

\*"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."  
1 Corinthians 14:34-36

First, go to Paul's definition of **'...in the churches...'**  
"How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, **EVERY ONE OF YOU hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation.**  
Let all things be done unto edifying." 1 Corinthians 14:26

That isn't what happens on Sunday mornings in most churches. So, he isn't talking about women speaking **from a pulpit**. He's talking about gatherings where **EVERY believer** is encouraged to **SPEAK** (*the Biblical definition of 'church'*).

Women, by and large, LOVE to SPEAK.  
And, **SPEAKING** is the theme of 1 Corinthians 14.  
Men are assigned to be leaders in their homes, but may abdicate their authority (*as did Adam*) because women are usually more conversant. That's why women were told to be quiet—**so men would SPEAK!**

Also, the **ekklesia** (*the Greek word translated 'church'*) was the body of **men** with authority (*like a modern day County Commission or City Council*) who made decisions for a **community to PROTECT** and benefit their **families**.  
There is something very special about a gathering where men (*who are held responsible for the salvation of their household*) **SPEAK ALOUD of spiritual things**--taking responsibility.

**Should a woman preach the gospel?** The first gospel (*good news*) preacher was the woman at the well in John 4. Of course, no synagogue would have allowed her to 'preach' from their pulpit in that culture, but she did speak to men about Jesus—and they came to Him. That's preaching.

But, **should a woman be the HEAD of a church?**  
Scriptures teach that the man-woman relationship is a 'type' of how the Church **should** function.  
**Man** is the **HEAD**—who represents CHRIST. (*Ephesians 5:23*)  
**Woman** is the **BODY**—who represents the CHURCH.  
**That's GOD'S TYPOLOGY**—not something we vote on.  
(*Women are physically equipped for child-birth—a privilege & a burden. Men are emotionally equipped to lead—both a privilege & a burden.*)

However, God anointed a woman (*Deborah*) **in time of persecution** (*Judges 4:5*) to lead all Israel—because no man would lead them.  
That's happening today all over the world.  
**Women are often thrust into leadership by necessity**—and those of us currently not persecuted should applaud their courage!



# Mystery of the Bride

The Church is depicted in the Bible as a **Bride**.  
"For thy Maker is thine **husband**; ..." Isaiah 54:5a  
"For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one **husband**, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ."  
2 Corinthians 11:2

I've never met a **male** pastor who has balked at the idea of being called a **female** in that context—even though they may be *dogmatic on other Scripture passages about gender*.

Our culture is rapidly moving towards abolishing **distinctions between male and female**. But, what is causing the younger generation to embrace 'gender dysphoria'? It could be that the **TRANS**-generation is easily deceived because they sense a change IS necessary—a **TRANS-formation**.  
"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye **TRANS-formed** by the **renewing** of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect will of God." (*Romans 12:2*)

We know that the **natural** comes first—then the **spiritual**.  
"Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual." (*1 Corinthians 15:46*)  
We ARE in a time of **trans-ition** & **restitution** (*Acts 3:21*), and those who are **IN CHRIST** are **TRANS-FORMING** their minds—which is the passageway to **TRANS-CENDING** their **nationality, status & gender!**  
"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.**" (*Galatians 3:28*)

Boundaries **ARE coming down**—but ONLY **IN CHRIST**.  
(*We are still either male or female in our God-given physical bodies.*)

So, what do we do with Scriptures like 1 Timothy 2:12?  
"But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." (*see back page*)

The disciples heard Jesus tell the Syrophenician woman in Mark 7:27 that His power was **for the Jews**—not the Gentiles.  
But because she responded in humility—He healed a Gentile!  
That's the **spirit of the Law triumphing over the letter of the Law**. Peter saw this at the house of Cornelius and had to explain it to the rest of the disciples (*Acts 15*). It wasn't that the law changed, it was that the **spirit transcended** it. The 'uncircumcised' got a 'circumcised' heart.  
(*i.e., helium can transcend the law of gravity—but doesn't change it.*)

When Peter quotes Joel 2:28-29, he says that **when the Holy Spirit is poured out**, He will use men **and women**, slave **and** free, young **&** old (*Acts 2:17-18*). This was **NOT the case BEFORE the Holy Spirit came** (*i.e., only men were counted at the feeding of the 5,000—Matthew 14:21*).  
**Status, age & gender are NOT an issue where the Holy Spirit has liberty!**

## HUSBANDS:

"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

"Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them." Colossians 3:19

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;" Ephesians 5:25

"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body." Ephesians 5:23

"Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself..." Ephesians 5:33a

"Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence..." 1 Corinthians 7:3a

"...the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy." 1 Corinthians 7:14b

"If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children, not accused of riot or unruly." Titus 1:6

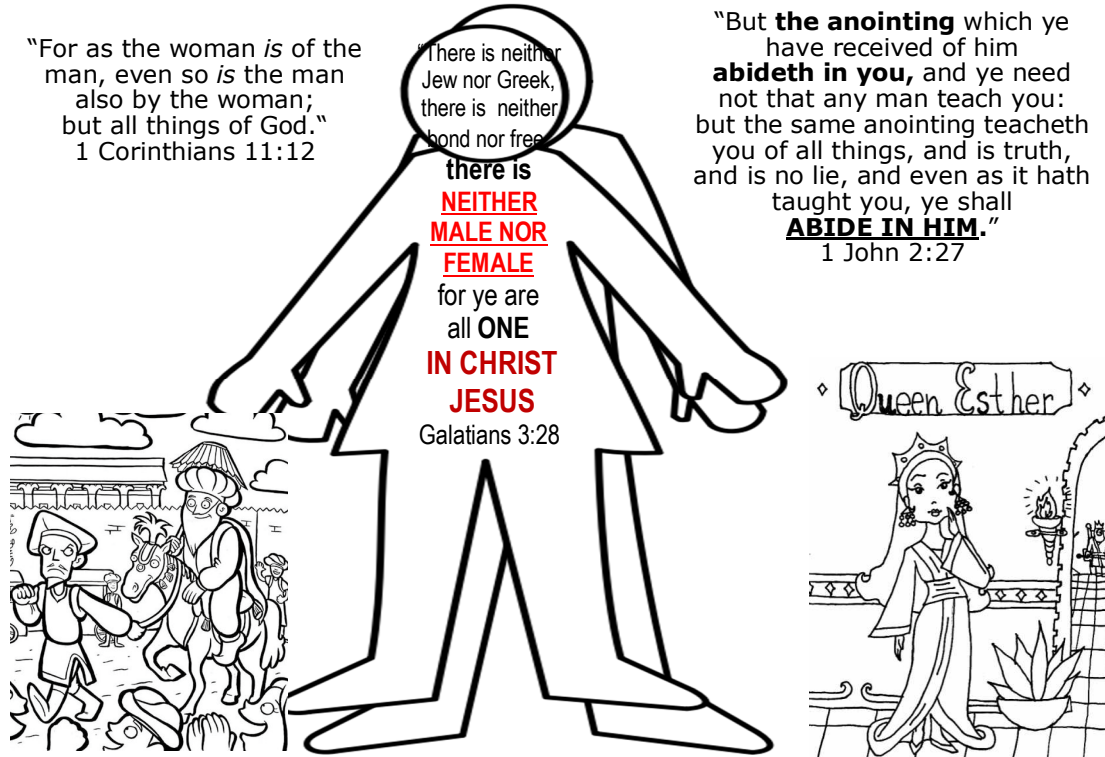
"A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach;" 1 Timothy 3:1

"For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God." 1 Corinthians 11:12

"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**

Galatians 3:28



"But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall **ABIDE IN HIM.**" 1 John 2:27

## The Bride's CALLING—Revealed in the Book of Esther

In the Old Testament, Esther was a 'type' of the Bride of Christ. In the center verse of Esther (5:3), the King asks 'What wilt thou, Queen Esther and **WHAT IS THY REQUEST**...? It's repeated in 5:6. That is the question to the Church today! James 4:2b says "...ye have not **because ye ASK not.**"

The historical figures recorded in this **living parable** are "**types**" (representations) of:  
**GOD:** Ahasuerus, **LUCIFER:** Vashti, **RELIGION:** Haman, **LEGALISM:** Haman's 10 sons, 7-fold **HOLY SPIRIT:** 7 Princes, (Revelation 4:5 & 5:6, Isaiah 11:2-3),  
**ESTHER:** Church, **CHRIST:** Mordecai (Here are some clues to that):  
"...Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name." (Esther 2:22b)  
"And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai." (Esther 4:9)  
"...the crown royal which is set upon his head:" (Esther 6:8b)  
"the fear of Mordecai fell upon them." (Esther 9:3b)

The Church is now in the second 'feast.' The finale of the parable is when Esther is given the house of Haman (Esther 8:7) and presents it to Mordecai (8:2). The King annihilates Haman but gives HER the AUTHORITY & POWER to defeat all those allied with Haman. The Feast of PURIM (Esther 9:27-28) is the annual reminder that God expects His Church to RISE UP **WITH COURAGE** and use HIS NAME, POWER & AUTHORITY to destroy His enemies.  
"...until His enemies be made His footstool..." Hebrews 10:13, 1:13, 2:8, Mark 12:36, Luke 20:43, Acts 2:35, 7:49, Ps. 110:1, Eph. 1:22. Then, will Mordecai (the Christ) "...be great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people and SPEAKING PEACE to all his seed." (Esther 10:33).

## WIVES:

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord." Ephesians 5:22

"...and the wife see that she reverence her husband." Ephesians 5:33b

"Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband." 1 Corinthians 7:3

"Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved (from self-centeredness) in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety." 1 Timothy 2:11-15

"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. 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. What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only? If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord." 1 Corinthians 14:34-36  
\*see back page