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Women in Ministry 2nd Edition

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Use of Hebraic Names of the Most High

Yahweh, Elohim, Yeshua. During our walk with the Lord, we discovered by leading of Holy Spirit how fundamentally flawed was the intrusion of Rome into the gospel from 4th Century AD. Replacement Theology led Rome to take away all Hebraic/Jewish connections as root of what is now called the Christian Faith. What He has led us to do is to call our Father by the Name He revealed Himself to Israel which is Yahweh. In the same way, rather than call our Creator by the generic title God, we find it more appropriate to call Him by the Hebraic Name He revealed to humanity through Moses which is Elohim. The Name, Elohim properly conveys His Unity in Plurality as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! We also call our King the Name His Father gave Him, Yeshua as well as the Anglicized translation, Jesus derived from the Greek translation, Ioseus.

We do this as led by Holy Spirit, not as part of the socalled sacred Names movement. Neither do we subscribe to the legalistic methods of Judaizers intent on dragging saints into the dead works and rituals of Judaism. We do not condemn or malign those who have not yet caught this depth of revelation. Please feel free to call the Most High by what He reveals to you and what you are comfortable with.

Preface for the Kingdom Culture Series

We have tarried before the Lord for some time to receive a rhema concerning how to introduce the books in the series you are about to read. He directed us to share a little bit of how He ordered our steps over a 21-year period between In 1996, the Lord called us 1996-2017. denominationalism to serve His Body and Kingdom. As we resigned from a Pastoral calling and began to serve Him and the Body in a community in Africa (Owerri, Imo State of Nigeria), we held on to one critical vision He released beginning August 1996. At that time, we joined other saints to lament the sad state of Africa on almost all fronts of life. It was surreal to hear the Lord comfort us by saying He had appointed His Church in Africa as instrument of a quick work: Rescuing His Kingdom program in the earth realm from corruption in preparation for the return of King Yeshua, Jesus.

In August 2006, He directed us to relocate to London which as centre of the world would make our Acts 1:8 assignment more impactful on a global scale. Looking back, because we did not see it then, it is significant that it was 100 years after Azusa Street Revival that the Lord in 2006 birthed Global School of Ministry as a catalyst of Reformation, Restoration, and Revival. Again, we did not see clearly then how extensively it was to be used to rediscover Truths which were missed out by Martin Luther in the Protestant Reformation of 1517. Interestingly, the Lord used various means to make it clear what He was about to do was not raise a man or woman, like Martin Luther was raised prominently and publicly. But rather activate a company of saints worldwide with understanding of Him and the Church. A company of saints who embrace His Kingdom pattern and take their place as His sons who would do all His will. In this regard, the Lord made it clear the

election of His Church in Africa was not for the purpose of building an 'African Cultural Church'. The wider and more strategic scope was to use it to use His remnant 'out of the seed of Ham' to impact and connect His seed out of Shem and Japheth to constitute the fourth race which is the Elect Remnant or 'one new man' spoken of by Apostle Paul.

In other words, the focus of the Lord was simply to use the Global School of Ministry project to activate His elect remnant to walk in unity of the Faith. And, be empowered to represent Him and the Kingdom right where they are in various corners of the world where He preserved them from the claws of Babylon. It was then Holy Spirit provided illumination of this anchor scripture:

Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace (Romans 11:5).

There is a simple, yet grand key to understand the fundamental difference between the Martin Protestant Reformation and the Kingdom Culture project. The Reformation of Martin Luther was designed to 'Protest' some of the dogma and practices of the Roman Catholic Church when he received revelation of their unbiblical origins. The Kingdom Culture project, on the other hand, is designed to take the Church back to what it was before the Roman Empire embraced the larger wing of the Church which was tired of persecution and martyrdom in the 4th Century. In other words, through the Kingdom Culture project, the Omega or End Time Church will be a logical conclusion of what had started in the Alpha or First Century Church.

Unlike other reformation projects before it, Kingdom Culture, through the Global School of Ministry and annual

Master Class series of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program have two simple keys: Get the Church back into the 'School' Paradigm where Study of the Word is central to both congregational and general ministry. Second, to challenge all saints to receive the Four-dimensional work of Holy Spirit: He Is the Seal of redemption; He uses the Word to Transform Life of Believers from inside out, He Unites saints to live as one indivisible Body of Yeshua notwithstanding their locations or sects; He releases Power through which saints are able to demonstrate the awesome powers of the Risen Yeshua, Jesus!

These are accomplished when leaders and saints sincerely and diligently embrace the ministry of Holy Spirit and the Word through the T>T>E>A>R process. It is one where leaders are used by Holy Spirit to:

Teach saints the whole counsel of Holy Scriptures

Train saints to discover and take their places as effective members of the Body of Yeshua

Equip saints with what it takes to walk in victory through mentorship and support

Activate the Gifts and callings of Holy Spirit which may lie dormant in them

Release the saints into productive ministry. This may be by public ordination or Commissioning during ministry events.

500 years after the Protestant Reformation of 1517, the Lord Yeshua, Jesus is activating throughout the earth realm this framework. The framework through which Holy Spirit will undertake training of Reformers who will receive proper understanding of the Pauline Epistles and Master Plan of the

true Kingdom Church contained therein, and build individual lives, ministries, and congregations accordingly. This Kingdom Culture project involves release of 40 books on dedicated websites where all saints worldwide who desire to discover, pursue, and fulfil their callings as the Royal Priesthood after the order of Melchizedeck can find the teaching resources to train in the comfort of their own homes.

On the other hand, these 40 books will put in the hands of the great company of elect ministers across the world who know the flock is not theirs but Yeshua's. These books are tools with which to systematically transform the operating systems of the ministries committed to their trust from 'Theatres' to 'Schools'. These books collectively make up the curriculum with which to launch their own Global School of Ministry project. The curriculum will ensure every two or three years, fresh sets of fit for-purpose ministers of the gospel who will serve the Lord with all their hearts are produced. All 40 books on the websites constitute what it takes to root out the leaven of Babylon derived from our various experiences with Christian Religion. They therefore constitute what we need to embrace and walk in true Kingdom Culture. It is through ministry of the Word that the Church will be prepared and made ready for return of her Groom:

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 5:25-27).

Please intentionally study this and the other resources in the series prayerfully under unction of Holy Spirit with your Bible to confirm all the points made. As you train, necessity is upon you to make your vessel available for Holy Spirit to use to transmit these empowering truths to other saints who yearn for empowerment!

The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it (Psalm 68:11).

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also (2 Timothy 2:2).

May Elohim, our heavenly Father make you the instrument of His Grace He designed you to be!

Chapter 1

Prologue The Challenge of Womanhood

Most resources about women in ministry have a basic deficiency in that they are written with some preconceived bias for or against the subject:

- O A theological school of thought advances the notion that women have no business in ministry. According to this school of thought, women were created to serve the men as wives, and instruments of making the procreative duty of humankind feasible. The place of women, therefore, they allege, is the home – to manage same, make the man happy and care for the children.
- O An opposite school of thought advances the notion that the women are superior to men and have no business playing second fiddle. They are free to do whatever they feel like doing with no restrictions or deference to their husbands.

Both schools of thought may have some merit in their arguments. Unfortunately, because of the strong biases and pre-conceived notions, they complicate things. The word of God should settle all things regarding life in the earth realm.

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; 15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works (2 Timothy 3:14-17).

Interestingly, the word of Elohim has many provisions which those who are not patient may deem as contradictory. That assumption is totally misguided. The word is best understood when the diligent student thereof examines all provisions – the good, bad, and ugly to prayerfully see how the various provisions are actually strands of divine insight which are weaved together to present a mosaic.

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. 10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: (Isaiah 28:9-10).

That is why, rather than clinging to denominational posturing on the subject, we need to set emotion and personal preferences aside and humbly submit to Holy Spirit for direction and clarity as we prayerfully study what the word says on women in ministry.

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).

These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you (John 14:25-26).

Within the chapters in this book lies an exhaustive exposition, representing what we believe is a fairly comprehensive counsel of the Scriptures as it relates to Women and the Call to serve Elohim God in Ministry. This treatise will present relevant scriptures as they are, provide the historical and cultural context and cite practical examples that are without question. Since the day of the fall in the Garden of Eden, womankind has faced a peculiar problem: a certain perception of being harbingers of the sad loss of the awesome mantle of Elohim for humanity. Unfortunately, contributions of many (often male) writers on the sad events in the Garden of Eden at the dawn of humanity flow from that narrative. There are two key facts that will help us put womanhood on a more balanced footing.

Creation of the Female was not an Afterthought

The problem with religion is the thick veil it casts upon the 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. 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. 29 And 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 (Genesis 1:26-29).

It is necessary that we look at the fine print 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 both the male and female!

Women were not created as "inferior" to men

In creating man (Adam), 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 (Genesis 2:7).

The breath of Elohim or measure of His 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 afterthought and therefore inherently inferior to Adam. 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 the fullness of His rest. How He chose to create Eve is therefore 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. 19 And 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. 20 And 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. 21 And 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; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And 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. 24 Therefore 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. 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:

- o She had a "womb" to conceive and bring forth that which Elohim had ordained in Genesis 1:28 which is fruitfulness and ability to multiply. Note this capacity and the fact that Satan, an enemy of humankind, has been "jealous", so to say of this facility through which humanity 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.
- She had 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 declaration and of discernment 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 be 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. This is

also why women are more prone to be afflicted with sicknesses of the soul which can becloud judgement: suspicion, offence, jealousy, envy. These things can poison the spirit-man and negate spirituality.

A SIGNIFICANT TRUTH

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. Adam's inability to cover his spouse has been passed on throughout the ages, leading many women to operate without effective spiritual coverage by their husbands.

Now the serpent was more subtil 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).

After the drama of recriminations between Adam and Eve, Elohim made pronouncements on their fate/punishment, which affected the three actors differently.

> And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: 15 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. 16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. 17 And unto Adam he said. Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee: and thou shalt eat the herb of the field: 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return (Genesis 3:14-19).

In another work, the pronouncement on Adam and Eve will be considered. However, for this work, it is needful to consider what Elohim said concerning Satan and Eve in verse 15: that the Seed of the woman (prophetically, this spoke of Yeshua, Jesus) would crush the head of the Serpent (Satan). This pronouncement was received by him 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 needful that we examine the two lines of attack Satan used 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 Yeshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus the Messiah.

First, there were fierce attempts to pollute the lineage Elohim had ordained to produce the Messiah with gross immorality and many sexual sins. This was to be through misuse of the very organs of the body created to fulfil this divine purpose as they lent them to Satan and the flesh. The result was a pattern of incest and perversions of immorality that littered the genealogy of Yeshua:

TAMAR seduced her Father in-law Judah, disguised as a prostitute, to produce Pharez.

Then said Judah to Tamar his daughter in law, Remain a widow at thy father's house, till Shelah my son be grown: for he said, Lest peradventure he die also, as his brethren did. And Tamar went and dwelt in her father's house. 12 And in process of time the daughter of Shuah Judah's wife died; and Judah was comforted, and went up unto his sheepshearers to Timnath, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite. 13 And it was told Tamar, saying, Behold thy father in law goeth up to Timnath to shear his sheep. 14 And she put her widow's garments off from her, and covered her with a vail, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which is by the way to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given unto him to wife. 15 When Judah saw her, he thought her to be an harlot; because she had covered her face. 16 And he turned unto her by the way, and said, Go to, I pray thee, let me

come in unto thee; (for he knew not that she was his daughter in law.) And she said, What wilt thou give me, that thou mayest come in unto me? 17 And he said, I will send thee a kid from the flock. And she said, Wilt thou give me a pledge, till thou send it? 18 And he said, What pledge shall I give thee? And she said, Thy signet, and thy bracelets, and thy staff that is in thine hand. And he gave it her, and came in unto her, and she conceived by him. 19 And she arose, and went away, and laid by her vail from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood. 20 And Judah sent the kid by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive his pledge from the woman's hand: but he found her not. 21 Then he asked the men of that place, saying, Where is the harlot, that was openly by the way side? And they said, There was no harlot in this place. 22 And he returned to Judah, and said, I cannot find her; and also the men of the place said, that there was no harlot in this place. 23 And Judah said, Let her take it to her, lest we be shamed: behold. I sent this kid, and thou hast not found her. 24 And it came to pass about three months after, that it was told Judah, saying, Tamar thy daughter in law hath played the harlot; and also, behold, she is with child by whoredom. And Judah said, Bring her forth, and let her be burnt. 25 When she was brought forth, she sent to her father in law, saying, By the man, whose these are, am I with child: and she said, Discern, I pray thee, whose are these, the signet, and bracelets. and staff. 26 And Judah acknowledged them, and said, She hath been more righteous than I; because that I gave her not to Shelah my son. And he knew her again no more. 27 And it came to pass in the time of her travail, that, behold, twins were in her womb. 28 And it came to pass, when she travailed, that the one put out his hand: and the midwife took and bound upon his hand a scarlet thread, saying, This came out first. 29 And it came to pass, as he drew back his hand, that, behold, his brother came out: and she said, How hast thou broken forth? this breach be upon thee: therefore his name was called Pharez (Genesis 38:11-29).

RAHAB, the prostitute of Jericho lived in the flesh before being grafted into Israel after saving the spies.

And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there. 2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country. 3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country. 4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: 5 And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ve shall overtake them. 6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof. 7 And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the

fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate. 8 And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof; 9 And she said unto the men, I know that the Lord hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. 10 For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan. Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. 11 And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the Lord your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath. 12 Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the Lord, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token: 13 And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death. 14 And the men answered her, Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the Lord hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee. 15 Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall (Joshua 2:1-15).

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.

And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt. 30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him: for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters. 31 And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth: 32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. 33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose. 34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. 35 And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose. 36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. 37 And the first born bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day. 38 And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same is the father of the

children of Ammon unto this day (Genesis 19:29-38).

We also know the story of David and women, which led to the matter of Bathsheba who bore Solomon and subsequent arrangement for Uriah her husband to die in battle in order to cover his own sin.

> And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem. 2 And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. 3 And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? 4 And David sent messengers, and took her: and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house. 5 And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child. 6 And David sent to Joab, saying, Send me Uriah the Hittite. And Joab sent Uriah to David. 7 And when Uriah was come unto him. David demanded of him how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered. 8 And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet. And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of meat from the king. 9 But Uriah slept at the door

of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house. 10 And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his house, David said unto Uriah, Camest thou not from thy journey? why then didst thou not go down unto thine house? 11 And Uriah said unto David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in tents; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing. 12 And David said to Uriah, Tarry here to day also, and to morrow I will let thee depart. So Uriah abode in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow. 13 And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house. 14 And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die. 16 And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men were. 17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also (2 Samuel 11:1-17).

In Solomon, debauchery and immorality went to new heights when a single man had 1000 women for himself.

But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites. of the Zidonians, and Hittites: 2 Of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father (1 Kings 11:1-4).

Second, the spirit of religion was deployed to negate women and keep them in a permanent state of guilt. As long as women were perceived as troublesome and difficult to manage, whatever Elohim had planned to birth through them would be received with suspicion and ultimately rejected. Because of the hardness of their hearts, Elohim allowed those of the Old Testament to enjoy the dichotomy between genders, with females playing second fiddle in the temple dispensation, however, worship. In that circumstances and situations led Israel to the cliff edge and men scampered for safety, the Lord brought forth peculiar women who were used to redeem the situation. That is how women like Deborah the Judge/Prophetess, and Queen Esther did great exploits which brought salvation to all.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please present a robust summary of this chapter. 2. Which point(s) offered you the most illumination? 3. What will you do with this presentation.

Chapter 2

Women, the 2 Covenants and Synopsis

In discussing women and their capacity to receive the call to ministry, and fulfil the same, it is needful to state with clarity that the Old Testament and religious veils thereof may not provide us sufficient light. The success of vessels such as Deborah and Esther are exceptions because Israel was under a culture which distorted Elohim's purpose right from the early days in the wilderness when the Torah was given. What Elohim wanted to establish with Israel was not a dead religious culture but a vibrant relationship where He would be their Father, care for them while they worshipped and obeyed Him.

And Moses went up unto God, and the Lord called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; 4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. 5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel. 7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their all these words which commanded him. 8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord (Exodus 19:3-8).

Unfortunately, Israel could not handle the glory of His Presence through inbred sin, stubbornness of heart and tendency to drift into idolatry, which is the highest expression of spiritual immorality. The outcome was religion marked by these features:

- o A veil placed on Moses' face which ultimately covered their ability to receive the truth.
- o Moses became a mediator, as the people could not relate directly with Yahweh.
- O Ultimately, because of their inability to have a personal relationship with Yahweh, the Torah became an instrument of religion and a culture of rituals and dead works performed inside religious buildings on certain holy days.
- O The Aaronic/Levitical priesthood, which ministered to the holy things of the tabernacle/temple was limited to healthy male sons as a professional priestly caste.

With the passage of time, the hardness of the hearts of the people caused them to interpret the Torah with hardened hearts. The result was the tendency to use religion as a cudgel of oppression rather than a catalyst of liberty. Yeshua, Jesus showed His displeasure with the development when He rebuked the religious leaders of His day for their hardness of heart.

He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so (Matthew 19:8).

And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other (Mark 3:5). For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened (Mark 6:52).

In Matthew 23, Yeshua unveiled the utter worthlessness of religion that is driven by hardness of heart. Paul the apostle offered us additional insight into how what was meant for good had been turned into negativity.

Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: 13 And not as Moses, which put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: 14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ (2 Corinthians 3:12-14).

It is no wonder that by the time Prophet Jeremiah was ministering to Israel, Elohim declared with finality that a New Covenant was necessary.

In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge. 30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge. 31 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: 32 Not according to the

covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: 33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saving, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. 35 Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name: 36 If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. 37 Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord (Jeremiah 31:29-37).

It was to be a covenant whereby all souls have access to the Father through the Blood of Yeshua, Jesus.

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;) (Hebrews 10:15-23).

Divine signs of a new paradigm for women in the new covenant

Many religious leaders skim the surface of the New Covenant and miss most of the meat and bones! The stock answer most give for wanting women to stay out of ministry is this: Jesus called only men! Yeshua indeed called 12 men and spent three and a half years processing them for a special role they would play in the early Church. The uniform testimony of scriptures reveals that those men stayed in close proximity with Him: they lived together, dined together, and were mentored for a specific purpose.

And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. 14 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils: 16 And Simon he surnamed Peter; 17 And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder: 18 And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Canaanite, 19 And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they went into an house (Mark 3:13-19).

Reading texts like this and staying fixated on the gender of the 12 apostles can miss the whole point. There is much more to the mission of Yeshua which the Christian Church has neither explored nor yet received a revelation of. We believe the Lord will use this resource to plug such holes! The New Covenant was in the Person of Yeshua, His life and ministry, sealed by His Blood at the Cross, and confirmed with His resurrection on the third day. For this reason, the immortal Elohim needed a Body as instrument of fulfilling His redemptive mission.

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. 2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. 3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. 5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt

offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. 8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; 9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:1-10).

That body would become ordinary: needing to be conceived in a womb, nurtured for 30 years, be filled with the Holy Spirit for sake of ministry. That body needed food for sustenance, support for His mission. It would be in that body that the sins of the whole world would be placed for the redemption of humanity to be possible. The 'dead body' needed care and watchfulness over and on the resurrection morning, needed to be manifested to a faithful vessel. Elohim does not do anything in the earth realm without a supervening design.

Critical roles of women in ministering to Yeshua from conception to the resurrection

Let us note the reality that at the beginning of His Incarnation (the Conception), the support provided for Him to concentrate to do ministry, 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!

o The ONLY person who knew when the incarnation took place was Mary.

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 (Luke 1:26-35).

The prophecy of Seed of the woman was underway and Joseph was to know only later when the pregnancy became apparent.

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*).

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons (Galatians 4:4-5).

O A diligent examination of the Holy Scriptures reveals that It was mainly women who principally funded the ministry of Yeshua, providing generously for the material needs of he and his 12-man team from their personal substances. Martha and Mary with their brother Lazarus are variously presented as preparing meals for Yeshua and He was their regular guest.

In John 12, Mary Magdalene showed total consecration and commitment even to anointing Yeshua for His imminent death. By breaking of the obviously expensive Alabaster box, Mary showed us what total devotion should be like.

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 (John 12:1-7).*

O Women were principal witnesses to the last breath of Yeshua, Jesus while the men, except John ran away! Before this time, Peter had already denied His Master three times.

> 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. 28 After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. 29 Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a spunge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. 30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost (John 19:25-30).

Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God. 55 And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him: 56 Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedees children (Matthew 27:54-56).

There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome; 41 (Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him;) and many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem. 42 And now when the even was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, 43 Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and

went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus. 44 And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. 45 And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. 46 And he bought fine linen, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre. 47 And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses beheld where he was laid (Mark 15:40-47).

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him 2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun (Mark 16:1-2).

O A woman, Mary Magdalene, was the first to see the resurrected King. She was commissioned to tell the apostles that He had arisen and thus became the first Evangelist in the Church!

The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. 3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and

came to the sepulchre. 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. 9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home. 11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, 12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him. 14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus saith unto her. Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. 16 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 20:1-18).

We believe that the special role of women in these 4 critical phases of the redemptive mission of Yeshua 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 Yeshua is called SEED of the Woman!

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).

For the Incarnation, the Male seed which carried the Sin gene of Adam was actively retired so that the Holy Spirit would use the female womb to do the remarkable miracle which is the incarnation of Yeshua!

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law (Galatians 4:4).

Please consider these biblical facts, pray them in and inquire of the Holy Spirit if they were casual occurrences or part of a message and grand design by Elohim to take away the reproach of Eve's action in opening the door for Satan to rob humanity of its inheritance as His regent in the earth realm. In choosing to use His sons in female bodies as principal agents to undergird the redemption mission, Elohim was writing a new code: that women are for good and designed

to be His helpmeet for birthing His will and determinate counsel in the earth realm!

Synopsis of the study: women in ministry

As we proceed with this exhaustive exposition, representing what we sincerely believe offers the full counsel of the Scriptures on Women and The Call to serve in Ministry, below are germane questions that will be addressed through the course, not necessarily in the order presented. Additional materials may be covered.

- O What are the 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?
- o What were the contexts in which those instructions were given? Do those instructions negate the basic operating system of the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek?
- O Are females who are redeemed by the Blood of Yeshua, Jesus supposed to perpetually carry the stigma of Eve and on that basis live with inherited guilt all the days of their lives?
- o The Kingdom concept of Ministry
- o In what way did Yeshua, Jesus relate with women which was deemed as absolutely revolutionary for the generation in which He lived?

- O Did Paul recognize, receive, and promote the ministry of women?
- O 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 raise children and allow only the men to do the work of ministry?
- O Are some functions, callings, and ministries 'no go' areas for women on account of assumed defects that have to do with their gender?
- o Is it an abomination, as some say, for a woman to head a ministry where men are?
- O What are the biblically sound constraints which married women face in ministry?

ASSIGNMENT

1. Kindly summarize this chapter. 2. Specify the 4 things which Elohim used women to do in the life of Yeshua and the overall significance of them. 3. What personal message are you taking away from this chapter.

Chapter 3

The Instructions limiting roles of women

The scriptures which are in the Pauline epistle have provided cannon fodder for the enemy to distorting and deceive the religious Church to use to deny sons of Elohim in female bodies the opportunity to preach and teach in public. The zeal and passion with which 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 differs 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 Yeshua 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 aim, rather, the foundation was laid of a massive culture of division and splinters each of which projected 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 Yeshua, 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 5:25-27).

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).

The 3-fold peculiarities of the Pauline epistles and 4 part framework

One of the most unhelpful things people do when discussing the writings of Paul is to misunderstand his writings and use modern day labels to tag them. The result is that some preachers – female and male unfortunately label him as misogynist! This dangerous tendency springs from spiritual laziness. If only we would acknowledge three things about this vessel of honour, our approach to the Pauline epistles will be more constructive.

o Yeshua, bypassed Peter and all the 12 apostles to give him the Masterplan of the New Testament Church. We cannot be serious if we cherry pick the revelations brought forth in his epistles.

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*).

O His letters are not to be glossed over at face value. It is only sincere hearts, free of agenda that can understand the divine instructions committed to his trust.

Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. 15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction (2 Peter 3:14-16).

o What did Paul practice? Elohim has been merciful to ensure that the life and ministry of Paul was one of the most documented in the Holy Scriptures, second only to that of Yeshua. He had the benefit of a chief biographer, Luke. A medical doctor with an eye for minute details, Luke applied his forensic mind to document Acts of the Apostles, a large part of which revealed the ministry of Paul. The man himself wrote 13 of the 27 books of the New Testament with considerable attributions to those who were helpers of the work. Through them, we can discern if he received ministry from women or sought to confine them to only domestic activities.

A better and more honest approach would be to seek help of Holy Spirit, in prayer to answer 4 inter-related questions which provide the best framework for understanding his instructions concerning role of women:

- o What did Paul say?
- o What is the fuller, deeper meaning of the instructions given regarding the role of women in ministry?
- O Where there some historical or cultural contexts in which the words were situated?
- o If we compare scripture with scripture as Isaiah 28 advocates, what would be the overall message of Holy Spirit to the Church through apostle Paul. Regarding the subject matter of Women in Ministry, answers to these four questions will bring the clarity we need.

Using the afore-mentioned 4-part framework, let us get to work in a systematic way: What did Paul say? Here are the passages which have stirred theological disputations for many centuries:

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 (1 Timothy 2:9-13).

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. 8 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 11:3-16).

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 any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church (1 Corinthians 14:34-35).

The import of each of these will be explained in this chapter. Some religious leaders over the years have seized on these passages to claim, with finality, that women have no place in ministry! The outsized megaphones some of them employ has created a situation where Satan could not be happier as explained in this resource.

Explaining the Pauline instructions.

Now that we have the passages spotlighted, we will do well to take the other three parts of the framework together so that we can flow according to the light we received:

- O What is the fuller, deeper meaning of the instructions given regarding the role of women in ministry?
- O Where there some historical or cultural contexts in which the words were situated?
- o If we compare scripture with scripture as Isaiah 28 advocates, what would be the overall message of Holy Spirit to the Church through apostle Paul. Regarding the subject matter of Women in Ministry, answers to these four questions will bring the clarity we need.

As we proceed with this exposition, representing what we believe is the full counsel of the Scriptures on Women and the call to serve Elohim in Ministry, these relevant questions in the synopsis in chapter 2 need attention:

O Are females redeemed by the Blood of Yeshua, 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!

- O Was Paul decreeing that redeemed females are supposed to just marry, work a job, bear, raise children and "go to church" to be told how to cook well, take care of husband and children, and allow only men to do the work of ministry? The answer is of course an absolute No!
- O 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!
- O 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 Women in Ministry

Background of the church at Ephesus, pastored by Timothy

Of all the Mission fields in which Paul laboured, 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 statue of Diana, the goddess of the land. The worship of this idol was rocked by the preaching of the gospel of Yeshua, Jesus, and the Kingdom to the extent that one of its devotees, Demetrius stirred up a riot against Paul in Acts 19:1-41. The Church that was planted out of spiritual warfare, power evangelism and deep

teaching on the new nature and identity of saints and the New Testament 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 Yeshua, 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.

But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. 20 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's. 22 But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel. 23 Him therefore I hope to send presently, so soon as I shall see how it will go with me (Philippians 2:19-23).

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope; 2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord. 3 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou

mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, 4 Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do (1 Timothy 1:1-4).

Let us note that Jewish women in the city who embraced eternal life in Yeshua, 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 given to fashion that was seductive. 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 woman 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: Within this text are the following precepts:

O Decent and appropriate clothing should be worn by women who professed faith in Yeshua 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.

- Women, who were coming into the faith of Yeshua, 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 Jewish 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 Yeshua had broken down the middle wall of partition and they were now given the opportunity to study the word of Elohim even in public.
- o In 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.
- O 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 breath, summarily 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 all females from public ministry.

- O 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 shows this reality. Paul did not want saints to labor under the yoke of bondage to traditions of men and dead religious rituals.
- o 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 remember the context of the early Church, which was birthed amidst Judaism.

O 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 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.
- At various times, certain truths were fully understood and integrated into the practice of the early Church. We need to recollect that the Church had to even convene a Council in Acts 15 to settle 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 Yeshua, Jesus who moderated that First Jerusalem Council was to deliver a wise judgement which saved the day when he ruled that circumcision was unnecessary for gentiles as a precondition for conversion. He counselled that gentiles who come into faith in Yeshua need only to abstain from idolatrous contamination, from sexual immorality, and from eating strangled animals and blood. Acts 15:1-29. The Church was addressing issues as they came up.
- o It is noteworthy that 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). Let us note, for instance, that almost all the first set of disciples of Yeshua Jesus had died by the time John the beloved received the massive prophetic masterpiece, the Book of Revelation!
- o To successfully discuss Women in Ministry, therefore, we need to first go through the whole gamut of the Word to see what is said in various

sections. Second, we will need to compare scripture with scripture in order to find out the mind of Elohim. Third, we need the fresh insight of the Holy Spirit to reveal the mind of Yahweh. These, we will do, by the grace of Elohim as we examine this critical issue.

Explaining the context of distorted scriptures 1 Corinthians 11:3-16

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 1 Corinthians chapter 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. 8 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 11:3-16).

It is necessary therefore that we understand what Paul the Apostle was saying and the context in which he spoke. Let us note these issues:

SETTING/CONTEXT

Paul was writing to Christians in Corinth. In this gentile city, idolatry was a big deal and immorality, including male prostitution and high-level incest. The Jews of the Diaspora who received Yeshua came from a culture in which 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 looking 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 create a stumbling

block on other saints by what they allow 1 Corinthians 10: 23-33. Paul then moved on, by the Spirit, to address fashion and creating an atmosphere of reverence for Elohim in worship services. He then connected the matter to relationship between married men and women.

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 Yeshua, Jesus! He cannot be an authority all on his own without submitting to the Lordship of Yeshua! If he submits to the Lordship of Yeshua, then man will obey the Lord in all things, including recognizing, accepting, and honoring His call on his wife. Paul said that while in the flesh, Yeshua, Jesus modeled submission to the authority of the Father at all times. Scriptures bear eloquent testimony that from the day Yeshua willingly agreed to be the Only Begotten Son of the Father, the dynamics of their relationship was marked by submission to the will of the Father (See 1 Corinthians 11:3; John 4:34, 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 11:11-12).

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!

FASHION AND REVERENCE IN THE PRESENCE OF God (1 Corinthians 11:4-16).

Paul then charged the Corinthians and indeed all saints to remember once people congregate in the name of the Lord, the divine presence is activated. This conforms to what Yeshua, Jesus Himself said in Matthew 18:20, Paul asserted 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 Yeshua 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 Yeshua as their Lord. In the same way, men were commanded to cut their hair and not to cover it while praying as a simple sign of their heart acceptance of Yeshua, Jesus as Lord of their lives.



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. 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? The 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 and 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:

- Necessity of Water Baptism after salvation (see Mark 16:15-16)
- o 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 the future.
- o Washing of Feet of Congregations by leaders in emulation of Yeshua, Jesus (John 13:1-17).

These ordinances may seem ancient and out of tune with our modern psychedelic age. However, if Yeshua, Jesus is Lord, and the same yesterday, today and forever, we 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:

That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; (1 Corinthians 1:5).

This clearly showed that women could prophesy in public in his time.

Explaining the context of distorted scriptures which: 1 Corinthians 14:34-35

1 Corinthians 14 was written by inspiration of the Holy Spirit to provide the New Testament church a framework for order in public ministry. It dealt with issues of how to prophesy publicly and use tongues to edify rather than confuse the Church. Because of the unfortunate incident where women interrupted services to ask questions and voice their acceptance or not of messages delivered by leaders or visiting ministers, Paul directed married women to hold their peace in congregational meetings and inquire of their husbands anything they needed clarity on.

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 any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church (1 Corinthians 14:34-35).

ASSIGNMENT

- 1. What issue(s) in this chapter resonated most in your heart as a revelation or re-enforcement of what you knew before?
- 2. Please cite the two scriptures religious people used to

debar women from public ministry and briefly explain what Paul was saying? 3. What will you do with the lessons in this chapter?

Chapter 4

Misunderstanding of Paul's charge to women

After writing on Spiritual gifts as the basis of true Kingdom Ministry in 1 Corinthians 12, Paul the Apostle was used by the Holy Spirit to 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 motivated and based on charity/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 benefit all congregants/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 any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church (1 Corinthians 14:34-35).

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 serve the purpose of Yeshua or His Church. It is a classic example of how Satan operates that just as he used scriptures to tempt Yeshua, 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 the outside. With the enormous number 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 a South African minister. 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, 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 dishonors her husband and Elohim could not, by any stretch of the imagination, ban all women from ministry and leadership positions 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:

O Until the gospel of Salvation by faith in Yeshua 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 a disadvantage as far as ministry went. By the time Paul was writing to the Corinthians, only a few women had the privilege of sound training in the word. As we will see later 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!

- O Many women in the area who became Christians were in a hurry to celebrate their liberty in Yeshua 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!
- O 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 forth. Yet many of them were impatient and just zealous to speak at public meetings.
- O 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 mean? Paul was addressing the Corinthians

on the correct way to conduct public meetings so that Elohim would be glorified, and the 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 newfound liberty in Yeshua, Jesus to mean license to do and say whatever they wanted, anytime they wanted and anyhow – while in congregational ministry settings. This was also 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 Yeshua where all humanity – Jews, Gentiles, Free, Bound, Male, Female - find a commonality and community based on the shed Blood, there is no way this distinguished vessel was asking all females to keep quiet and only be passive learners in the Church.

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).

Ephesians Chapters 1-4 Colossians Chapters 1-3

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 Yeshua, Jesus as the over 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.

His disciples say unto him, If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry. 11 But he said unto them, All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given. 12 For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it (Matthew 19:10-12).

1 Corinthians 7:1, 7-8, 25-26, 29-33; 2 Timothy 4:6-8

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 65-68 years when he was beheaded for the testimony of Yeshua, Jesus by the Roman Empire. 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:

PRISCILLA. This woman and her husband Aquila were tent makers. In Corinth, they met with Paul and became part of a holy company of his 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 18:1-3).

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 18:27-28).

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".

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 Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ (Romans 16:3-5).

As a measure of how significantly Priscilla and her husband Aquila affected Paul, he also noted their remarkable ministry with him also in other passages.

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye (1 Corinthians 16:1).

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

PHOEBE. This remarkable woman was a Deaconess 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 16:1-2).

MARY, TRYPHENA, TRYPHOSA, PERSIS were part of the company of women who secured niches for being active colaborers with Paul.

Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us (Romans 16: 6).

Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord (Romans 16:12).

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).

EUODIA AND SYNTYCHE were commended by Paul for labouring with him in the gospel. This was indeed no means 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 fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life (Philippians 4:2-3).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please do a brief exposition of the real message of Paul in 1 Corinthians 14:34-35. 2. Please share the main things that ministered most to you in this chapter.

Chapter 5

Grand Purpose of Satan and how women in Ministry should respond to rejection.

Part A. The Grand purpose of Satan

There is strong reason to believe 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 two other 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), and disregarding the Now Generation (youths aged 18-39) as immature, it can be seen that his chief purpose is to reduce the number of laborers for the final harvest! We trust the 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!

Religion conveniently forgets that at the Cross, Yeshua, 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 Yeshua, 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 the 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 Yeshua, 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. His epistles are master pieces that exposit on ministry as Holy Spirit activated expression of grace that is used to build up the Body of Yeshua and affect lives (See Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31; Ephesians 4:7,8, 11-16).

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness (Romans 12:3-8).

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6 And there

are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: 11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit (1 *Corinthians* 12:4-13).

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: (Ephesians 4:7-12).

To this agrees the words of 1 Peter 4:10-11.

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 for ever and ever. Amen (1 Peter 4:10-11).

It is impossible for Paul, who Yeshua, Jesus used extensively to bring forth these deep revelations above 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 a blanket exclusion of women from public ministry. 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 background, nature of the 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 Yeshua, Jesus Himself, very Elohim and very man as Matthew 4:1-11 shows. Just as Yeshua, 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 of 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 with 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.

Part B. How should women in ministry should respond to those who reject and oppose them

O The wrong response to those who preach against women in ministry must be avoided. Rather than just be offended and react in the flesh, 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 mis-characterize him as a misogynist is potentially dangerous to the soul. Cambridge dictionary defines a misogynist as.

"a man who hates women or believes that men are much better than women".

O Avoid bitterness and hatred of the religious leaders who are often male. 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 are now prevalent in many regions of the world is to respond in the flesh.

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: ... 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: (Ephesians 4:26)

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; (Hebrews 12:14-15).

O What is going on with opposition to women in ministry is a spiritual battle inspired by Satan and executed by the blindfolds of religion! 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. Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world (1 Peter 5:7-9)

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 6:10-18).

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 10:3-6).

O It is also an issue of ignorance and the tendency of religion to gravitate towards the tradition of men to be won with knowledge of Truth! To fight and win, there is a need to recognize and reject traditions of humans set by modern day Pharisees which end up depleting the workforce 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).

O If the ministry or congregation you are part of prefers the traditions of men rather than be guided by the Word and Holy Spirit, gracefully leave without anger, bitterness, or rancor. Do not impose yourself on those who reject your presence and ministry! Avoid strife and arguments with people on social media and on the ground.

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:32).

Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers...23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do

gender strifes. 24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; (2 Timothy 2:14, 23-25).

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 28: 10 established a critical principle for rightly dividing the Word of Truth: precept must be upon precept, and line upon line, before we can establish with certainty the mind of Elohim on any subject. That is what the Lord is enabling us to do with this course. It is therefore wrong to pluck a scripture out of context to use as a cudgel against fellow saints, filled with the Holy Spirit and willing to lay their lives down in service of the King and His Kingdom because they are females. disingenuous to manufacture side shows where they can operate and deem them unqualified to fully answer the call of Elohim or be used by the Holy Spirit Who lives within their spirit-man, just because they are women.

As 2 Timothy 2:15 charges, let us study the Word, which offers the greatest capacity for the true liberation of mindsets! The word should guide our lives.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly

furnished unto all good works (2 Timothy 3:16-17),

O Action speaks louder than words! Rather than argue with those who oppose, women who are called should simply consecrate their vessels wholly to the Lord to use them to manifest His glory, touch lives of saints through manifestation of their spiritual gifts and serve the Body in humility. This is the best way to answer critics rather than engaging in debates and strife.

For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. 9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil: cleave to that which is good. 10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; 11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; (Romans 12:4-11).

The greatest answer to those who oppose women in ministry and are skeptical is to just manifest grace in such an outstanding way that answers loudly and shut them up. After healing the man at the Beautiful Gate, the proof of the calling of Peter and John could not be denied by the religious leaders of Israel.

Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; 3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. 5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God: 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him. 11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering. 12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? (Acts 3:1-12).

Raw manifestation of spiritual gifts such as healing of impossible health cases, deliverance of captives who are bound will stop the tongues of naysayers.

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. 14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. 15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, 16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it (Acts 4:13-16).

The charge to Women in Ministry is simple: Preach in power, heal the sick, deliver the oppressed and manifest the gifts of the Holy Spirit! 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.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share the main things that ministered most to you in part A of this chapter: The Grand purpose of Satan 2. Itemize in bullet-point form, the 7 ways to react to those who reject and oppose women in ministry?

Chapter 6

The Satanic Plot and 3 Types of Priesthood

Extreme possibilities exist for the fulfilment 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 Yeshua totally changes the identity of those who receive His vicarious sacrifice by faith. Once we come to this understanding, some strongholds Satan has constructed to limit the advancement of the gospel will easily be identified and dismantled.

These include:

- O 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 so called '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.
- O The Babylonian notion that the Market Place is unholy or secular where Christians engage in carnal activities. They therefore come to Church on appointed '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.

O The religious notion that women are inherently inferior to men and the 'sin gene' the 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 a religious interpretation of some texts in the Pauline epistles discussed in the two previous lessons which are taken out of context.

The two preceding chapters were devoted to examining 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 words of King Yeshua, which required all the redeemed to put their hands on the plough of Kingdom service:

37 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).

This word was not written for male saints alone, but for all who believe. Brothers and sisters have been endowed with various gifts, capacities, and opportunities to use in service of the Lord, until He comes!

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).

All the redeemed will account for what they did with the gifts and callings given by the Lord On the Last Day!

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad (2 Corinthians 5:10).

The husband will not render account for what his wife did with her gifts and callings neither will the wife render for him. No spouse can be excused or condemned for what the other did or did not do!

And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he

commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. 16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. 17 And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities. 18 And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. 19 And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities. 20 And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin: 21 For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man: thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow. 22 And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow: 23 Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury? 24 And he said unto them that stood by, Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds. 25 (And they said unto him, Lord, he hath ten pounds.) 26 For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him (Luke 19:15-26).

It will be untenable for a son of Elohim in a female body to use marriage, husband, children, career or indeed anything under the son as an excuse to not embrace the calling. That is why for males and females, the first benchmark to be attained before getting into ministry is become true disciples who to die to self, enthrone Yeshua as sovereign ruler who determines all we do and has first charge on our priorities.

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. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 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 16:24-26).

To step into ministry without first becoming a disciple is to court disaster in the short, medium, or long terms! If the Lord plays second fiddle, the one who is first (husband, children, career) is the real god: an idol!

> Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven, 34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 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. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. 37 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. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall

lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it (Matthew 10:32-39).

The case can be made that all intending spouses, at the engagement/fiancé stage to enter into a pre-nuptial agreement that The Lord has a first charge on their individual lives and that marriage is only valid from a kingdom perspective if Yeshua and His will in the Word is the fulcrum on which the union rests. This may seem radical to many but, is a basic norm required for Kingdom citizens. It is this radical approach which made Joseph to accept Mary's role in the Incarnation, become surrogate father of Yeshua in His formative years and only enjoyed the union with Mary thereafter. The Lord blessed their union with about 4 natural sons and at least 2 natural girls.

The 3 Priesthood Paradigms

Satan knows that the full engagement of women in the Great Commission would lead to the liberation of more of his captives! This is why he resorted to deceiving the religious Church to deny women their rightful place in ministry. Part of that deception is the popularization of two priestly paradigms that do not derive validity from the New Testament:

THE NIMRODIC PRIESTHOOD

The name is derived from Nimrod, a son of Cush, grandson of Ham and great grandson of Noah. This man was a rebel who set aside Elohim's order to establish and enforce his own that is based on dominance of others whose souls he hunted and controlled away from divine purpose.

And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. 9 He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord. 10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar (Genesis 10:8-10).

This ministry pattern rejects simplicity, the concept of serving Elohim and people and prefers to 'rule' the believers as a conquered people. Called the Nicolaitanes in the New Testament, Yeshua hated their deeds.

But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate... 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate (Revelation 2:6, 15).

THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD: ONLY MALES FROM THE FAMILY OF AARON

Originally established to mediate the Old Covenant, it was one where the priesthood automatically came upon the male sons of Aaron, the first High Priest of Israel. They were required to dress the part so that people would recognize, respect, and honor them

And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty (Exodus 28:2).

And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty (Exodus 28:40).

THE MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD: ALL ARE CALLED, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN

At the Cross, Yeshua fulfilled both the Old Testament and took away its professional, male priestly caste. He came as the High Priest of a new Order of Priesthood which is eternal.

The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4).

Seated on the right hand of the Father, He calls all to serve in His Kingdom – male and female alike - who are His one new man. He intercedes for us and gives strength to all the redeemed to serve through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and other endowments. The priesthood after the order of Melchizedek has these features:

- o It is a universal priesthood for all the redeemed.
- o It emulates Yeshua, Jesus the High Priest, in terms of simplicity. Just like Him, we do not need robes to function, nor prominent seats.
- o The priests do not seek vain glory nor engage in self projection. They deliberately decrease like John the Baptist so that Yeshua is seen and heard.
- o They serve with humility.
- o Holy Spirit shows up in their yielded and available vessels through manifestation of spiritual gifts.

O 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. With Salvation comes an automatic call to ministry!

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).

O Peter, a close associate of Yeshua was used by Him to explain the nature of the present phase of the Kingdom: 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 marvellous 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).

The ultimate solution to the debate of whether women are called ends when and where there is an understanding and embrace of the Priesthood after the order of Melchizedek!

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share 5 things which ministered most to you in this chapter. 2. Summarize the 3 Priesthood types and explain why the Melchizedek Priesthood is the only valid one.

Chapter 7

Religious glass ceilings and the Great Commission

We start this chapter with a basic thesis: "By rejecting the general call of Elohim on all saints, negation of the ministry of those in the Market Place, the Youth and Women and insisting on limiting ministry and leadership roles to a tiny, male dominated priestly caste, Religion has been doing the bidding of Satan." Let us breakdown how Satan deployed his wiles and devices to accomplish this feat by giving a gun loaded with 4 bullets to religious leaders with an overall aim of shooting itself: limiting the human resources available for the work of ministry.

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 (Ephesians 6:10-12).

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices (2 Corinthians 2:11).

The wiles and devices of Satan must be recognized and rejected. Otherwise, buying into his schemes and executing the same with vigour, the Christian Church has put itself in a situation where two prayers of Yeshua seem unanswered while in reality there is enough human resources to complete the Great Commission in our time!

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. 37 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 9:35-38).

In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat. 32 But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. 33 Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat? 34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. 35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. 36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. 37 And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. 38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ve are entered into their labours (John 4:31-38).

We should be open to see and embrace all who can emulate Yeshua, Jesus, in going forth to teach and preach the gospel of the Kingdom, healing every sickness and disease and casting out demons, not limiting acceptance to male adults alone! All believers who He calls and anoints should be embraced. This includes those in the pews, in the marketplace, youths and women.

How the devices/wiles of Satan worked in the Church

- O The creation of a religious dichotomy featuring a tiny priestly caste as the clergy who only are qualified to act as mediators between a holy God and the vast number of Christians who are regarded as an unholy laity, negates the strength of the Church and its ability to be an instrument of fulfilling the Great Commission and showing the Kingdom.
- O Negation of the ministries of saints called to use the Market Place as their platforms of Kingdom expression ensures that the strength of the Church is further depleted.
- O Add to this abnormality the fact that the Youths are rarely embraced as fit for ministry by religious leaders, the cunning nature of Satan can be clearly seen.
- O When this is topped off with rejection of women as fit for full ministry in a world where women 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! Is it not ironic that religious leaders would readily submit to the instructions of their doctors who are female and are subject to female political leaders who are

heads of Government at National, State, and local levels but regard women in their ministries and congregations as unfit to serve the Lord?

World population trends and the great commission

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

- O As of 2010, there were 6,895,889,018. On a global level, it will surprise many to learn that there were more males (3,477,829,638 billion) than females (3,418,059,380 billion).
- O The reason there have been more males than females are 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.
- o 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) 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 these population estimates for 2010 presented by

Geohive.com to make the facts that apply 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 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 Islamic, had 27,448, 086 people out of which 15,196,132 were male while 13,212,251,954 were female.
- o 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.

- o In the nations where faith in Yeshua, Jesus is not subject to negative sanctions, there is a large pool of human resources (male and female) that are already saved. If their strength is properly harnessed, the 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 personnel are deployed, there will be enough laborers to take the gospel further and deeper!
- The world population does not reveal another reality: 0 in the Church, most saved people who are faithful devotees of most denominations and congregations are women. They are more consistent in attendance, more engaged in discipleship, yet are least used as a Kingdom resource. More women are hungry to respond to the call of the Master for the Great Commission. Unfortunately, because misconceptions based on the wrong interpretation of scriptures given to resolve challenges which arose in the Alpha Church, most females have been held down. Those who dare to respond to the call of the King are derided, profiled as rebellious and sometimes persecuted or harassed.

Critical Kingdom Experiences for all saints in the household of faith, all saints – regardless of their gender, ages or socio-economic status should have these 9 critical Kingdom experiences which qualify them to serve the Lord and His people:

- O Converted from Sinner to Saint (John 3:3-9, 2 Corinthians 5:17).
- o Consecrated to be a vessel of the Lord for His holy and sole use (Matthew 16:24-26, Romans 12:1-2, Galatians 2:20).
- o Committed to seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6:19-34).
- O Utilize the root or basic spiritual gifts given when they were sealed into Yeshua, Jesus at conversion (2 Corinthians 1:22, Ephesians 4:30).
- o Press into receiving the fullness of Baptism in the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8, John 7:37-39).
- o Enjoy intimate Communion with the Lord with a vibrant prayer life and personal relationship of holiness unto Him, which is real (1 Peter 1:15-16). This state of heart is made possible by the experience of Sanctification, which is a work of Grace, not self-achieved (1 Thessalonians 5:22-24).
- o Enjoy Communion with other saints through fellowship (Hebrews 10:25).
- O Respond to the Call to serve (John 15:16, Matthew 16:24-26).
- O Live in the Consciousness that the ultimate end of our faith is to live in eternity with the Lord.

All who are on this 9-fold journey are in the army of the Lord and should not be segregated based on gender, age, socioeconomic status, or other carnal considerations. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. 17 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 5:16-17).

The Way Forward

The way forward is simple: In this last chapter of the gospel, the least we owe the Lord Who has set the fulfilment of the Great Commission as a benchmark for His return is to harness all available human resources 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).

- O Christian Religion and its emphasis on Attendance, Buildings and Cash is 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 Yeshua in the earth realm.
- O Normal ministers trained in the old seminary and Theological College or Bible School traditions with all their distortions of the Truth and denominational slants receive a sort of spiritual glaucoma which limits the ability of their eyes of understanding to

comprehend the meaning and purpose of the Word they read. This 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.

O Realizing that the Lord is raising His remnant to tear down all ramparts of religion. As they throw such down, they act 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).

o 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 Yeshua 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*).

O 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.

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).

And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all (Colossians 3:10).

O They can therefore understand the organic nature of the church as a living, loving organism rather than a religious organization! To discover their spiritual gifts and fulfil their divinely assigned 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).

O Saints will realize that what matters most is their spiritual maturity and stability, which come from being led entirely by the 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. The spirit-man is neither male nor female but a repository of the Holy Spirit, His spiritual gifts, and callings. To

be led by Him in all things assures that spirituality trumps carnality.

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. 5 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 ve 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).

For the above reasons, the glass ceilings imposed by religion and its limited understanding of the Holy Scriptures should not be permitted to constrain women from answering the call of Elohim to serve Him, the Kingdom Church, and humanity. it is all about being set free with the Living Word of King Yeshua! 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).

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).

ASSIGNMENT

1. "By rejection the general call of Elohim on all saints, negation of the ministry of those in the Market Place, the Youth and Women and insisting on limiting ministry and leadership roles to a tiny, male dominated priestly caste, Religion has been doing the bidding of Satan." Do you agree? If yes, why? 2. Summarize the 9 critical experiences all saints should have which qualify them for ministry 3.

Summarize the 8-point way forward for women in ministry to come out of religiously imposed glass ceilings

Chapter 8

Women, the life and Ministry of Yeshua, 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, Yeshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus the Messiah, enjoyed a healthy and holy close relationship with women and received active ministry from them. As said in an earlier chapter, one of those females was Mary the Virgin, whom Yahweh chose to bear the prophesied Seed of Genesis 3:15. She had the privilege of receiving a divine implant in her womb by the Holy Spirit, as reported in Luke 1:26-38. Her attitude to the mind-boggling reality of being elected to be an instrument of fulfilling Genesis 3:15 reveals the depth of grace in her.

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 (Luke 1:34-37).

The intricacy and sheer sensitivity of this spiritual operation of planting Yeshua, Jesus 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 Priest who had a similar encounter with Angel Gabriel a few months earlier, we 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 announced 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. A previous lesson pointed out the significant reality 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).

Yeshua's ministry from and to other women

Throughout His ministry, Yeshua, Jesus broke all the barriers which the religious system set as barricades against women.

o Even while He was in the womb and as an infant, the barriers came crashing down! Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, 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. She confirmed His identity and assignment about 30 years before John the Baptist!

And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; 37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. 38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem (Luke 2:36-38).

O As Yeshua, Jesus grew up, there are some passages which show his relationship with the natural family, including His earthly mother, Mary, natural sisters, and brothers.

When his earthly parents left Him in Jerusalem and voiced their concern, the 12-year-old Yeshua showed that He knew His identity and the divine purpose.

And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. 40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. 41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. 43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not

of it. 44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they him their kinsfolk sought among acquaintance. 45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. 46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. 47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. 48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. 49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? 50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. 51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man (Luke 2:39-52).

At the Marriage in Cana, Mary showed that she understood that Yeshua would call the shots, not her.

And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: 2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage .3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. 4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come. 5 His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it (John 2:1-5).

He made clear to Mary and His siblings that doing the will of Father was paramount and 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).

And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? 55 Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? 56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things? (Matthew 13:54-56).

When his brethren tried to goad Yeshua, Jesus to manifest Himself to Israel before the due time, He pushed back.

After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him. 2 Now the Jew's feast of tabernacles was at hand. 3 His brethren therefore said unto him, Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest. 4 For there is no man that doeth any thing in secret, and he himself seeketh to be known openly. If thou do these things, shew thyself to the world. 5 For neither did his brethren believe in him. 6 Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready. 7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil. 8 Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast: for my time is not yet full come. 9 When he had said these words unto them, he abode still in Galilee. 10 But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret (John 19:1-9).

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:

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

Many religious leaders who try to justify exclusion of women from ministry often cite the fact that His 12 Apostles He chose were all men. As explained a previous chapter, the reason was simple: they lived with Him at close quarters and were required to undertake a rugged 3 and half year internship which prepared them to serve as full-time ministry pillars in the Church He would leave behind (Mark 3:13-17). Yeshua Jesus allowed women to come near Him, the same way men came to Him. He related with women in a way no rabbi could do.

O The woman afflicted with the issue of blood could touch the hem of His garments and was made whole.

And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples. 20 And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: 21 For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. 22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour (Matthew 9:19-22).

o He handled with compassion, wisdom, and sensitivity the woman caught in adultery under a religious system which demonized women while their male sin partners go scot-free.

> And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, 4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what savest thou? 6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. 7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. 8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. 9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw

none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? 11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more (John 8:3-11).

o Mary and her sister Martha and Lazarus ministered to Him regularly, the way deaconesses do. He ate freely in their house (Luke 10:38-41, John 11:1-39). The testimony of scripture is plain that Yeshua appreciated the two devoted women and their brother and loved them!.

Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus (John 11:5).

O Even the woman at the well of Samaria was shocked that she could have access to a Great Rabbi like Yeshua, Jesus! (John 4:1-26) It is interesting that His disciples who still struggled with a Hebraic mindset were not amused that Yeshua related freely with this Samaritan woman. Her soul and those of people of the City she could influence were the core reason Yeshua ministered to her.

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? 28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, 29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ? 30 Then they went out of the city, and came unto him... 39 And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. 40

So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they be sought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days. 41 And many more believed because of his own word; 42 And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world (John 4:27-30, 39-42).

O As said in an earlier chapter, women actively supported the ministry of Yeshua 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).

O Mary anointed His feet with costly oil of spikenard after breaking the Alabaster box, washing them with her tears and drying same 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 12:1-8).

o Women were faithful to Yeshua 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).

O While the men – including the 12 apostles were hiding in fear, it was women who went to minister to the 'dead' Body of Yeshua.

And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. 55 And the women also, which

came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. 56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment (Luke 23:54-56).

Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus (Luke 24:1-3).

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 chapter: when it came to the Great High Priest of the New Covenant, Yeshua 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 Messiah.

O The truth that many gloss over is that the Church activated on the day of Pentecost was not made up of only the 12 apostles! They were just a 10th part of the total number of disciples who were faithful till the day of Pentecost and were all filled with the Holy Spirit for service.

And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ve gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. 12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. 13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. 15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) (Acts 1:4-15)

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-4).

These instances of Yeshua's high esteem of women were not a co-incidence! Elohim was announcing a new order in which access to the throne and services to the King was 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 of the Old Aaronic priesthood and their brethren, and Levites 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 27:50-51).

In AD 70, the invading army of General Titus 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 because of family background, race, ethnicity, gender, age, or socioeconomic status! We are to share real fellowship in the Spirit with one another based on our unity in Yeshua! The Heart, not Gender or Skin color is now the heart of True worship. No one –

include denominational leaders and their narrow dogmas and traditions of men - 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 10:15-24).

What this clearly meant is that before the eyes of Israel, Yeshua Jesus had just fulfilled all the Law and the Prophets and the Old Aaronic 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 (Hunchbacks 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 Yeshua Jesus was. He completely fulfilled everything that the Old Covenant required of humanity and then instituted the New Covenant based on better promises. His holy example is commended to all who embrace His Lordship.

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need (Hebrews 4:14-16).

The New Covenant is based on a better and more inclusive priesthood – the Royal Priesthood of all saints according to the Order of Melchizedek! In this new priesthood, your family background, gender, former life, and all potential limitations do not count. What counts is summed up in this passage:

As many as received Him, to them He gives Power to become the Sons of God (John 1:12).

...you must be born again (John 3:3).

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).

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).

Yeshua, Jesus came therefore not to foster a religious system or priestly construct but to announce the long-awaited Kingdom of Elohim and show its power! (Matthew 4:17-21) In the Kingdom, Yahweh is Father and Yeshua, King of all those who accept the basis of the Kingdom, which is the Blood that He shed at the Cross. Such people become five 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, kings, 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 three deal with their strategic roles to those who are outside the Kingdom.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Please share any 5 things you learnt from the lessons in this chapter. 2. What will you do with the revelations herein?

Chapter 9

Biblical basis for women to serve wherever called, including the Fivefold

The first 8 chapters of this resource have made a clear case for Women to function as called by Elohim. For the benefit of those who need things to be outlined in simple terms, a systematic summary will reveal:

O 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:

- O Genesis 1:27 shows that Elohim clearly had the male and female gender in view when He decided to create humankind.
- O The dominion mandate of human species was over all the creation such as animals, plants, fishes and the environment was equally given to male and female.
- O Humankind 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).
- O Adam, representing males was created from the raw earth before the breath (or measure of the Holy Spirit

of Elohim) was imparted into his being. Genesis 2:7. The soul was activated thereby as the realm of self-expression and awareness. The soul is the mind, will and emotions of humans.

- o In creating the woman, Elohim showed additional skill and care 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 have greater sensitivity to things of the spirit and thus flow easier in the prophetic realm (see Genesis 2:21, 22).
- O 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.
 - O The deception of Eve by Satan was because of a realization that the best way to truncate the plan of Elohim for humanity 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 flawed gross irresponsibility of Adam Romans 5:12-21.
 - O 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. After the fall, the pronouncement to Satan was that the SEED of the Woman (who he tricked) would crush his head! The Word clarified 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 the 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).

- o In the Old Covenant, Elohim allowed flashes of His glory to rest of females, even though it was a patriarchal society. Deborah was both a Prophetess and Judge to whom Israel was subject. Through her wisdom and mentorship of Barak, Israel was delivered from the hand of its enemies. A woman, Jael was the vessel the Lord used to kill the tormentor in chief, Sisera. (Judges 4). The Lord used Queen Esther to outfox Haman and deliver the Jews from utter destruction.
- O The incarnation of Yeshua 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.
- o From conception throughout His life, at death and on the resurrection morning, Elohim used women extensively to minister to Yeshua. Mary, Elizabeth, Anna, Mary Magdalene, Martha, the other Mary, Mary the mother of James and John, Susanna and other named women took their place gracefully and are secure in the Chronicles of life. Yeshua also granted unprecedented access to women, unlike the Rabbis of His day. He did not profile or disregard them. In the Old Covenant, women had limited access to religious leaders. That is why the Pharisees

were scandalized when they saw Mary Magdalene anoint Yeshua, 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 Yeshua, Jesus, throughout His earthly life and stuck to Him at the Cross and even in death! All these were conducted in holiness of thought, word, deed, and attitude which the male leaders in the Kingdom should note and emulate.

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need (Hebrews 4:14-16).

O Yeshua 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 Him as 2 Corinthians 5:17 says. They will not be known by such classifications as gender, age, racial and ethnic background. 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 the same unto condemnation. (See Matthew 4:17; John 1:12, 17; John 3:16.)

- O Yeshua, Jesus came to fulfil all the rites of passage which religion represented. His ministry and death put to an end:
- O 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! His death on the Cross 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).
- O At His death, the veil which represented the ultimate exclusion of womankind was rent in two. Access to the Holy of Holies and Elohim was no longer restricted to the High Priest alone. All who believe male and female, Jews, and Gentiles, young and old, rich, and poor have access through the shed blood and His broken Body (Matthew 27:51; Hebrews 10:19-23).
 - O The New Royal Priesthood of Melchizedek, which He came to institute is to be based on spiritual gifts and other graces which saints receive from Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit comes into the spirit man of saints male and female, 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 IMMPRESSED with by the Holy Spirit". The spirit man of saints is neither male nor female. Both the office gifts of Yeshua, Jesus (Ephesians 4:11,12); The gifts released by The Father (Romans 12:3-8) and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12:1-14 are all received in the spirit realm! When taken together, the New Covenant

reveal that every saint has received one or more spiritual gifts from Elohim!

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; 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 (1 Peter 2:9-10).

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness (Romans 12:3-8).

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. 2 Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. 3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no

man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. 4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: 11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit...27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? 30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? (1 Corinthians 12:1-13, 27-30),

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).

The ministry paradigm of the Kingdom at the present time is this: whoever has the gift needed by the Body or an individual should give the 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 4:10-11).

Concerning women and the Fivefold

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 'lower' levels of ministry but are to be excluded from some "strategic level" "roles" which places them in leadership positions over males. 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 Yeshua, 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 in the vessel 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 those who the Lord elects, all by His grace! In response, they are willing to die to the demands and pull of gender, self-ambition, demands of their bellies for ease and comfort. Living with Yeshua, Jesus as a 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 Yeshua, giving no place in the heart for the things of Satan, Flesh, or the World. This will not imply that the apostle will be absolutely 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 Yeshua by His Holy Spirit to reign supreme. If there is any iota of sin of thought, word or deed, the vessel takes ownership promptly, in deep, heartfelt repentance and falls forward into the hands of a loving Father (1 John 2:1-2).

The totality of life is thus entrusted into the hand of Yeshua, 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: who or what shall separate me from the love of the Father in Yeshua? 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 Yeshua 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 the 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 Yeshua, 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 Yeshua 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 anymore (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. Elohim says He calls who He wishes and fortunately, no one is qualified to ask Him questions or to counsel Him.

What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. 15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy (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 an Apostle is, the functions and mandate. Please download the free eBook titled The Fivefold: Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers at www.kingdombooksclub.com and www.gsom.ac. 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 Yeshua, Head of the Church Who vested that vessel with a measure of His authority through Holy Spirit at work within him or her!

The Imperatives for female apostles

She who would accept and operate in this Office:

O Cannot live in the flesh and its entrapments. It is impossible 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 demeanour. 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).

- o 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 need to 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.
- O Ideally, a woman who is called to the Apostolic office should be happily married to Yeshua, Jesus so that He can pass through her by His Spirit to fulfil His will.
- o 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 Yeshua 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).
- O 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 Yeshua 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.

- O She who is called to the apostolic office will ultimately prove it by her ability to do the work Yeshua, Jesus sent her to do, despite reproaches, rejection, abuses and indeed all kinds of suffering for His sake. She should commit everything to Him who judges righteously, just like Yeshua (see 1 Peter 2:21-24.)
- o This same principle applies to all offices in the fivefold, including Pastor and Teacher. Those who do not understand the radical nature of the New Covenant may be tempted to fit it into the wineskin of the Old Testament. As Yeshua stressed, it will not work.

ASSIGNMENT:

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 or other fivefold offices including Pastor and Teacher 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.

Chapter 10

The Melchizedek Priesthood, up close

The reason many religious groups and denominations in Christendom reject women in ministry and specifically in the fivefold offices of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, and Teacher is that their frame of reference is often the Aaronic/Levitical priesthood, which was a professional male caste, given to moderate the Old Covenant. To worsen matters, those denominations cling to the three passages where Paul gave specific instructions designed to ensure order in the newly established Church of Yeshua as the basis of rejecting public ministry by women. We have examined those passages and seen the context in which they were given. We shall, in some other lessons discuss how best to understand the instructions of Paul that brought moderation and order to Christian congregations. Religious leaders conveniently ignore the large volume of texts in the Pauline epistles which establish that unlike the old covenant, which created an exclusive priesthood to the Jews, the New Covenant creates limitless opportunities for all the redeemed to walk intimately with their heavenly Father, enthrone Yeshua as King and be used by the Holy Spirit to serve Him, the Church and humanity with spiritual gifts received by Grace.

The Aaronic/Levitical priesthood, with its types and symbols was valid only as far as the Old Covenant was operational. That Covenant was a shadow of better things to come. The insight granted Paul the apostle concerning the difference between the two covenants is very profound:

For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: 2 Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. 3 And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. 4 And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. 5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. 6 As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 7 Who in the days of his flesh, had offered up prayers when he supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; 10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec (Hebrews *5:1-10*).

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: 18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: 19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; 20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec (Hebrews 6:17-20).

Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. 3 For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer. 4 For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: 5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount. 6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because

they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away (Hebrews 8:1-13).

When Yeshua Jesus, the reality of all the types, symbols and shadows of the old order came to earth, He was anointed to fulfil 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 Yeshua, 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

Melchizedek. The Order of Melchizedek was a priesthood made in heaven. It was a priesthood based entirely on divine election, as articulated in the word of Elohim.

The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4).

Yeshua showed how this new priesthood order is activated: by the operation and power of the Holy Spirit. At the baptism of John, this was publicly confirmed by the anointing of the Holy Spirit that came upon Him in River Jordan.

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased (Matthew 3:16-17).

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.

And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you

to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:4-8).

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-4).

The 120 saints who obeyed Yeshua and were filled with Holy Spirit include men and women, young and old, those called to full time and those called to the marketplace. All those who receive Him and yield themselves to Him to use them since then, become members of Elohim's family and citizens of the Kingdom. Like their Head, all become priests after the Order of Melchizedek: the 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 marvellous 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).

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).

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.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8).

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: (Ephesians 1:3-4).

In this present life, we are engaged in a dress rehearsal for what we will be doing when Yeshua returns. And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen (Revelation 1:6).

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 wineskins. Yeshua, 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 Yeshua received unlearned fishermen, tax collectors, all manner of men and women and mentored them to be world changers, so is the New Testament Priesthood open to all who will respond to the offer of new life in Yeshua and relationship with the Father by the indwelling 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 1:11-12).

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 1:26-31).

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 priesthood had to be only 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 Melchizedek. The new Priesthood, which would mediate between a holy God and an unholy laity of consumerist parishioners called "laity"

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 movements betrayed their profession of faith by adopting this Levitical concept of a tiny professional clergy which does all the ministry to a 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!

- O Come out of the popish robes and attires that some are so attracted to with their pretensions to power and piety!
- O Come out of love of the microphone, klieg lights, strobe lights and Hollywood type stages and yearning to face the so-called Christian paparazzi!
- O 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!
- O Come out of the world and its attractions which are turning women in ministry into imitators of Hollywood and the Catwalk!
- O 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).

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 Yeshua, Jesus! Every woman who is on the Lord's side must realise 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 Jaels stand up to be counted?

And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon. 14 And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this is the day in which the Lord hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the Lord gone out before thee? So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him. 15 And the Lord discomfited Sisera, and all his chariots, and all his host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet. 16 But Barak pursued after the chariots, and after the host, unto Harosheth of the Gentiles: and all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; and

there was not a man left. 17 Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite. 18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle. 19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink; for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him. 20 Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be, when any man doth come and enquire of thee, and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No. 21 Then Jael Heber's wife took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died. 22 And, behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail was in his temples. 23 So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel. 24 And the hand of the children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan (Judges 4:13-24).

No one should keep women away from ministry!

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).

The Way Forward. The Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek is:

- O A universal priesthood to which All the redeemed are inducted from the day they are born again.
- O It recognizes that sonship is the state of a mature relationship with the Father in which the saints are submitted to the leading of the Holy Spirit and not a function of gender. In this setting, women are sons of Elohim in female bodies just as their male brethren are sons of Elohim in male bodies (Romans 8:14, Galatians 2:26-29; Colossians 3).
- O This priesthood is simple and uncomplicated, as showed by Yeshua, Jesus. There is absolutely no need for robes to distinguish the 'Priest' from the laypeople because all are priests.
- o The priesthood of Melchizedek is about serving the people with gifts and callings, not ruling over their lives (Matthew 20:25-28).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please present a summary of this chapter. 2. What is your personal take away for implementation?

Chapter 11

Constraints to women's ministry

There are many constraints to women's ministry which are worthy of consideration. In this chapter, we will discuss 5 major ones. Some are external while others are internal. Biblical solutions are proffered with each:

OPPOSITION BY SATAN, THE ARCH FOE OF WOMANHOOD

It is evident from the account of the fall of humankind in Genesis 3 that Satan deliberately targeted Eve. Ever since he heard that the Seed of the woman would crush his head, Satan has not ceased to come against women in several ways. The enemy uses direct oppression, spiritual attacks on health, finances and even their ministries.

SOLUTION: Women in ministry must walk in holiness, guard their hearts and minds, live a prayerful life, wearing the whole armour of Elohim for constant spiritual warfare.

Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; 2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: 3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. 4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; 5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. 6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. 7 And shall not God

avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? 8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? (Luke 18:1-8).

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 vour 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 ve 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 6:10-18).

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world (1 Peter 5:7-9).

Victory over him is assured by the word.

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death (Revelation 12:11).

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4).

OPPOSITION BY THE RELIGIOUS SPIRIT

Satan has assigned principal demons over various spheres of human endeavour to corrupt them and make them conform to his sinister purposes. One such principality is the spirit of religion. The religious spirit causes saints to misunderstand the word, twist or take it out of context and disobey Elohim. The truth that Yeshua, Jesus meant to set free becomes a tool of bondage and self-flagellation in the hands of religious leaders! (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 but outside His revealed pattern (Romans 10:1-4). 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 womanhood because its master, Satan has been at war with this species 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 that proportion in many 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 have an 'experience of God,' hear from the preacher, sing some songs, and be prayed for. The religious spirit is on assignment to make the saints set aside clear provisions of scripture which paint a different picture! 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 Yeshua broke down at the Cross: the age-old issue of classification of humans based on gender.

SOLUTION: We need to study and understand the holy 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 the Holy Spirit to become the Body of Yeshua, Jesus. Just as a human body comprises many parts, His Body comprises 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 organisation! (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 Yeshua, 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 Yeshua, 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) It must be noted that the remnant of Elohim is called to embrace the wholesome truth that in Yeshua Jesus, such classifications are obsolete for our life in His Body, even the Kingdom life (Galatians 3:26-29).

Womanhood 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 overall to benefit his wife!

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 fetus. 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 a value system. As the child grows, those values and environmental influence shape his or her worldview. In some cultures, women are essentially cannon fodder to expand the husband's economic and social power. 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 giving 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 limitedly 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 Yeshua sets over them by election because of culture which says women should not lead men!

SOLUTION: 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. The Word renews minds and transforms hearts until we think like our King, Yeshua.

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God (Romans 12:2).

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; (Ephesians 4:23).

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (Philippians 2:5).

CARNALITY. Carnality is a state of life in which one is influenced by the five senses to the degree that they can ride roughshod over the voice of the Holy 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 ve 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 (Romans 8:5-14).

Carnality is the root of worldliness. On the day of the original fall, Satan must have perceived a tendency for Eve 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 is 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 Yeshua Jesus)
- * 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 Yeshua and His saints acceptably.

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said. I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty (2 Corinthians 6:14-18).

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 (Revelation 18:4).

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? 2 Ye lust, and have not:

ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. 4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God (James 4:1-4).

It is the role of every woman in ministry to guard her heart least Satan tugs it away from an Elohim-centred 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 Yeshua, Jesus. When a woman in Ministry begins to look to Hollywood, Nollywood (Africa) and Bollywood (Asia) for her dress sense; when a woman in Ministry begins to be overly concerned with the 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. This was the sad state of the Church at Smyrna which focused on impression/image rather than substance/reality.

> And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead (Revelation 3:1).

Because the anointing of the Holy Spirit is without repentance and the name of Yeshua/Jesus has the power to deliver miracles, such a backslider in heart can still manifest the Charismatic gifts, even though her heart is far away!

For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance (Romans 11:29).

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.

Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: 6 From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; 7 Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm (1 Timothy 1:5-7).

Because she is now projected by Christian Television, YouTube, and social media as a successful minister, such a person may be flaunted as an influencer and 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 behaviour, infuse a spirit of error into the congregations where they are received and become Satan's chief tool to destabilize families and the household of faith. Spearheading a satanic "women's liberation movement," such ministers begin to teach women not to give their husbands honour. Unfortunately, they demand honour bordering on adulation and worship from their 'fans' who they insist must 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 rarely comes suddenly, but creeps in subtly just like the tiny foxes.

Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes (Song of Solomon 2:15).

SOLUTION: Let us note that the Lord is not asking women in ministry and indeed all saints to be isolated from the world. Isolation leads to a monastic lifestyle which is ineffective and cannot influence or win the world. Yeshua prayed into the need for saints to remain in the world but not of it so that we can impact/influence those within our loops of influence.

I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine, 10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. 11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world (John 17:9-18).

We are called to be separate so that we can be instruments in the hands of Holy Spirit to engage with those in our loops of influence.

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. 14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:13-16).

Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened (Matthew 13:33).

Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; (1 Peter 2:11).

INADEQUATE UNDERSTANDING OF THE KINGDOM EVEN BY SELF-PROFESSED KINGDOM PREACHERS AND TEACHERS

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

is truly revolutionary and liberating! It says, unequivocally, that Elohim has made a way back to Himself for fallen humanity in Yeshua, Jesus.

SOLUTION: Embracing the person and sacrifice of Yeshua at Calvary therefore leads to a transition from Satan's to Elohim's Kingdom.

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: (Colossians 1:12-14).

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 Yeshua 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 show 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 Yeshua will return to set up His reign and 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)

Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more (2 Corinthians 5:16).

Those who live by these Kingdom principles mature to the state of sonship where their core identity is neither male nor female but Yeshua in them by the 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 gender, 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 the same with Grace to run with it!

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please mention and briefly explain each of the 5 constraints facing women Elohim has called into ministry. Suggest a solution to each. 2. Which of these constraints is prevalent in your local area?

Chapter 12

Balancing demands of Home, Ministry and Career

One of the most neglected parts of the Holy Writ is the reality that singlehood and widowhood is of great advantage for those called to ministry! Marriage has been so over hyped that many neglected what the Lord said about singleness and celibacy as great assets to Kingdom service!

His disciples say unto him, If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry. 11 But he said unto them, All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given. 12 For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it (Matthew 19:10-12).

For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that. 8 I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them if they abide even as I... 24 Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God. 25 Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. 26 I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be. 27 Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be

loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife. 28 But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you. 29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; 30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; 31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away. 32 But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: 33 But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife. 34 There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 35 And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction. 36 But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry. 37 Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well. 38 So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not

in marriage doeth better. 39 The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord. 40 But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 7:7-8, 24-40).

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. Neither is anyone, including a husband permitted to withstand the will of Elohim for the vessel He called. 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. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 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 16:24-26).

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 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. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. 37 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. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it (Matthew 10:34-39).

Yeshua, 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: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 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! 24 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. 25 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? 26 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? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ve thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 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 (Matthew 6:19-34).

Those who live by this rule learn the great virtue in dying to self so that Yeshua, by the indwelling Holy Spirit, is enthroned securely as the fulcrum of life of the woman while yet single.

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me (Galatians 2:20).

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world (Galatians 6:14).

Death of self will release the fullness of Grace for all the things Elohim has in store to manifest in their rightful order and place in the heart. When spouse, children, ministry, business, and other commitments emerge, they all take their bearing in the heart of the woman in ministry based on her relationship with Yeshua, Jesus. 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 the same.

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. 8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. 9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I

rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong (2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:28-39).

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 overemphasized. This matter is so serious that Paul the apostle was used of the Holy Spirit to state clearly that the need to fast or pray cannot take precedence over fulfilment 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. 4 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. 5 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 7:3-5).

Women in the ministry who are mothers, must avoid the temptation to have the children take pride of place over her husband. Neither should they be loved more than Yeshua, Jesus Himself Who gave them. If this happens, the children become idols!

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 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. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. 37 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. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it (Matthew 10:34-39).

The same way Elohim tried Abraham by demanding Isaac, the apple of his eyes; will He require surrendering the 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 the application of a few concepts. 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. 10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. 11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief (Hebrews 4:9-11).

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. 27 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 8:26-27).

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

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).

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen... 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him (Hebrews 11:1, 6).

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful (Revelation 17:14).

WOMEN IN MINISTRY NEED TO APPLY BALANCE IN ALL THINGS, RECOGNISING THE HOME AS PRIMARY MINISTRY

Primal devotion to Elohim, willing acceptance of the husband as head who deserves honour, respect, and care; need to give the children attention and nurture, and the ability to manage the home must be understood in the context that this is her primary ministry! Once it is understood as ministry, Satan will have no grounds to oppress a woman in ministry that the home is taking her time. Once this proper alignment with Elohim's will is in place, grace will flow for public ministry that is Spirit-led, not propelled by flesh. Holy Spirit is available, 24/7 to lead

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).

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, other leaders they are aligned with and the brethren right of way to minister to them. From a spiritual point of view, they should give the Holy Spirit right of way to connect them with destiny helpers or mentors who 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 an 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 (Song of Solomon 1:6).

WOMAN IN MINISTRY WHO SEEKS TO PLEASE ELOHIM AND SUCCEED IN ALL REALMS OF LIFE HAVE A MODEL IN THE VIRTUOUS PROVERBS 31 WOMAN WHO FOCUSED ON MAKING THE HOME THE PRIMARY MISSION FIELD.

Let us read her testimony, which is worthy of emulation.

Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. 11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. 12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. 13 She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. 14 She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. 15 She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. 16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. 17 She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. 18 She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. 19 She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. 20 She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. 21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. 22 She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. 23 Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. 24 She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. 25 Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. 26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. 27 She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. 28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. 29 Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all, 30

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. 31 Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates (Proverbs 31:10-31).

She should also shut down all potential avenues for the enemy to get at her. This includes abstaining from all appearance of evil including ungodly chatter on social media, including 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 entirely necessary.

The overall key is to seek holistic or wholesome success and be willing to pay the price! Yeshua Himself clarified 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 regularly as they flow in the revelatory gifts. What is discerned is not to be the subject of conversations or gossips but the fuel to fire up spiritual warfare, wearing all the armour of Elohim!

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 6:10-18).

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 10:3-6).

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 Yeshua all the way to the Cross and on resurrection morning. Faithfulness pays and will always attract divine rewards!

Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing (Matthew 24:45-46).

And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. 21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. 22 He also that had received two talents came and said. Lord. thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. 23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord (Matthew 25:20-23).

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful (Revelation 17:14).

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!

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share what you learnt from the first part of this chapter. 2. Briefly summarise the 7 keys to holistic success

Chapter 13

Unique pitfalls to avoid

We will start this chapter by repeating a profound truth: the Lord has called all saints – male and female alike, into the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek.

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).

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 Yeshua/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 instructions designed to instill order in the unruly Church at Corinth, to insist that women should not preach or operate in the role of leadership are in error of a wrong 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 reinforced with certain pitfalls, which unwary women in ministry can stumble into. Let us note that when women make the same mistakes that men do, society often magnifies such out of pre-existing bias. Those who embrace these instructions and receive grace to walk in victory will discover that their services to the Body will be embraced rather than resented or rejected. In previous chapters, we examined some of the fleshy tendencies women in ministry need 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. As the light of truth is shone upon these negative manifestations, the snares of Satan are broken and as many as receive what is shared will experience victory.

Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped (Psalm 124:7).

If any are already manifesting, they should be violently rejected and overcome through genuine, heartfelt repentance.

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy (Proverbs 28:13).

The word carnal denotes a saint who is still ruled by the five carnal senses. Such a person decides and is influenced by what she sees, hears, smells, touches, and feels rather than what the Holy Spirit is saying. Carnality requires abandoning the key principles of faith; faith is our bridge to the Throne of Elohim, in favour 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).

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 2:15-17, clearly speaks against. In addition, carnality breeds worldliness. Therefore, spiritual women invest substantially in the

growth of their spirit-man, and increase their confidence in Elohim with an intimate relationship developed through prayer. Their confidence and poise are 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. These scriptures are not in the Old Testament but intrinsic portions of Kingdom Culture regarding the dress code of sons of Elohim in female bodies:

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 (1 Timothy 2:9-10).

To cover the hair while in congregational worship, personal prayer or during prophetic sessions is a cardinal principle of Kingdom culture for women, not bondage of religion as some allege.

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. 8 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 (1 Corinthians 11:3-10).

Peter lent credence to the instructions of Paul regarding godly dressing:

Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. 3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ve are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement (1 Peter 3:1-6).

If love of the world and its seductive fashion style 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!

But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth (1 Timothy 5:6).

Attitude of women in ministry to the clear charge to avoid worldly fashion tastes is ultimately a test of their heart disposition. The heart is the heart of the matter because all external actions flow from this unseen realm which Elohim alone sees.

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: (Matthew 15:18-19).

The command is to "come ye out from among them and be ye separate!" (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

The Love of Eminence and Pre-eminence

Worldliness often leads to the desire for prominence, or to standout 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: who is the smartest looking dude! John the Beloved warned the saints to beware of Diotrephes who loved the pre-eminence.

I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. 10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church (3 John 1:9-10).

The Love of Power and tendency to Dominate others, especially men

Women in ministry should release their spiritual gifts for positive influence, not to exercise power and dominion over others. If a woman in ministry shuns the path of positive influence but dominates and subdue others, including her husband and male brethren in Church, it signifies presence of a foul spirit invading and subduing her own soul. On the other hand, the Lord would like women in ministry to fulfil their assignments, allowing no one to despise the authority that He vested in them, just as He said of Timothy and young preachers.

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 YESHUA, JESUS TO OBSERVE THE RULES WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING IN THIS COURSE.

LIVING WITHOUT AUTHORITY

After Elohim, the first authority a married woman must be truly under is that of her own husband. She cannot seek to exercise authority in the Church of Yeshua, Jesus, if she is not under the authority of her husband (see Romans 13:1-7; 1 Corinthians 11:1-16, 1 Corinthians 14:34-35).

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 (1 Corinthians 11:3).

A woman, who has been called by Yeshua 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 inferior and her subordinate. The sight of a so-called female minister crossing the line of having authority in the pulpit to take 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 Yeshua, 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

oversight 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 Yeshua. 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 under the Word. Second, 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 Yeshua, 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).

BEING EASILY OFFENDED

Women in ministry must grow up and mature to where they do not take contrary viewpoints as evidence of opposition or rebellion. To take offence easily is to open a dangerous door Satan will exploit to hollow out true spirituality. The heart that is offended is unsuitable for ministry. 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!

GOSSIP AND ENGAGE IN 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 this attribute can be so deadly is 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 counselling. 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. A study of James chapter 3 is a helpful project.

But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment (Matthew 12:36).

CONTROLLING BEHAVIOUR/JEZEBEL SPIRIT

Very few women are able to recognise 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 costs - are all variants of controlling behaviour! Such controlling behaviour 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 Yeshua/Jesus so that the new man can live a true life of liberty in the spirit (see Galatians 2:20, Galatians 6:14).

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 – regard almost all beautiful women in church as "witches" and "Jezebels" on assignment to take over the heart of their husband. These women rarely rest until the object of their envy has been harassed and pushed out. This misuse of power is very sad, and grieves the Holy Spirit. If women cannot stand another woman booking appointments to be counselled by their husbands as Pastors, they should stop praying to be married to ministers of the gospel! Male

Pastors should get used to counselling females in the presence of their wives so that they can learn and be satisfied that nothing improper takes place. 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.

THE NEW CRAZE FOR ARMOUR BEARERS AS TRAVELLING COMPANIONS, RATHER THAN INTERCESSORS.

Introducing several Babylonian practices, such as the love of retinue or courtiers called "Armor-bearers," has led men in ministry to negate a primary concept of the Kingdom: simplicity and 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 Armorbearers as travelling companions and closest helpers. 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, Yeshua, Jesus was so simple and uncomplicated that the religious leaders of Israel needed to bribe an insider - Judas Iscariot to identify Him out of twelve men. Let women in ministry

be instruments of restoring simplicity to the gospel! All should champion this cause.

THE TENDENCY TO PURSUE VENDETTAS AND HARBOUR ANIMOSITY

Many people have suggested that whereas men can often brush off an insult or abuse and move on, 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 by other people is dangerous. 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).

Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. 15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. 16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. 17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in

you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good (Romans 12:14-21).

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).

The spiritual reality we need to acknowledge is that each of these pitfalls is toxic. A combination of two or more can be fatal, from a spiritual perspective: they can cause Grace to be expelled from the heart! By releasing these potential pitfalls, Elohim is forewarning and for arming women in ministry so that they can escape the snares of the enemy.

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; (Hebrews 12:14-15).

ASSIGNMENT

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 chapter?

Chapter 14

Sin, Temptations and Victory

Sin is the chief tool of Satan for compromising the destiny of women in ministry. The last chapter focused on revealing pitfalls. This chapter will offer an exposition of various categories of sin which can creep into or overtake a woman in ministry. The good news is that to be forewarned is to be forearmed.

Sins of the heart

The heart is ultimately the ground of all sins. If a heart is healthy and inclined to holiness, full of fear of Elohim, it will nurture holy thoughts and be repelled by any form of impurity.

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. 21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. 23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life (Proverbs 4:20-23).

My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: 21 Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. 22 When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. 23 For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light;

and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: (Proverbs 6:20-23).

Social Sins like hatred, envy, jealousy, and malice are often incubated in the heart and can metastasize until they consume the innermost part of the being. When they mature inside the heart, they are released in hurtful and hateful words. This principle also applies to all other sins.

Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. 34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things (Matthew 12:33-35).

And Jesus said, Are ye also yet without understanding? 17 Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? 18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: 20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man (Matthew 15:16-20).

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. 13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death (James 1:12-15).

One of the vessels that Elohim used to affect the life of this vessel after being called out of a holiness denomination to serve the Body in 1996 is the late Chinese saint, Watchman Nee who taught about holiness with a depth that is truly profound. Here are some insights, extracted from some of his works, including 'the Life that wins'. These sins of the flesh proceed from polluted hearts:

- o Adultery
- o Fornication
- o Using eyes to gaze at evil.
- O Improper friendships where people of the opposite gender find inappropriate emotional and sensual satisfaction from relationships with people who are not their spouses.

Sins of the Mind

- Wandering thoughts that cannot settle on anything definite, including assignments
- Doubt this blocks the ability of the heart to receive from the Lord
- o Unbelief
- o Curiosity to know all things including what is forbidden or what Elohim reserves for Himself

- o Unclean/Impure thoughts
- O Too much imagination devoid of simplicity. An analytical mind cannot trust God.

Sins of the Body

- Overindulgence in eating and drinking. Lack of selfcontrol in what to eat and drink. This includes too much snacking
- Abuse of the body: Inadequate rest, sleep which creates health challenges capable of compromising destiny
- O Over-sensitivity to how one looks based on having the wrong icons (of fashion) as model.
- Over sensitivity to hygiene to the extent that the believer is under bondage to the Body. Our body should not dominate us but should be rather under our control

Sins of Dispositions

- O Yeshua comes to deliver us from our personal dispositions. Being too hard on yourself is not a good thing.
- o Being too weak to the extent of not accomplishing the purpose/assignments of life.
- o Being neither hard nor weak.
- o Self-projecting oneself and inability to leave the spotlight.
- O Being quick tempered families and those within your loops of influence suffer unnecessarily when offence dwells in the heart.

- O Being moody with a brooding spirit, which dispels joy from the environment.
- o Laziness lack of drive to do what is needed.
- Being very fastidious or rugged in defence of selfinterests.
- O Being talkative to the point of manifesting nuisance to others around.
- o Being Judgmental and fault finding which.
- o Being a perfectionist and in the process unable to accommodate the imperfection of others.
- O Not having a heart to keep the word of Elohim creates room for worry and anxiety to occupy the heart. They are sins.
- Polluting Revelatory gifts such as Discernment, and Prophecy with the social sin of suspicion/suspiciousness.

Social Sins

Two types of sin occur in the social arena. One is intentionally or even unintentionally inflicting these 3 sins to others. Responding carnally or in worldly ways to them is equally sinful.

THE 3 SINS OF SELF-CENTEREDNESS/SELFISHNESS

A self-centred person wants things to revolve around him or her and is frustrated and offended when this does not happen.

Control. Controlling behaviour is defined by one psychological body as a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities

for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour. If a woman in ministry goes down this route, she would have forsaken the Melchizedek priesthood and embraced either the Nimrodic/Nicolaitane type or the Aaronic/Levitical types. This creates strong resentment in the hearts of brethren and especially males in her orbit.

MANIPULATION. One psychological body says that people who manipulate others attack their mental and emotional sides to get what they want. The person manipulating — called the manipulator — seeks to create an imbalance of power, and take advantage of a victim to get power, control, benefits, and/or privileges at the expense of the victim. Women in Ministry need to impart godly influence on those in their loop and avoid any form of manipulation through misuse of revelatory gifts.

GASLIGHTING. One dictionary defines gaslighting as a form of psychological manipulation in which the abuser attempts to sow self-doubt and confusion in their victim's mind. Typically, gas lighters are seeking to gain power and control over the other person, by distorting reality and forcing them to question their own judgment and intuition. If a woman in ministry tries to be the accuser, prosecutor, judge, and jailer of people she relates with — including spouses, this is gaslighting. If you have any concerns, share it with the people and avoid the ugly habit of mind-reading or insistence on interpretation of what people mean beyond the words spoken.

	Solution	

The world says:

Any of these signs of gaslighting in a relationship are cause for concern and indicate that the connection is unhealthy and may be causing severe mental health repercussions for the person being gaslit. The recommendation is to break relationships and report to social welfare agencies.

The Word says:

Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: 39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain (Matthew 5:38-41).

For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain (Galatians 2:18-21).

THE CONSTANT STRIVING OF THE FLESH AGAINST THE SPIRIT-MAN AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. 14 For all the law

is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. 16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. 18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law (Galatians 5:13-18).

Economic Sins

EMPLOYEES: Not serving sincerely. False time clocking. Eye service/hypocrisy; Not earning one's wages.

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him...22 Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; 23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons (Colossians 3:17, 22-25).

Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. 19 For this is thankworthy, if a man

for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. 21 For even hereunto were ve called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again: when he suffered, he threatened not: but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: 24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ve were healed (1 Peter 2:18-24)

EMPLOYERS

Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. 2 Your riches and your garments corrupted, motheaten. 3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. 4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. 5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ve have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter (James 5:1-5).

Investors or making ministry expansion plans outside inspiration of the Holy Spirit:

Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. 15 For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that (James 4: 13-15).

WARNING AGAINST COVETOUSNESS

But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses (1 Timothy 6:6-12).

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 (Matthew 6:24).

PILING UP WORLDLY ASSETS

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 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! (Matthew 6:19-23)

Those who will overcome a life of sin need to first understand what it is and how Satan seeks to bring them under his rule. Unfortunately, religion does not empower saints to walk in victory. Looking up to Yeshua, Jesus and guarding the heart with all diligence will equip women in ministry with the capacity to overcome general sins and the particular ones which they seem vulnerable to, called besetting sins.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right

hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. 4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin (Hebrews 12:1-4).

Toxic Pollutions

One of the greatest ways Satan fights both young and old Christians is through pollution of their hearts with fiery darts which, when undiscovered and uprooted, destroy the faith from within. The evil darts include things which bring about bitterness of heart, Unforgiveness, Ought and Malice. The danger of such pollutions is that they create an operating environment which is inimical to grace. When not uprooted, they become strongholds which expel grace. A life devoid of grace is spiritually dead, and disconnected from Elohim.

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; 16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. 17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears (Hebrews 12:14-17).

What-about-ism.

This is a dangerous manifestation of comparison with other people. The bible says that we are unique personalities with specific functions. Whatever we are and can do should be by grace, as unto the Lord alone, not humans, according to Colossians 4:17. For that reason, the Lord charges us not to engage in comparison with others over what the Lord wants to accomplish through us or them.

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise (2 Corinthians 10:12).

One of the manifestations of a religious spirit is the tendency to on the one hand deem oneself as doing better than the others be overly concerned with what other brethren do or not do. What-about-ism can manifest when a woman deems herself as contributing more to the family than her husband and therefore deem him as an inadequate companion. Meanwhile, the Lord who created the man may be satisfied that he has done the best possible! Yeshua dealt with what-about-ism in two instances:

WITH MARTH AND MARY

Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. 40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. 41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha,

Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: 42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her (Luke 10:38-42).

WITH PETER AND JOHN

This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me. 20 Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? 21 Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? 22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me. 23 Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? (John 21:19-23).

Where the onus lies when issues arise between brethren is with the more spiritual! The more spiritual is not the one older in physical age or the one with a bigger spiritual or religious title. The onus is on the one who has undergone deeper dealings by the Holy Spirit, dead to self or even majority opinion and is spiritually more matured in the sight of Elohim to endure in love and prayers until other is recovered by Elohim, in His Own time. Invariably, women have more grace than men in this area. Where they fall short, the onus is on their husbands to undergird them in prayer and wage effective spiritual warfare on their behalf.

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. 3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself (Galatians 6:1-3).

The sins of ignoring, despising, or disobeying Elohim's design for womanhood

Proper understanding of this course reveals that in clear scriptural terms, married women should embrace the status of their husbands as their head, covering and should therefore respect, honour, submit and obey them in all things except those that are unlawful or wound their consciences. Women in ministry are also required to dress modestly and appropriately (Genesis 2:18-25, Ephesians 5:22-33, 1 Corinthians 11:3-16, 1 Corinthians 14:34-35, Colossians 3:18, 1 Timothy 2:9-15, 1 Peter 3:1-7).

Everything the Lord hates emanates from a polluted heart

A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth. 13 He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers; 14 Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord. 15 Therefore shall his calamity come

suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy. 16 These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19 A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren. 20 My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: 21 Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. 22 When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. 23 For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: (Proverbs 6:12-23).

The Ultimate Solution to Sin

Religion drives believers to err further in trying to achieve victory by their own resolutions and abilities. Believers end up with broken pledges and new year resolutions to do better, which they fail repeatedly. The Lord did not ordain for believers to achieve victory over sin by our own devices. Efforts to achieve victory through self-help will always fail.

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ...16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the

body is of Christ. 18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, 19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God. 20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, 21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not; 22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? 23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body: not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh (Colossians 2: 8, 16-23).

RELIGION IS INCAPABLE OF DELIVERANCE FROM SIN

The Lord knows that no one can achieve victory by selfeffort or various attempts at self-help. The Laws He gave Israel were misconstrued and twisted to create a culture of religion which became a veil that blinded the people.

Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: 13 And not as Moses, which put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: 14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart (2 Corinthians 3:12-15).

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: 32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: 33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. 35 Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name: 36 If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever (*Jeremiah 31:31-36*).

THE SPIRITUAL PATHWAY TO VICTORY

O Yeshua already paid all the price for our victory. The New Covenant wholly depends on His stature as Sin-bearer of the world and His finished work of on the Cross of Calvary. And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, 68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, 69 And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; 70 As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: 71 That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; 72 To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; 73 The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, 74 That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, 75 In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life (Luke 1:67-75).

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord (2 Corinthians 3:16-18).

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with

thanksgiving... 9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: 11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your sins and uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it (Colossians 2:6-7, 10-15)

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. 8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. 9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong (2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

In his ground-breaking treatise *The Life that wins*, Watchman Nee recommends Yielding or letting go as the key to true victory. What does this mean? Practically speaking, the Lord is calling us to these approaches which delivers true victory: a life of purity of heart and holiness of spirit, soul and body which is the desired state of heart and mind.

GENUINE CONVERSION which leads to a new nature. Women in ministry need to do a reality check to find out if they are truly born again with the self-evident truth of a new life in Yeshua and the fruits thereof. It is easy to go into ministry with a religious spirit full of emotion, outside the experience of genuine conversion

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).

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus saith unto him. How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again, 8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit (John 3:3-8).

 Knowledge of the truths espoused in this course will set women in ministry free

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. 33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? 34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. 35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever .36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed (John 8:32-36).

Truth is very empowering. A lot of young people are often attracted to ministers who preach erroneous doctrines that give the impression that just coming to 'the church' as in joining a congregation or entering a building is the same as being saved.

O Reckon the fullness of victory won by Yeshua at the Cross as a done deal and embrace Elohim's standard of a sin-free living. To reckon means to come to a place where it gets settled in our heart that Yeshua paid the price in full for us to cease to be slaves of sin and bad behaviour.

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the

Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more: death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 17 But God be thanked, that ve were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free from sin, became the servants of righteousness (Romans 6:1-18).

Sanctification of the heart

The strength of the woman in ministry is not physical or psychological. Rather it is the state of the hidden man of the heart.

But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: (1 Peter 3:4-5).

This can best be achieved through the second work of grace called sanctification by which all traces of the old nature of Adam and Eve is taken away. When this happens, the woman in ministry can walk in purity of heart and mind, able to serve Elohim with true holiness and love all humans genuinely.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).

This is the grand key for living holy unto the Lord and capacity to resist Satan, Sin and the world.

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because

it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy (1 Peter 1:15-16).

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. 4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. 5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. 6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him. neither known him. 7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. 8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother (1 John 3:2-10).

ASSIGNMENT:

1. Please share what you learnt about the heart and sin. Cite two scriptures. 2. Please share what you learnt about Social sins with at least two illustrations/scriptures. 3. Please share what you learned about Control, Manipulation, Gaslighting

and Intimidation/Blackmail 4. How can women in ministry walk in victory over Sin and Satan the tempter?

Chapter 15

Special Role of Women and Special Qualities for Success and Victory

In the previous chapters, the Lord released extensive truths about constraints, challenges, potential pitfalls to avoid and listed sins through which Satan seeks to make the lives and ministries of women in ministry void. By sharing these biblical truths, 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 a 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. It is not just enough to carry a title as a woman in ministry. The essential issue is to be a vessel of honour, fit for the Master's use. Holiness makes this possible.

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. 20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work (2 Timothy 2:19-21).

For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: (1 Peter 3:5).

In a world where many male ministers are using the anointing of the 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 Yeshua, 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 truly 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 60:1-3).

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, women in ministry who love the Lord passionately and understand His Masterplan for the Church will ensure its emergence 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 a 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 the 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! Many congregations and ministries will dump the spiritual identity of morgues/mortuaries where gifts and callings are entombed and rather become hatcheries where all those called will receive nurture and support to be manifested.

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: 11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many (1 *Corinthians* 12:7-14).

As many as will embrace the corrections of the Father in His Word and give space for Holy Spirit, the Word, Blood of Yeshua, and things they have suffered through the course of history to make themselves vessels of honor, Holy Spirit will use mightily to fulfil 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).

The rejection, false labelling and other indignities suffered by women because of the religious spirit which Satan used to hold them down may have been meant to crush and silence these sons of Elohim in female bodies. However, as they emulate Yeshua who learnt obedience by the things He suffered (Hebrews 5:8), holy women in ministry will come forth from the fire like gold!

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you (Matthew 5:10-12).

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; 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. 13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: 16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king. 18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. 19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ve do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. 21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: (1 Peter 2:9-22).

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. 16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf (1 Peter 4:14-16).

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 Yeshua/Jesus, and Mary Magdalene. The first Mary was the simple woman, chosen as a vessel to bring forth the Messiah. 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 to fulfil the assignment for which she was brought into the world – to receive the divine seed, to nurture the baby Yeshua/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 Yeshua/Jesus received attention and care whenever he visited Bethany.

The Achilles Heel to avoid

The Achilles heel to avoid is any tendency to change the order of Elohim in His Word! If the women in ministry are single, they should enthrone Yeshua so completely as spouse, lover, and King with no room to feel lonely or desolate.

But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as

though they had none; 30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; 31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away. 32 But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: 33 But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife, 34 There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 35 And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction...39 The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will: only in the Lord. 40 But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 7:29-35, 39-*40*).

If married, women in ministry should embrace their husbands as head and covering deserving of respect, honour, and submission.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, 28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and,

behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. 29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men (Acts 5: 27-29).

With meekness yet holy boldness, let them be conscientious objectors when unbelieving husbands or difficult husbands try to impose evil choices on them. In that regard, the answer of Peter to the Sanhedrin offers a way out. The husband cannot disobey Yeshua, Jesus their Head while seeking the complete submission of their wives.

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 (1 Corinthians 11:3).

No man has a mandate to oppress His wife! Those who do are buying trouble from the ultimate authority! He may close their heaven and their prayers are hindered.

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered (1 Peter 3:7).

PART B. WOMEN: THE SPECIAL FORCE OF ELOHIM – 14 GREAT QUALITIES FOR VICTORY IN MINISTRY

As explained in the first chapter, Elohim took time to create a more refined creature in Eve (see Genesis 2:7, 18-25). That refinement is an indicator of the reality that in womanhood, Elohim has wired certain qualities that confer them with certain advantages for manifesting the very

qualities which make ministry profitable. These qualities guarantee cutting-edge effectiveness, when deployed to the work of ministry at the family, congregational and global levels.

- O By their build and general persona, women find favour with both men and those in authority in civil society, business, and the professions.
- O They have excellent communication skills, able to explain concepts easily arising from the grace to raise children.
- O They have an inherent ability to connect and relate with people. This quality is sorely needed in friendship evangelism.
- O They have a great passion in pursuit of a divine purpose. When women believe in anything, they do not withhold any asset at their disposal: time, money, spiritual gifts and
- O Women can access the hardest of hearts and overcome barriers which deter men. This enables them to be Evangelists and missionaries.
- **O** Love. Women love more than men. Love is the root of the new nature and the great commandment (John 13:34-35).
- O Meekness, and Gracefulness. Women are meek and more graceful than men. Meanness and hardness is often unnatural with women. That is why when there is a manifestation of the negative qualities, it is magnified beyond measure. We mentioned earlier in

- this resource that humans give men a free pass more than women when they commit the same sins.
- o **Birthing capacity.** There is an inherent ability in women to conceive, carry pregnancies and birth children in due season. When this capacity and grace is applied to ministry, they can receive visions from Elohim by faith and patiently incubate those in prayer until birthing season.
- O Nurture. Women have the grace to nurture their children to maturity. Applied to ministry, they are more patient with difficult people and can see the end from the beginning.
- O **Transparency**. Holy women are transparent. This is a great quality that Elohim values highly because it enables the Holy Spirit to convict of sin, righteousness, and judgement as quickly as possible. They are more prone to acknowledge and apologize for their part in any issue with other people.
- O Faithfulness. In the natural, women are more faithful to the marriage covenant than men. In the same way, they are more conscious of their being the bride of Yeshua, Jesus. Over 70% of marriage failures which are traceable to unfaithfulness may be attributed to the men rather than the women.
- O Commitment. Women are strongly committed to whatsoever they believe in. They cling even when the men lose interest or seek to follow from afar. Mary Magdalene and the other women displayed this quality at the Cross and the day after the Sabbath when they went to anoint the body of Yeshua, Jesus.

- O Women are great influencers! Their authority is not in exerting authority as bosses, but in the influence released through their souls. In this way, they shape the lives of their children and those who are in proximity can be very effective when applied to ministry work.
- **Multi-tasking**. The capacity of women to multi-task is incredible. They run the home, juggling finances to ensure there is always food on the table and play multiple roles. To be the wife and helpmeet of their own husbands is a huge assignment. Yet, for those who have children, there is an additional assignment to bring up each in love and with bespoke care, doubling as the first level teacher. Most are the chief intercessors undergirding all members of the family and ministry. Most are in business or holding down a job or two. Then they serve in ministry and also render services to the community/society. Men are single focused on one or two things at a time. This multi-task is extended across generations when the grandchildren come. Even as they are getting older physically, they joyfully embrace the responsibility of helping their sons and daughters in child-care duties.
- O Women serve as a lifestyle. Service is the key to leadership, as Yeshua explained in Matthew 20:25-28 and showed in John 13:1-17.

There are many more excellent qualities which women have, much more than men. Holy Spirit will reveal all as we posture in prayer of enquiry. Let come boldly to the throne of Grace to reveal more. Let ask for grace for women in ministry to manifest these virtues. It will silence the mouth of critics and attract the skeptical to draw near and receive ministry from sons of Elohim in female bodies. Once women in ministry walk in these graces and virtues, their ministries will be easily embraced as they combine to show Yeshua and His Grace. In return, He open doors which no one can shut.

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; 8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. 9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee (Revelation 3:7-9).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please summarise the first part of this chapter 2. Please sum up the 8 out of the 15 qualities of women. 3. What will you do with the revelations in this chapter?

Chapter 16

Epilogue: the way forward for women in ministry

The Womb-Man was created as the instrument through which the capacity of humankind to reproduce, after kind, could be essentially fulfilled in lawful union with the male kind. This is a vital key for understanding why Satan is hellbent on attacking Elohim's ordained instrument for receiving, retaining, and reproduction of seed.

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 1:26-28).

And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. 19 And 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. 20 And 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. 21 And 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; 22 And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And 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. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed (Genesis 2:18-25).

The spirit of religion has caused men to 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 humanity. As noted in a previous chapter, a careful reading of Genesis 3:1-6 reveals that Adam was present when Eve was conversing with a stranger, Satan who as a spirit, dwelt in the body of the serpent. He failed to exercise his oversight responsibility as her covering. When Eve offered the fruit to him, Adam did not protest or resist. Therefore, from a divine perspective, both were culpable. The attempt by Adam to deny responsibility was roundly rebuffed by Elohim, as Genesis 3:8-19 shows.

After the fall, 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 Yeshua, Jesus as the SEED OF THE WOMAN, who would crush the head of Satan, 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 share a snapshot of the glorious end-time plan of redemption!

History, since the Fall has been mainly male dominated and driven. The truth which is devoid of controversy is that humankind, both Jew 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, 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
- O 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 Yeshua, Jesus like love, men have misused their powers to control and batter their wives emotionally, physically, and psychologically!

- o In the gospel, men have built ego-driven ministries with their names and personalities looming larger in the heart of followers than Yeshua, Jesus, who died for them.
- O Rather than make disciples of Yeshua, Jesus, many men in ministry have gathered crowds of ignorant, un-empowered folk, who believe in the 'man of God' and receive him as their access to the Throne Room, an idolatrous proposition of epic proportions!
- O Men have been driven by the enemy to create cults and social clubs that operate on the principle of dividing the Body that Yeshua, Jesus died for into various factions and camps called denominations.

Consider the many great moves of the Holy Spirit in the earth realm, and how men messed them up:

- O The gospel that came to Rome from Jerusalem was hijacked by a segment of men and married to the political establishment of the Roman Empire, establishing itself as the greatest religious power in the world till today.
- O Likewise, consider the Protestant reformation, and how it was messed up first with the embrace of the obnoxious "replacement theology."
- O Men of God have operated in the spirit of division, clinging to narrow interpretations. They cling to whatever perspective they want as doctrine and dogma, leading to the emergence of many denominations.

- o Till today, the war between Calvin and Arminius, though long dead and their differing understandings of grace and works, essentially drives deep divisions in the Church.
- O Even Azusa Street that great outpouring of the Holy Spirit over a century ago, has been so bastardised that perhaps even heaven may be embarrassed by the Children of Pentecost, who are long on the "anointing" but short of character!
- O As men exalt tongues over the power of the Holy Spirit, ignoring obedience, order, and character, the chicken has come home to roost, resulting in myriads of Pentecostal congregations in a permanent state of hostility. This condition is the spiritual equivalent of a 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 offbase 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! This they do by preaching a 'kingdom' in which Yeshua, Jesus is not the centrepiece. Their false 'kingdom message' is just a collection of secularhumanistic sound bites full of sound but lacking in substance. The true gospel of the Kingdom which Yeshua, 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 personal perspective, where relativity and 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 spot the absurdity of the enemies of Yeshua, Jesus, doing Public Relations for Men of God. These distortions create space for holy women in ministry to arise. Unfortunately for Satan, Elohim will use this same situation he has inspired and relishes in to set the stage for the emergence of the redemptive assignment of a special breed of women.

Profile of the women Elohim will specially use

- O These are the women He will use to reform this broken system.
- O They are women He will use to awaken the sleeping giants, and who are fearful like Barak of old.
- O These women will not spawn feminism and female triumphalism over men.
- O Their spiritual womb is carrying godly seed in terms of both visions and special ministerial assignments.
- O 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 Yeshua.

O These are the sons who will make up 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.

> For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. 11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time ve were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and

hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the even the law of commandments enmity, contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father, 19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: (*Ephesians 2:8-21*).

For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, 2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit ;6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: 7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. 8 Unto me, who am less than the least

of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; 9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: 10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, 11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him (Ephesians 3:1-11).

Let us admit reality: all humans have sinned; men and women alike, and came short of the glory of Elohim! (Romans 3:23) Another truth that must be told is that the Body of Yeshua, 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 2:12-13, 15-18, 28-29).

This is that time spoken by Joel 2:28-29! The Day of Pentecost in the Upper Room was but the former rain which the religious Church treats as the greatest with some claiming that after that experience, Holy Spirit and His gifts ceased to be necessary and therefore ended! As Peter rightly observed, there is a Latter Rain coming! Azusa Street was part of the Latter Rain, but not the end.

For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will shew wonders in

heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come: 21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved....37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call (Acts 2:15-21, 37-39).

Role of Prayer and Spiritual warfare

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.

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. 20 Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is

the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. 22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: 23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; 24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 26 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, vea, 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, redemption: 31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord (1 *Corinthians* 1:18-31).

Paul's charge has been misunderstood by religion and taken out of context! Considering the totality of the revelation Elohim granted to Paul, when scripture is compared with scripture, a common theme of his epistles is the reality of The Church as the Body of Yeshua, where all humanity - Jews, Gentiles, Free, Bound, Male, Female - find

a commonality and community. His epistles to the Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Philemon, Titus, and Hebrews offer the most detailed explanation of what Yeshua bought for humanity on the Cross. There is no way this distinguished vessel, Apostle Paul, was asking all females to keep quiet and only be passive learners in the House of Elohim perpetually, submitting to all males - outside their lawfully wedded husbands. The 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 (see 1 Timothy 2:9-14 and 1 Corinthians 11 and 1 Corinthians 14:34-35). Those principles apply today in fashion where modesty should trump ostentation. Those instructions for women to shun disorderly conduct and ask their husbands at home rather than disrupt the flow of grace in public meetings are not oppressive. The reality that married women should submit to the authority of their husbands is one that Elohim established from Genesis 2.

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, Junia, Lydia 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 her name first in some 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 unconditional love for wives by husbands, and the willing submission of wives to their own husbands (see Ephesians 5:22-33). 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 Yeshua, 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 Yeshua as a baby was so profound that even the angels and prophets of old did not know how it would pan out, although vessels such as Isaiah were used by Jehovah to provide a brief glance.

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this ((Isaiah 9:6-7).

Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the

glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into (1 Peter 1:9-12).

Divinity would show how the power of humility in becoming humanity took Satan by surprise. In addition, Elohim once again showed this by allowing women to minister to Yeshua from conception throughout ministry all the way to the very end; even when all but one man (John) had fled. That women could also 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, throughout his ministry and resurrection that women would play a vital role in His Kingdom.

THREE QUALITIES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY VESSEL:

o They will reject Babylonian principles 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 prepares them for their spiritual callings. We will see the emergence of ministries that reject all Babylonian religious principles and practices, such as ABC Churchianity (Attendance, Buildings and Cash). This is ministry where the focus is on gathering crowds of people, who are codependent 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 will find vivid expression throughout

the earth realm. They will reject the 'Church of humans' model where the belly of ministers is their god (Philippians 3:17-19). They will also reject the 'church of Satan' model described in Matthew 7:13-27. They will also reject hybrid types of ministries, which are nothing but a mixture. They will allow Yeshua to build His Church, using them as vessels based on His Master Plan (Matthew 16:18-19, 1 Corinthians 3:10-15).

o They will be immersed in and carriers of agape love.

The inbuilt tendency of women to love deeply and compassionately, will produce a pure, holy love for Elohim, and agape love of all His creation; especially those of the Household of Faith. This will 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 got out of it. John 13:34-35 and Acts 20:35 will be fulfilled to make the end-time Kingdom Church a bastion of love in a world filled with hate and animosity. Ministries will minister to people of other religions and alternative lifestyles in love, without fighting them. More souls will respond to this Yeshua-type of love. Let us take note that the present way in which Christians often take the "we-versus-them" ideology and use faith as a cudgel to bludgeon those who do not believe is not biblical! The biblical standard is to be engaged with our environment, and touch lives by expressing love through meeting felt needs, which the Holy Spirit then uses to melt hardened hearts and open them to hearing and accept the gospel.

o 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 fulfil the call of obedience, trusting Elohim to transition them when He wills it.

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 Yeshua until the end, and honoured Him even in death, there is a great mandate on women to take their places, and to execute assignments committed to their trust faithfully. These are three qualities that will equip women in ministry to manifest as Ambassadors of the King of King, and to show the Kingdom of Elohim in power! Satan will find nothing in them to accuse or resist! With this type of women, the fivefold described in Ephesians 4:11-16 will emerge worldwide. Their synergistic alignment will be used by the Holy Spirit to activate the priesthood of all believers: the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek described in 1 Peter 2:9-10.

WOMEN IN MINISTRY, HEAR THIS:

To all women in ministry, whether in the public sphere or in more private settings, hear this: Yeshua, Jesus has already affirmed, accepted, and deployed you as a co-labourer in His Kingdom Vineyard, with the anointing of the Holy Spirit you received (Acts 1:8). His Call manifests in the spiritual gifts given to you with which to serve Him and others. 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. Do not fight for Him!

Separation may be necessary

- O It would be tragic for women called to ministry to hang around them, seeking their endorsement.
- O 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!
- O Refuse to allow the "New Pharaohs" on the block to put a fresh yoke of bondage over your spiritual necks!
- O Refuse to fellowship where you are fit only for marriage, childbearing, and keeping the home!
- o Refuse to fellowship where your Holy Spirit-given call and gifts are actively rejected or downgraded, and where your soul is constantly grieved.
- O For eternity's sake, separate yourself from any environment that Satan can use to inject a root of bitterness, lest you fail of the grace of Elohim (see Hebrews 12:14-15).

- O 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.
- o Exercise your priesthood by teaching people to observe Biblical precepts and statues, to become true disciples of Yeshua, Jesus, not your personal followers or your fans.
- o Exercise your priesthood in an empowering manner, by making sure that all disciples committed to your trust are trained, equipped, activated in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- O Release them into ministry as fit-for-purpose colabourers with the King. Those He ordained to colabour with you shall come to you, hear His voice in you, settle and abide with you, and joyfully take their places in the ministry you lead. If any desires to launch out to start fresh works, do not be offended or try to manipulate them to stay. Such people can do more damage within.

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 Parables of Yeshua, Jesus clearly showed that judgment will be required for how 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 the 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 pursuing His Kingdom above all else, as Matthew 6:33 says! 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 and 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 Yeshua, 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 mentored Barak to victory in Judges chapter 4! Meek, feminine, and pleasant, you will not find them gossiping, backbiting, engaged in arguments or aggressive behaviour. They will not have the desire to be heard above others, and be neither quarrelsome nor slanderous, or take part in any fleshly behaviour! Their tongues will be sanctified, just as their hearts and minds will be too!

Satan and his demons will recognise them, tremble, and flee. Soaked in prayer for spiritual warfare, they will wear Yeshua, Jesus like a fine robe, and worldly pretenders to the anointing 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 honour their ministry. The New Jerusalem is their frame of reference, not Babylon or Hollywood, Nollywood, or Bollywood! Even the religious minded will be compelled to admit that these women are truly vessels of honour! 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 Yeshua, Jesus will commend you for effectively using gifts and callings vested in you to do Kingdom business with all zeal!

And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities (Luke 19:17).

Hear the Word of the King:

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:32).

This course has served us a comprehensive understanding of the subject of women in ministry.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share the core message you received from this chapter. 2. Briefly explain the three (3) qualities in women that Elohim will use mightily in these Last Days. 3. What will you do with the lessons in this chapter?

Course Impact Assessment

1. Explain the 2 schools of thoughts which have resulted in the basic deficiency concerning women in ministry.
2. True or False: Women have no business in ministry
C True C False
3. True or False: Women are free to do what they choose in ministry
C True False
4. Explain the two facts that help to have a balanced understanding of womanhood
5. Explain why the creation of the female was not an afterthought. Support your response with a minimum of 1 scripture reference.
6. True or False: The creation of Eve was an afterthought
C True False
7. Which of the following is not true of Elohim's creation of woman
She had a womb
She was created from the earth
She had an advanced soul and body
8. True or False: Adam's inability to cover his spouse has been passed on throughout the ages.

C True False

- 9. Explain Satan's two-fold attack fight womanhood and the Seed
- 10. Summarize the critical role women played in ministering to Yeshua. Support your response with at least 2 scripture references.
- 11. List 3 false narratives concerning women in ministry resulting from religion.
- 12. Summarize Apostle Paul's charge to women and explain how it has been misunderstood
- 13. Explain who women called to ministry should response when they rejected or opposed
- 14. True or False: Women and Youth have been limited in ministry because of gender and age.

C True False

15. Explain the biblical basis for women to serve. Support your response with a minimum of 3 scripture references.

Postscript

This download from the Throne Room is made available, free of charge as the King instructed us for training those He will use to reform His Church and make her ready for His soon return. There is no Babylonian copyright restriction to limit your ability to use the material to study, pray it in and apply it in your life and ministry. This will enable you to build according to the Master Plan of the King so you may be bold at His appearing! 1 Corinthians 3:10-15. Please share this and all materials of the Global School of Ministry freely with friends, family, and other saints. Please do not use them to print books! The right to do so has been granted to Kingdom agency.

HOW TO BE INVOLVED

If you would like to be part of the elect who Elohim will use to impact and transform the Church worldwide with this revelation, there are various ways you can be involved, depending on your skills:

- Promote these revelations to the wider Body through Electronic or Print means or via Facebook and other Social Media
- Be part of those who will use revelations in this course to train other leaders and saints within your loop of Kingdom influence - on and off Facebook
- You have the skills/capacity to edit or proofread these materials iv. You can support in any other way: financially or otherwise

Please send a note to: visionarymail7@gmail.com

Masterclass Curriculum

The curriculum includes 41 courses and is divided into five modules consisting of basic and advanced courses. The basic courses are foundational Christian doctrines and beliefs, based entirely and completely on the bible as well as practical principles and practices concerning Ministry and how to fulfil same.

Module 1: Christian/Kingdom Foundation – 8 Courses

Course 100: Constitution of the Kingdom –

Course 101: Understanding Elohim Course 102: Understanding Yeshua

Course 103: Holy Spirit: Who He Is and What He does

Course 104: The 16 Fundamental Glorious Truths

Course 105: The 9 Fundamental C's

Course 106: The Ultimate Three: Faith, Hope and Charity

Course 107: Grace

Module 2: The Kingdom and the Church – 10 Courses

Course 108: The Kingdom Church

Course 109: Kingdom Oriented Church Growth

Course 110: The Church of His Vision

Course 111: The Kingdom of Elohim

Course 112: The Fivefold

Course 113: Spiritual Gifts: What, Why, How

Course 114: Kingdom Leadership

Course 115: Authority

Course 116: The Great Commission

Course 117: Ministerial Ethics

Module 3: Kingdom Citizen and Ambassador – 9 Courses

Course 118: The Call, Cost, and Rewards of Discipleship

Course 119: Ministry: Discover, Pursue and Fulfilling

Course 120: Personal Spiritual Growth and Maturity

Course 121: Market Place Ministry

Course 122: Women in Ministry

Course 123: Rewards of the Faithful

Course 124: Christian Marriage & Family Life

Course 125: Finances and Stewardship in Elohim's House

Course 126: Introduction to Christian Counselling

Module 4: Dominion Mandate of the Redeemed – 4 Courses

Course 127: Signs, Wonders, and the Miraculous

Course 128: Understanding the Human Nature

Course 129: Critical Adversaries

Course 130: Prayer & Spiritual Warfare

Course 131: Dispensations, Seasons and Times

Module 5: Digging Deep – 9 Courses

Course 132: Doctrines of the Bible

Course 133: All that Yeshua, Jesus Said and Did

Course 134: Apostasies, Heresies, Errors & Pseudo-Gospel

Course 135: Priesthood and the Kingdom Church

Course 136: Divine Perspective of Purpose

Course 137: 7 Letters from Heaven

Course 138: Legacies of Yeshua

Course 139: Completing the Unfinished Reformation

Course 140: Strategic Kingdom Leadership

Course 314: What Next: Things to Come

Course 311: Revelation Unveiled

Course 112: Pillars of Holistic, Enduring Success

The curriculum is released free of charge to saints worldwide who are willing to utilise the courses to empower other saints by training them to function as the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek. In some parts of the world, Bible Schools have requested and received the curriculum which they use for training. A great company of saints have been trained and ordained through the process worldwide and serve as mentors to saints participating in the Master Class.

Other Books by George Akalonu

Rewards of the Faithful
Critical Adversaries
Signs, Wonders and Miracles
Legacies of Yeshua
Understanding Human Nature
Doctrines of the Bible
The Fivefold

Understanding Yeshua Ha Mashiach
The 9 Fundamental C's: Response of the Truly Redeemed
Apostasies, Heresies, Errors, and the Pseudo-Gospel
The Holy Spirit: Who He is and What He does
Three Ultimate Three: Faith, Hope, Charity
Grace: Basis of Kingdom Life and Ministry
The Call, Costs and Rewards of Discipleship
The 16 Fundamental Glorious Truths
Personal Spiritual Growth and Maturity
Spiritual Gifts: What, Why, How
Kingdom Leadership
The Kingdom Church
Kingdom Culture in Family & Marriage
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Introduction to Christian Counselling

Dispensations, Seasons, and Times

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All that Yeshua Jesus Said and Did
Kingdom Oriented Church Growth
Constitution of the Kingdom
What Next: Things to Come
Revelation Unveiled
Pillars of Holistic, Enduring Success

About the Author



Apostle George Akalonu and his wife, Pastor Grace Akalonu were called out of denominational Christianity in 1996 and set apart by the Lord to be instruments of connecting, manifesting and empowering saints to function as His one single Body and Kingdom Church held together by Love. They are visionaries of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program (Annual Master Class series). Global School of Ministry, Global Missions Board and Arise Metropolitan Assembly. From their base in Hornchurch, London, England where they live with their five children: Favour, Elect, Arise, Praise and Destiny, they are vessels through which Holy Spirit empowers countless saints and ministers worldwide through the unique Teach, Train, Equip, Activate and Release process committed to their trust. They also serve as International President of International Ministers Fellowship worldwide. They co-labour with a dynamic army of Principal officers, mentors and other volunteers across the globe.

Momen in Ministry

ABOUT THE BOOK

There are four main tools Satan uses the spirit of Religion to fight the capacity of the Church to fulfil the Great Commission:

- •Dichotomy of Clergy as a tiny professional male caste type Priesthood that does all the work of ministry while over 90 percent are deemed as 'Laity', who are only to 'come to church' on fixed days to 'consume' the anointing on the leaders.
- Disregard for the special ministry of those in the Marketplace and civil society leadership, branding their work as 'Secular'.
- •Disregard for the Youth (the Now and Next Generation), branding them as 'immature' for ministry until they have finished Schooling, get jobs, get married and settle down. They forget that Yeshua, Jesus, Joseph, David, Timothy, and several heroes of Faith were youths who upended religious systems of their day.
- Rejection of Women, who constitute 55-70 percent of most congregations and ministries as fit for ministry.

The net effect of these four errors is negation of the answers to the desires of Yeshua, Jesus for the Father to send more labourers into His harvest field. These four categories of saint are all called to the priesthood after the order of Melchizedek! The commands by Apostle Paul to the Churches at Corinth and Ephesus, designed to establish order and leadership roles of the husbands, have been misapplied by many Christian denominations to mean women should: not engage in public ministry, keep silent, submit to all males, and are only fit for home duties.

In a clinically profound way, applying the principles in Isaiah 28:10, this resource shows how Yeshua, Jesus received ministry from women from conception till the resurrection, and filled women and men with Holy Spirit for service on the day of Pentecost. The ministry of various women who served as destiny helpers and ministry companions of Paul are also examined.

Within the pages of this book are a series of revelations and biblical expositions on the mind of our Heavenly Father concerning Women and Ministry. This is however no blank check for women in ministry to do whatever they like! Clear provisions of scripture concerning what they should not do are also outlined. Take a deep dive into this book, and be empowered with truth. In the spirit of 2 Timothy 2:2, go forth and teach others.



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