregants hardly see or know Yahshua, having women in ministry who become living epistles of the Lord in the earth realm, without spot or wrinkle, will be a powerful statement and testimony that they are special messengers of Elohim during the darkness of the end times..

*Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the
glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.² For,
behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,
and gross darkness the people: but the Lord
shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be
seen upon thee.³ And the Gentiles shall come*

to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Isaiah 60:2-3

For those who can receive it, women in ministry will play a major role in preparing the Church for the return of the King of Kings! The very truths about the end times and Omega Church, which requires that the full gospel be preached free of the leaven of Babylon; that many men in ministry have known and refused to implement out of fear of losing control of saints in their ministries, will witness a dramatic shift when women called to the Fivefold Ministry lay hold of and run with them! Through these women, the world will experience the Church in full bloom. Rather than gathering crowds unto human leaders, the Church will emerge as a living, loving organism, in which each body part discovers and does its share in the Kingdom for mutual edification!

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:¹³ Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:¹⁴ That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:¹⁶ From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. Ephesians 4:11 -16

The very nature of motherhood is to conceive, nurture, empower and release children who mature, to continue the cycle of reproduction and to replenish the earth. This is prophetic statement that should not be ignored.

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. Genesis 1:28

Make no mistake about this: women in ministry will play a critical role in emergence of the fit for purpose Omega Church, free from the leaven of Babylon! With them, the paradigm of ministry will move from "ponds of brackish water with no outlets" to "streams and rivers of living water," flowing freely and ceaselessly! As many as will embrace the corrections of the Father in His Word and make themselves vessels of honor, Holy Spirit will use mightily to fulfill the Great Commission.

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. 2 Timothy 2:21

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1) Discuss at least six (6) pitfalls women in ministry must avoid, and describe how they ministered to you.
- 2) What is your personal reaction to the revelations in this lesson?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

CHAPTER 11

EPILOGUE: THE WAY FORWARD FOR WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Let us remember that the Womb-Man was created to be the instrument through which the reproductive capacity of mankind would be essentially fulfilled by way of heterosexual relationships. Let everyone who reads this ask for understanding of why Satan is hell-bent on attacking Elohim's ordained way of reproduction.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.²⁸ And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. Genesis 1:26-29

The spirit of religion has caused man to point out and dwell on the fact that Eve ate the forbidden fruit first, and thus opened the door for Satan to take over the dominion mandate of mankind. As noted in a previous lesson, a careful reading of Genesis 3:1-6 reveals that Adam was present when Eve was conversing with Satan, and failed to exercise

his oversight responsibility as her covering. Adam did not protest or resist eating of the fruit. Therefore, from a divine perspective, both of them were culpable. As a matter of fact, the attempt by Adam to deny responsibility was roundly rebuffed by Elohim, as Genesis 3:8-19 shows.

It is all right there in the first book of the Holy Scriptures, Genesis. Elohim made a declaration that has often been obscured by religion, when He pronounced judgment on the three personalities involved in the Fall. Here is what Jehovah Elohim said concerning Eve and Satan:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Genesis 3:15

This was no ordinary statement. It was a declaration of war! Many know about the war between Yahshua, Jesus as the SEED OF THE WOMAN, whose incarnation would crush the head of Satan, who in turn would inspire men to kill Him at Calvary Cross. Beyond that specific prophecy of the incarnation, is a broader and more obscure message. That veiled message has been unfolding since the dawn of history, but will be playing out in the final chapter of this human age. We have a release from Elohim to again share a snapshot of the glorious end-time plan of redemption!

The truth which is devoid of controversy is that mankind—both Hebrews and Gentile—following the days of Eden lived an essentially male driven existence. Men have run the course of human history, and as the 7 Up Soft drink commercial would say, “The difference is clear.” Humanity has functioned based on savagery disguised as courage, leading to countless wars that have claimed billions of lives and polluted the earth with innocent blood. Men have built

empires based on deceit, raw ambition, and covetousness for resources in foreign lands.

Religious and worldly men have used the grace of Elohim and His irrevocable gifts to snare women into immoral relationships. Rather than protect and nurture in Yahshua, Jesus like love, men have misused their powers to control and batter their wives emotionally, physically and psychologically! Men have built ego-driven ministries with their names and personalities looming larger in the heart of followers than Yahshua, Jesus, who died for them. Rather than make disciples of Yahshua, Jesus, many men in ministry have gathered crowds of ignorant, un-empowered folk, who believe in the man and receive him as their access to the Throne Room; an idolatrous proposition of epic proportions! Men have been driven by the enemy to create cults and social clubs that operate on the principle of dividing the Body that Yahshua, Jesus died for into various factions and camps called denominations.

Consider the many great moves of Holy Spirit in the earth realm, and how men messed them up. The gospel that came to Rome from Jerusalem was hijacked by a segment of men and paired with or married to the political establishment of the Roman Empire, establishing itself as the greatest religious power in the world, till today. Likewise, consider the Protestant reformation, and how it was messed up first with the embrace of the obnoxious “replacement theology,” then later, in the spirit of division, was over-taken by doctrine and dogma, leading to emergence of numerous denominations. Today, the war between Calvin and Arminius--though long dead--essentially drives deep divisions in the Church. Even Azusa Street - that great out pouring over a century ago, has been so bastardized that perhaps even heaven has to be embarrassed by the Children of Pentecost, who are long on the “anointing” but short of

character! As men exalt tongues over the power of Holy Spirit, along with obedience, order, and character, the chicken has come home to roost resulting with myriads of Pentecostal congregations in a permanent state of hostility. This condition is the spiritual equivalent of never-ending civil war!

What shall we say of the Gospel of the Kingdom? Men have turned the Holy Scriptures upside down and have created a Kingdom message that is not only just a little off-base, but also a highway to perdition! Many today believed this false gospel, packaged by hell, and voraciously consume the opinions of men who have gone into apostasy, and leave their bibles to gather dust! The true gospel of the Kingdom which Yahshua, Jesus taught has been negated and the opinions of so-called experts--men of fertile imagination-- is now standard fare. As result, many are marching blindly to hell and damnation, straight from the sects which assume they know and preach the gospel of the Kingdom.

Satan has been laughing his head off at the way he has corrupted the gospel, and falsely made it a matter of relativity and personal perspective, where soulish manifestations are embraced as prophecy and deliverance, and where Babylon sits enthroned as an acceptable lifestyle in many congregations. Satan has commissioned the chief proponents of the New Age movement to entrap great ministers with a poisoned chalice of free media exposure, and few seem to be able to spot the absurdity of the enemies of Yahshua, Jesus doing Public Relations for Men of God.

Unfortunately for Satan, Elohim will use this same situation to set the stage for the emergence of a redemptive assignment for a special breed of women. These are the women He will use to reform this broken system. They are women He will use to awaken the sleeping giants, and who

are fearful like Barak of old. These women are not going to spawn feminism and female triumphalism over men. Their spiritual womb is carrying godly seed in terms of both visions and special ministerial assignments.

These are women who will birth spiritual sons – neither male nor female! Their offspring will be sons who are beyond the neat boxes of gender classification. They will be sons who will have the true gene of Elohim, and manifest His DNA in all aspects of their lives. These sons will speak with the enemy at the gate and crush the head of Satan in the Church with holy indignation, not minding how many years they are appointed to live on earth, or how they will exit this world--by natural death or martyrdom! Of these, the power of Satan and death will be broken as they are liberated by the knowledge of the truth, and become lost in Yahshua.

These are the sons who will constitute the fourth race on earth; the Remnant of Elohim, preserved by His Grace. They will come from the three principal races of Shem, Ham and Japheth, but will be delivered from their cultural and religious baggage. They are the One New Man of Elohim eloquently spoken of in the Book of Ephesians.

The truth is that all have sinned; men and women alike, and come short of the glory of Elohim! Another truth that must be told is that the Body of Yahshua, Jesus is in a sad mess! The time to take responsibility has come, and the remnant must heed the words of Joel 2, and weep between the porch and the altar in several places across the world. Let holy prayerful women in ministry begin to sound the Trumpet, calling saints to solemn assemblies where repentance will be brought to Elohim on behalf of His Church.

Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with

fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly 16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. 17 Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God? 18 Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people.28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. Joel 2:12-18, 28, 29. 12

Women in Ministry, It is time to pray like never before! It is time to war against the enemy like never before! It is time for the Deborah type of women to arise! Who will pray? Who will intercede? In every dispensation, Elohim chooses and anoints the weak, neglected, and forsaken as His appointed arrowheads of reformation, as 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 reveals, so that no flesh will glory in His presence.

Considering the totality of the revelation Elohim granted to Paul, emphasizing the reality of The Church as the Body of Yahshua, where all humanity--Jews, Gentiles, Free, Bound, Male, Female--find a commonality and community. Galatians 3:26-29; Ephesians 1, 2,3, 4; Colossians 1,2,3

There is no way that the distinguished vessel, the Apostle Paul, was asking all females to keep quiet and only be passive learners in the House of Elohim perpetually. Holy Spirit has illuminated for us the peculiar circumstances of the Church at Ephesus and Corinth, to which Paul gave specific instructions for maintaining order and decorum in (see 1 Timothy 2:9-14 and 1 Corinthians 14:34-35.)

If Paul meant that all women should be quiet at home, never functioning in public settings, he would not have so glowingly commended the ministry of Phoebe, Priscilla, Aquila, and other women. Holy Spirit would not have moved Luke, who was Paul's biographer, to record the deeds of Priscilla and Aquila, or even put their names name first in several places!

Paul had a revelation from Elohim that in order for the Church to be healthy and strong, Christian families needed to be united in love, practicing the dual principles of: supreme love for wives by husbands, and the willing submission of wives to their own husbands (see Ephesians 5:21-33.) Therefore, the entire chapter of 1 Corinthians 14 was given to make a case for order and unity in the Body, and not to lay the basis of excluding women from active ministry in the Church of Yahshua, Jesus throughout the ages.

Satan knows that since the days of Mary, who bore the promised SEED, Elohim has set aside women as His secret warriors and arrowheads, to birth His final move in the earth realm, and to prepare the way for the King to return and usher in the next dispensation. Let us remember that the sheer brilliance of the divine plan of salvation through the Incarnation of Yahshua as a baby was so profound that even the angels and prophets of old had no idea how it would pan

out, although vessels such as Isaiah were used by Jehovah to provide a brief glance.

Divinity would demonstrate how the power of humility in becoming humanity took Satan by surprise. In addition, Elohim once again demonstrated this by allowing women to minister to Yahshua all the way to the very end; even after all but one man had fled. The fact that women would also be allowed to minister to the dead body, and be granted the privilege of being the first to see the resurrected Messiah was no accident! Elohim revealed at both the Incarnation and Resurrection that women would play a vital role in His Kingdom.

THREE QUALITIES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY VESSEL:

1. They will reject Babylonian principle and practices.

The natural design and capacity Elohim wired into women to conceive, nurture, teach, train and empower their children to maturity, and then release them to continue the cycle, fully prepared for their spiritual callings. We will see the emergence of ministries that reject all Babylonian practices, and the focus on gathering crowds of people, who are co-dependent on ministers as spiritual orphans--babes needing milk, and strangers to the Covenant. Instead, they will birth and lead ministries where the "Teach, Train, Equip, Activate and Release" pattern of the true Kingdom, which will find vivid expression throughout the earth realm.

2. They will be carriers of agape love.

The inbuilt tendency of women to love deeply and compassionately, like Elohim, will produce a pure, holy love for Elohim, and agape love of all His creation; especially

those of the Household of Faith and revolutionize ministry. When ministries are founded on and driven by love, the emphasis is on what is poured out and given, not what can be gotten out of it. John 13:34-35 and Acts 20:35 will be fulfilled in a way that will make the end-time Kingdom Church as a bastion of love in a world filled with hate and animosity. Ministries will minister to people of other religions and alternative lifestyles, without judging them. More souls will respond to this Yahshua-type of love. Let us take note that the present way in which Christians often love; the “we-versus-them” ideology is not biblical! The biblical standard is to be engaged with our environment, and touch lives by expressing love through meeting felt needs, which Holy Spirit then uses to melt hardened hearts and open them to hear and accept the gospel.

3. They are faithful and committed.

Women have a special capacity to be faithful and committed to whatever vision they believe in and accept, without hidden agendas. Most readers will agree that because of the ambition to be successful, some men easily become unfaithful to their leaders, and seek to carve out their own identities and domains. Most networks, ministries, and congregations have become perennially weaker and unstable because of this sad tendency of unfaithfulness. It is the same spirit that was in Absalom, the son of David that can be seen in many associate Pastors today, towards their Overseers or Senior Pastors. Many men are impatient, and unable to serve faithfully to fulfill the call of obedience, trusting Elohim to transition them when He wills it.

On the other hand, women do not easily betray their leaders or seek to usurp the established order to pursue self-motivated agendas. Just as they remained faithful to Yahshua until the end, and honored Him even in death, there

is a great mandate on women to take their places, and to faithfully execute assignments committed to their trust. These are three qualities that will equip women in ministry to manifest as Ambassadors of the King of King, and to demonstrate the Kingdom of Elohim in power! Satan will find nothing in them to accuse or resist!

WOMEN IN MINISTRY, HEAR THIS:

To all women in ministry, whether in the public sector or in the private closet, hear this! Yahshua, Jesus has already affirmed, accepted, and deployed you as a co-laborer in His Kingdom Vineyard, with His Call and Spiritual Gifts manifesting in your life!

Those whose minds are trapped in the Levitical Priesthood of the Old Covenant, who refuse to accept you, are merely exercising their universal human right to accept or reject whomever they wish. No one should judge you according to the flesh, so leave them to face Elohim, who called you, and do not try to fight for Him!

It would be tragic for one to hang around them, seeking their endorsement. It would also be a travesty for you to allow any human being, be it out of prejudice or misunderstanding of the whole counsel of Elohim, to exercise control over your destiny or continually injure your soul, and cause you to function at a less than optimal level!

Refuse to allow the “New Pharaohs” on the block to put a fresh yoke of bondage over your spiritual necks! Refuse to fellowship where you are regarded as fit only for marriage, child bearing, and keeping the home! Refuse to fellowship where your Holy Spirit-given call and gifts are actively rejected or downgraded, and where your soul is constantly grieved. For eternity’s sake! Separate yourself from any environment that Satan can use to inject a root of bitterness.

This will cause you to fail and fall short of the grace of Elohim (see Hebrews 12:14-15.)

The Word makes it clear that as the “New Creation,” you are called to be part of a Kingdom of Priests (See 1 Peter 2:9.) The Priests after the Order of Melchizedek, to which you are called by Elohim Himself in Yahshua, Jesus, means that no one should judge you after the flesh!

Exercise your priesthood rightly, by serving rather than seeking to be served! Exercise your priesthood rightly, by preaching in and out of season and out of the spotlight so that sinners will be saved. Exercise your priesthood by teaching people to observe Biblical precepts and statutes, to become true disciples of Yahshua, Jesus; not your followers or your fans. Exercise your priesthood in an empowering manner, by making sure that all disciples committed to your trust are trained, equipped, and activated in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Then release them into ministry as fit-for-purpose co-laborers with the King.

Ultimately, The King will return on the day and time known by only the Father. That time is sooner than later! The King is coming back to set up the full phase of the Kingdom, and will reward all those who have faithfully discharged their priestly functions as described above, with dominion over territories and nations. Some of the most powerful Proverbs of Yahshua, Jesus clearly showed that judgment will be required for the spiritual gifts, callings, and life assignments committed to our trust. Luke 19:11-27; Matthew 25:14-30. Keep in mind that all spiritual gifts and callings are deposited by Holy Spirit, into the spirit-man which is neither male nor female. This is the part of humans that will live forever before Elohim, or perish forever in Hell fire with Satan!

A NEW GENERATION OF WOMEN IN MINISTRY IS RISING...

They are holy women who love Elohim passionately, and are completely committed to the pursuit of His Kingdom!

They are women who have encountered the Old Rugged Cross, and despise the New Plastic Cross!

They are women who are dead to self, and for whom the flesh has no power! They flow in the genuine demonstration of the Power of Holy Spirit. They have no room for soulish manifestations!

For these women, holiness is not a dry doctrine, but a living reality! Their very being will radiate the Divine Presence! If single, these women will be so committed to fulfilling the call, and so occupied with the agenda of Elohim, that it will take only men who are truly in the will King Yahshua, and dead to the world's concept of beauty to find them! If married, these women will be like Deborah, who was used by Elohim to make men out of boys! Meek, feminine, and pleasant, you will not find them gossiping, backbiting, engaged in arguments or aggressive behavior. They will not have the desire to be heard above others, and be neither quarrelsome nor slanderous, or participate in any fleshly behavior! Their tongues will be sanctified, just as their hearts and minds will be too!

Satan and his demons will recognize them, tremble and flee. Soaked in prayer for spiritual warfare, they will wear Yahshua, Jesus like a fine robe, and worldly pretenders will cringe in fear when they show up! Elohim will use them to awaken and mobilize the end-time Barak's and Gideon's, now in hiding! They will be so self-effacing that the men will lose their insecurity and honor their ministry. The New Jerusalem is their frame of reference; not Babylon or Hollywood! Even the religious minded will be compelled to

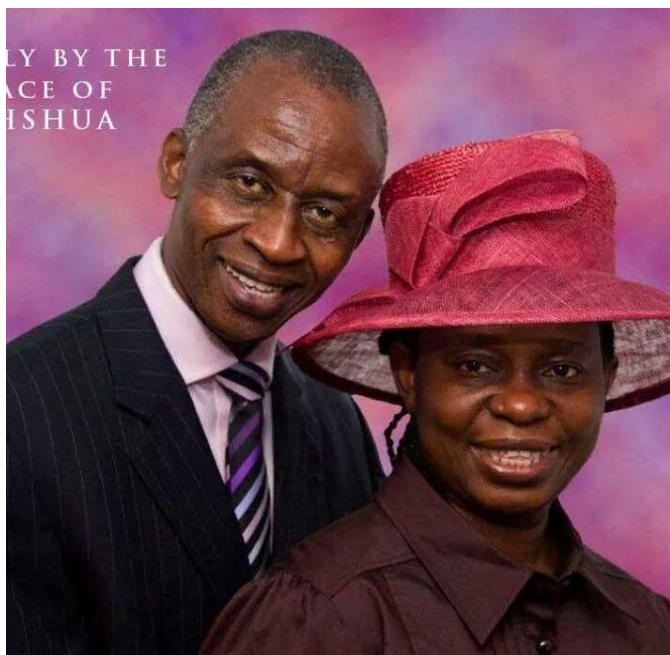
admit that these women are truly vessels of honor! Elohim, let them emerge and take their place in your final sovereign move! Elohim, who created and redeemed you, also called you. Respond to Him, fixing your eyes on the grand prize of the ages: the Day Yahshua, Jesus will commend you for effectively using gifts and callings vested in you to do Kingdom business with all zeal! Hear the Word of the King in John 8:32 “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1) Please share the core message you received from this lesson.

2) Explain the three (3) qualities in women that Elohim will use mightily in these Last Days.

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Apostle George Akalonu is one of the many elect vessels the Lord is using to release His Word to the end time generation of saints. His primary assignment is to teach, train, equip, activate and release saints into ministry to fulfill their priestly obligations in the Kingdom. Under the auspices of the Global School of Ministry, this mandate is being fulfilled in over 110 nations. As International President of International Ministers' Fellowship, Apostle George and His wife, Pastor Grace are responsible for expanding the network across the globe. Since 2013, the Lord has led them to conduct an intense 9 month Masterclass which is under the Global Advanced Mentorship Program. They also oversee the congregation at Arise Metropolitan Assembly in Elm Park, Hornchurch in London Borough of Havering. The couple live in East London with their five children Favor, Elect, Arise, Praise and Destiny.