

A Woman Apostle?

A news article or something like news caught my attention last week. The headline read “Blame Martin Luther for People Thinking the Bible First Female Apostle was Male.” I wondered who this “female apostle” was supposed to be and why is Martin Luther to blame for this since he lived a long time after the apostles roamed the earth before the scriptures were written.

It turns out the female is Junia, mentioned in Romans 16.7. She is mentioned along with Andronicus. The whole argument really hinges on the reading of verse 7, “Greet Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.” It seems to plainly say that the apostles were aware of Andronicus and Junia as they were in prison along with Paul. The writer makes the claim that early scholars mistakenly take the name and make it masculine instead of translating as a woman’s name, Julia. I am not a Greek scholar but no one knows for sure if Junia was male or female. To assume this person was female is pure conjecture without basis. The only thing we have to go on is the Greek text which has it as male gender. Also, how do you go from Andronicus and Junia being of note among the apostles to them being numbered among the Apostles?

In the article itself, there is the admission that Junia ever saw Jesus. They might or might not of live in Rome but there is no reason to ever place them in Palestine. According to Acts 1 there were two qualifications for one to take the place of Judas. One was to have been with Jesus from the time of His baptism by John, and to have seen Jesus after the resurrection, Acts 1.22. By the writer’s own admission Junia fails to meet even one qualification. Modern day Bible Scholars are not content to examine the word of God but are trying to instill their own theology into the Bible.

Many of these scholars deny the inspiration of the scriptures, the resurrection of Jesus, the miracles of Jesus, and most of the teaching of the Bible. But when they want to find something, they try to rewrite the Bible and give it a new interpretation. No wonder the religious world is so convoluted.

Folks, most of the Bible is written on a fourth-grade level. It can be easily understood if one reads it like they do other books. Keeping the context in mind, properly defining words, and using plain Bible passages to explain the difficult. There are no secret codes or new revelation for us today. The answers are right there in the Bible. – Dennis Tucker