

FEMINISM AND THE CHURCH

“A man ... [is] ... an image and glory of God,
but woman is a glory of man”
(1 Corinthians 11:7).

Greetings, my brothers. I bring you a gift—THE TRUTH. It is a labor of love for you; a treatise written to help open your eyes and set you free, for Jesus said, “... **ye will know the truth, and the truth will make you free**” (John 8:32). Although I have labored long and hard creating this report, I expect no earthly gain. Indeed I expect (and have been receiving) only rejection and persecution. But if I suffer for promoting God’s truth, I am merely sharing what others who are far greater than I have experienced. Pious men accept persecution because we are striving for God in a world filled with devils, and ruled by the Chief of Devils. Indeed, we rejoice in our sufferings, because of the hope that has been set before us. For there can be no greater joy of the spirit than being a son of God, and knowing that a rich and glorious life awaits us after our sufferings.

Therefore, I can never thank my Creator and my God enough for adopting me as one of his sons through Jesus our redeemer. And I also rejoice in you, my brothers. For genuine Christians may be few and weak and poor, but God has sanctified us for himself, because we are the best that he has taken from the world. Therefore, I am honored all the more to be a part of that divine brotherhood. Authentic Christians are the kind of people I love more than any other. Indeed, they are closer to me than my own blood relatives because they are my eternal family.

Sincere Christians can be trusted by all men as faithful friends and neighbors because they are a people of honor and virtue, with unfeigned love in their hearts. True Christians bring joy and hope into my troubled life. My brothers, you are a precious treasure to me. Yet, I know that I am going to offend most of you, and no man likes to hurt those whom he loves. Please notice, my brothers, that the scriptures say, “**Faithful are the wounds of a friend ...**” (Proverbs 27:6). And so, although my words may wound your hearts I say them because I am your friend. You see, I must say them because you are offending God, and your souls are in jeopardy.

I am like a physician who sees a cancerous growth that is threatening the body of a member of his family. How can he help save them without attacking the cancer? At least a physician can use anesthesia to ease the pain. But what can I do? All I know to do is to imitate the way Paul did, by taking the sword of the spirit (Ephesians 6:17), and trying to use it like a scalpel with skill and tenderness to remove the cancer from within your heart. But it will help if you brace yourself, because much of what I say is going to

sting. And the extent to which the false teachings of feminism have grown in your heart will determine the degree of pain you feel.

A Cancer

Feminism is the name of a movement promoting equal rights for women. On the surface it appears to be a noble cause, but a closer look reveals its true nature: it is yet another form of rebellion against God. Everybody knows that its leaders all hate the Bible. One feminist author and minister of the United Methodist Church described some of God's commandments that Paul wrote about as, "those ugly words". But remember what Jesus said: **"No man can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one, and love the other, or he will hold to one, and disparage the other"** (Matthew 6:24). Neither can anybody serve both feminism and Christ, for feminism is, in truth, a satanic movement.

In the name of justice, feminists, men and women alike, have demanded and received equal rights and equal opportunities for women in virtually all realms. As a consequence, the important virtues of manhood and womanhood are being cast aside, replaced by unisex or androgyny. Mothers are urged to counter the natural masculinity of their little boys by teaching them to be more like girls, and to counter the natural femininity of their little girls by teaching them to be more like boys. Consequently, men are becoming more effeminate and women are becoming more masculine. And people are more confused than ever before about what it means to be a man or a woman, a husband or a wife, a father or a mother. Hence, homosexuality is growing like a plague.

Why have men of the Western World been so vulnerable to this revolutionary idea? Its roots seem to go far back in our history, whose men have long elevated women above that of the rest of the world, including Israel and the other nations of the Bible. Added to this is the modern idea, which was promoted early in America, that "all men are created equal." That idea became a hallowed pillar of the American way of life, a venerated virtue of democracy. As belief in this ideology grew, and faith in the Bible subsided, it became, "all persons are created equal."

Hence, the idea of women's subservience could no longer be justified. Consequently, Biblical values have been replaced by this new "hallowed pillar," which has become a modern idol. Unlike an idol of wood or stone, however, this idol (called equal-rights or egalitarianism) is a living force. And it has now grown to the point that its tentacles reach into every part of the fabric of our culture. Feminism is a natural part of this false ideology, and has grown with it.

Worshippers of this idol who control the mass media have bombarded us with its propaganda. As pawns of the Devil, they

have promoted feminism by shrewdly manipulating a variety of materials, ranging from heart-rending cases of abused women to moving stories of women heroes. Their success has been phenomenal. Almost all Americans are now firmly convinced that women were an oppressed underclass like our former slaves, and deserve to rebel against male domination. Like the evolutionists, they conveniently ignore evidence to the contrary. For example, Japanese families are among the most stable in the world because Japanese wives are among the world's most respectful and obedient toward their husbands.

Abandoning the Bible for these new values has not made our country stronger. Indeed, feminism is having the same effect on our social institutions that communism had on the economic institutions of the old USSR. Feminism is not fulfilling its promises, nor can it because it runs counter to God's will; it flies in the face of his reality; it is against the human nature he created. Just look at the current chaotic condition of the home. Trying to give complete equality to women is so unnatural that increased tension and hostility is inevitable, which is just what our great adversary, Satan, wants.

Women are suffering now more than they ever have in our country. They are experiencing more rapes and assaults than ever before. There are far more martial conflicts and divorces now than ever before. More women and children are living alone in poverty than ever before. There is more bitterness and anger in their hearts than ever before. Both men and women are suffering as a result of this deceitful ideology with its alluring false promises.

Consequently, mental health professionals have multiplied to treat the victims. The career of Marriage and Family Counseling did not even exist when I was a youngster, when divorce was rare and families were happier. But now Marriage and Family Counseling is a major profession. With the decline of marriage, sexual perversion is increasing, and millions of children are being brought into the world without fathers to oversee them. God told his people Israel that he hates divorce (see Malachi 2:14-16). One reason is because it breeds unrighteous children. Even sinners are now admitting that children without fathers are at a great disadvantage.

Did you know that two out of three children now born in America to those whom we formerly enslaved are bastards? Should anybody be surprised that the neighborhoods where they live are now dangerous places? Lawless gangs of youths roam about causing violence and destruction, and their neighbors live in fear. Think about it! Would any of you like to live in a neighborhood with that kind of family structure? My brothers, this is not a problem limited to one class of people; it is a spiritual epidemic spreading throughout the country. An epidemic where one out of every three

children in America lives in a home without a father. Bastardization within the non-negro population is also increasing. If the trend continues we are all going to live in fear.

The Value of Woman's Submission

Before I describe the many weaknesses of the weaker sex (in order to combat the deceitful philosophy of feminism) I want to assure you that I have great regard for the feminine sex. I even married one, a wonderful woman who is a great help meet for me. She is a gift from God. Moreover, my criticisms do not mean that I believe women are in any way defective. Specialization of function necessarily means that some parts of a system are going to be more powerful and dominating than other parts, but that is not to say that the weaker parts are defective. Paul spoke of the one when he was comparing stronger and weaker parts in the Church. His words are fitting for any organization. He said,

But now God has placed the parts, each one of them, in the body just as he intended. And if they were all one part, where would be the body? But now of course there are many body-parts, but one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of thee, nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.

Instead, much more the parts of the body that seem to be more feeble are necessary. And those things of the body presumed to be without esteem, we place around these more abundant worth. And our unrepresentable parts have more abundant propriety, whereas our presentable parts have no need. Instead, God united the body together, having given more abundant worth to the part that lacks, so that there would be no schisms in the body, but that the parts would have the same care for each other. And if one part suffers, all the parts suffer together, or one part is honored, all the parts rejoice together (1 Corinthians 12:18-26).

Earlier in the same letter Paul said, **“Nevertheless, neither is man independent of woman, nor woman independent of man, in Lord. For just as the woman is from the man, so also the man is through the woman. But all things are from God”** (1 Corinthians 11:11-12). Even though the woman is the weaker vessel, nevertheless, both men and women depend upon each other. Indeed, when they work together as a team, each performing their proper function, they build each another up, just as do the working parts of a body.

Giving women equal rights with men drags them both down to a more primitive level. It is like using both arms and legs to walk with. It can be done, but O how unnatural and ridiculous! Arms are different from legs. And the body functions best when each part

performs its designed role. Women are different from men. And society functions best when each sex performs its God-given role. In marriage, when a woman keeps her subservient role, acting as a proper helpmeet for her husband (her head), it makes him stronger, which, in turn makes her stronger.

Indeed, any unified system composed of specialized parts working together in harmony has far more capability than the sum of its parts. When women in a society pursue their God-given role as wives and mothers and general helpmeets for men, it strengthens that society, which, in turn strengthens them. That is one reason why Japanese society is so much more stable than ours. Women in America used to live that way, And they were properly praised and honored through the success of their husbands and children, because a man's success depends much upon the past efforts of his mother, and the current efforts of his wife.

Now without doubt, a pious wife is one of a man's most precious treasures on earth. There seems to be nothing more lovely and wonderful in this life than an obedient, devoted wife. I will quote a few verses of the Bible taken from Song of Solomon:

Behold, thou are fair, my love, behold, thou are fair. [Her husband then describes various parts of her body.] **Thine eyes are Thy hair is as Thy teeth are like Thy lips are like Thy temples are like Thy neck is like Thy two breasts are like Thou are all fair, my love, and there is no spot in thee How fair is thy love, my sister, [my] bride! How much better is thy love than ...** he then lists many sources of other pleasures] (Song of Solomon 4:1-10).

But alas, the pride and rebellion of modern American women have spoiled their inner beauty. And so, what else can we expect but failing marriages and increasing homosexuality. A country, like individuals, reaps what it sows (Galatians 6:7). In the wisdom of God the very weakness and inequality of women makes them more beautiful and attractive to men. Real men are captivated by feminine women, and repulsed by aggressive feminists. Indeed, a recent survey reported that over one-third of American men now love their cars more than their women.

When Peter was instructing women, he said: **“Likewise the wives, being subordinate to their own husbands, so that even if any are disobedient to the word, they will be gained without a word by the behavior of the wives, observing, in fear, your pure behavior”** (1 Peter 3:1-2). And with regard to women's outward appearance, Peter added: **“... but the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible, of the meek and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God”** (1 Peter 3:4). A woman may have a body diseased or deformed. But she is very beautiful before God if

she has the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit living in subjection to her husband with chaste behavior coupled with fear.

Take, for example, Mary Magdalene. Although she was much beloved by Jesus, she remained humble, and kept her subservient role among the disciples. From what I have read about that magnificent woman, I suspect that although she may have been among the “least” among women on earth she may be among the “first” of the citizens of Heaven (Matthew 19:30).

You see, my beloved sisters, if you will humble yourselves in this life like the pious women described in the Bible then God will exalt you later in his heavenly world. For although God has commanded women to be subservient to men on earth, he has chosen women to be equal heirs of Heaven. Peter said, **“Likewise the husbands living together knowledgably, as with a weaker vessel, apportioning worth to the female as also joint-heirs of the grace of life, for your prayers not to be hindered”** (1 Peter 3:7). And Paul said, **“There is no Jew nor Greek, there is no bondman nor freeman, there is no male and female, for ye are all one in Christ Jesus”** (Galatians 3:28).

Thus, women (and children as well) are fully equal in being fellow heirs of the grace of life with its promise of eternal salvation in Heaven with God. For Jesus said there will be no gender differences in Heaven (Luke 20:34-36); we will all be masculine—sons of God. Even though God created women with earthly bodies that are less able than men, women should rejoice that God has given them the opportunity to be equal heirs of Heaven.

But remember this: the promised inheritance is not for rebels. No woman will inherit Heaven who will not obey God’s commands, including those requiring that she humble herself and accept her subservient role on earth. Everybody who seeks salvation must walk in the steps of our Savior, Christ Jesus. Paul said that even the Son of God accepted his lower human body, and humbled himself in obedience to the Father’s will:

Indeed have this way to think in you, that also was in Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider being equal to God something to seize and hold. But he emptied himself, having taken a form of a bondman, having become in a likeness of men. And having been found in a form like a man, he lowered himself, having become obedient until death, even of death from a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name above every name ... (Philippians 2:5-9).

Disobedient Churches

But humble obedience is rarely found within this adulterous generation. People who claim to be Christians are now violating the commands of God in what seems to be every conceivable way. Not all are equally guilty, but many are like those in the church at Thyatira, whom Jesus said, “... **tolerate thy woman Jezebel. She calls herself a prophetess, and teaches and leads astray my bondmen to fornicate, and to eat idol sacrifices**” (Revelation 2:20).

In virtually all churches in America, those who claim allegiance to Christ are following the pagan world by doing obeisance to the idol of egalitarianism. Some have gone much farther astray than others have; they have cast aside all of God’s restrictions, and have even put women in every kind of leadership position, from preacher to bishop. With sorrow I must confess that those I am most closely associated with those, who claim to practice original Christianity, are not free of guilt. Although most have resisted the pressures to elevate women to leadership roles, nevertheless, in the remainder of this paper, I am going to draw your attention to four specific ways I have seen in which my brothers and sisters today have forsaken the Word of God, and are conforming to the errors of feminism.

Unequal Partners

Regarding God’s will for the subservience of women, at the beginning of the world after he had created all of the fish, the birds, and the beasts of the earth, God was ready to create those who were to be lords of the earth. Here is how it reads:

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 birds of the heavens, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. And God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them (Genesis 1:26-27).

Thus, mankind was created to rule over all other creatures. However, the Bible also teaches that men and women were *not* created at the same time. In the beginning, Adam was the only human being. He was the first one on earth made in God’s image. But God never intended for him to be alone, and so he prepared to give Adam a help meet. He first let Adam try all of the animals. Here is what happened: “**And the man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the heavens, and to every beast of the field, but for man there was not found a help meet for him**” (Genesis 2:20).

Many people have animal companions whom we call pets, but no animal pet can ever be a help meet for a man. But why did not God simply create another man to fulfill that role? (I thank God he didn't!) God certainly has the power to create beings with a bisexual nature, all of whom can bear offspring. And indeed, there are strange creatures like that. But, no! In the wisdom of God, the mate Adam needed was not somebody his equal—another man—but rather somebody like him, a help meet for him; somebody who would not only be a companion for him, but who would be subject to him and who would serve him. And so the Bible says:

And the rib, which Jehovah God had taken from the man, he made a woman, and brought her to the man. And the man 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. Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cling to his wife, and {the two (LXX/NT)} shall be one flesh (Genesis 2:22-24).

And later God commanded Eve, saying, “... **thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee**” (Genesis 3:16). Some say that Eve was made equal with Adam before she sinned. Paul says otherwise: “**For also man was not created for the woman, but woman for the man**” (1 Corinthians 11:9).

Just as mankind was given authority over all other creatures, so man was given authority over woman. Now, ranks of authority are absolutely necessary in any system. Equal rights for all creates anarchy. What happens when children are given the freedom and privileges of adults? They go wild. And look at the chaos of the modern family.

Get away from the fantasy world of movies and TV, and look at the real world. Peace, order, prosperity, all demand obedience to authority. Consider the important job of a woman teaching young children in schools. How much better things would be if her students held her in honor, obeyed her, and addressed her with respect. Would she not love them more and work harder to help them?

The military service does not worship the idol of equal-rights; doing so would be suicidal. Officers demand respect and obedience from the men under their command. There is none of this nonsense about having to earn respect and obedience. Each rank demands obedience from those below it. The system works well only when everybody keeps his place (with, of course, the essential virtues of mutual love and loyalty), and look how well it has worked. Equality in the military would destroy its effectiveness as fast as mutual hatred would. For this reason insubordination is never tolerated.

The fact is, insubordination will destroy any organization, including families (see Esther 1)¹.

Mothers, is it not right for you to demand honor and obedience from your children? Do you tolerate insubordination in them? Should a child consider himself equal with his mother and demand the same rights? We call such children “spoiled brats.” Jesus, our Lord and Savior, honored his earthly father and mother, and “... **was being subordinate to them ...**” (Luke 2:51). And because of his obedience in all things, God exalted him (Philippians 2:8-9).

The supreme authority is, of course, God, the creator of all things. He alone has the power and the wisdom to coordinate everything together so that it all works constructively in harmony and unison. In his heavenly world, where his will is obeyed, that is how things work. However, this world, which has been given over temporarily to his enemies, is full of chaos. Rebellion against him and his structure of authority (sin) always leads eventually to destruction and death.

Unequal Authority

How do men and women fit into God’s structure of authority? Consider these words of Paul: “**But I want you to know that the head of every man is the Christ, and the head of a woman is the man, and the head of Christ is God**” (1 Corinthians 11:3). Notice the Biblical rank of authority in this scripture: First, God the Father, then Christ, then man, then woman.² Notice that God the Father is head of God the Son.³

It is noteworthy that, unlike most American women today, Jesus never resented being subordinate to his head. Christ ranks below the Father, but he is head of every man. Finally, the man is head of the woman. Some compromising Christians are even elevating men to near equality with Christ in order to justify women’s equality with men. Paul went on to say, “**For a man ... [is] ... an image and glory of God, but woman is a glory of man. For man is not**

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1. Do not be deceived by false teachings which condemn the king, and justify the queen’s rebellion by claiming he ordered her to appear naked in public. The Bible does not condemn him, because he did no such thing. That rebellious queen deserved being rejected and forgotten as the Bible so teaches.
 2. Of course, other scriptures show that children rank below women, and animals rank below all humans.
 3. The idea that Jesus, the Son of God, is equal with God the father is another false teaching. Jesus himself denied this over and over again. For examples see the following scriptures from John: 5:19, 5:30, 5:43, 6:38, 7:16-18, 7:28, 8:28, 8:42, 10:29, 12:49, 12:50, 14:28, 14:31.

from woman, but woman from man. For also man was not created for the woman, but woman for the man” (1 Corinthians 11:7-9).

Man reflects the glory of God. Man is masculine, made in the Father’s image, with, for example, the power of creativity. Consider how man has improved the world (although, of course, not perfectly). Compare civilization with the savage and stagnant existence of the animal world. Woman, on the other hand, reflects the glory of man, having been made from him. Notice how Paul contrasted the glory of man with the lesser glory of woman. Man was created to serve God. Woman was created to serve man. Just as man’s service to God is through Christ, woman’s service to God is through man. And so God commanded women to submit to the rule of men (unless, of course, a woman is ordered to disobey God).

It is beyond dispute that the person who rules has superiority over the one being ruled. In fact people often refer to the person they serve as their “superior.” In the military they speak of superior officers who have a higher rank with greater authority. Hence, it is the will of God for women to rank below men, and to be subordinate to them. But this adulterous and rebellious generation of women hates the very thought of being subordinate.

Unequal Strength

God created men larger than women, and with more powerful muscles. This is appropriate for his role. God created woman with a special body, weaker than man’s, which is more appropriate for her role. A woman’s skin is softer and more tender than the skin of men. Their bodies are more frail and delicate. The shapes of many other parts of their bodies make them weaker than men’s. In keeping with her role the woman’s body was designed and created to bear and to rear children. Her wider hips enable her to more easily bring new souls into the world, and her enlarged breasts were created to help nurture them. Her tender skin and delicate nature serve not only to keep her subservient to, and dependent upon men, but it is also better designed to accommodate the tender and delicate nature of children.

For not only did God command women to be subordinate to men, but he gave them another special role: to bear and to rear children. Paul told Timothy: **“But she [womankind] will be saved through childbearing, if they continue in faith and love and sanctification with sobriety”** (1 Timothy 2:15). Indeed, there are few more important duties on earth than the very demanding job of rearing righteous children. And God has given this commission to

womankind.¹ In fact, notice Paul said that God considers this duty so vital that their very salvation depends upon it.

Whenever women engage in any dangerous and stressful task, to be effective they need to be accompanied by the support of men. Have you ever seen an all women group engaged in such a task? But men need no such support from women. Peter pointed out the fact that women are “**a weaker vessel**” (1 Peter 3:7). Nevertheless, feminists are doing all they can to gloss over that obvious fact. Their success shows the power of deception. The feminist movement has gained equal rights for women in virtually all occupations, including strenuous and dangerous ones such as policemen, firemen, and the armed forces (yet always accompanied by the support of men).

Their presence is a caricature to those with open eyes. Of course, feminists cannot deny women’s physical weakness. Still, they demand the right to be an equal part of all groups; yet with special treatment, such as reduced requirements to accommodate their weaknesses. They seem blind to the absurdity of their reasoning: they demand unequal treatment in order to promote equality.

A blatant example of their hypocrisy is within the world of sports. In this realm they are completely silent about equal rights. Why do they not demand that women compete equally with men in sports? Forced by political pressure, our military now has women fighter pilots. But why have they not forced professional football teams to have women players? Is this not an example of so-called “sexism” and discrimination against women? Why not abolish sexual segregation in the Olympic games? Let women compete equally against men in all contests. No, it will never happen because they cannot compete successfully. Even the most rabid feminist has kept silent about this form of “sexism” because it would highlight the fact of men’s physical superiority.

Unequal Courage

Women are less able to face danger. They are more inclined to wilt under fire. The Bible itself confirms this truth. Isaiah said, “**In that day the Egyptians shall be like women, and they shall tremble and fear because of the shaking of the hand of Jehovah of hosts, which he shakes over them**” (Isaiah 19:16). And Jeremiah said, “**The mighty men of Babylon have ceased fighting; they remain in their strongholds. Their might has failed. They have become as women**” (Jeremiah 51:30). What does the Bible say it means to become like a woman in real combat? It means to tremble with fear, to cease fighting, and to hide in weakness.

1. Not that every woman must herself be a mother.

Both of these great prophets of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, clearly indicate that being overcome with fear is a feminine quality. Women are naturally less capable than men in facing danger. Women soldiers are a grotesque hoax. They are totally unfit both physically and emotionally for mortal combat. If they are ever put to a real test against male enemies in a fierce and deadly battle they will melt like butter in a hot oven. Their very existence within our armed forces is like using cardboard two-by-fours when building a house. Include too many and see what happens when the winds blow and the floods rise. And such times always come. Modern Israel once experimented with women combat troops, but quickly abandoned the practice. When asked why, one Israeli general was reported to have said, "We have to take war seriously."

I have heard false-teachers charge the apostles with cowardice for trying to remain concealed during the time that Jesus was tried and crucified. The women, they say, were more open and courageous. That is a cruel and unfair charge because the women were never in any danger. The authorities knew they had nothing to fear from the women, and so they left them alone. The men, on the other hand, were in mortal danger, as later events would prove. I ask you, which of the women who followed Jesus were ever martyred? It takes no courage to walk openly when there is no danger. Only after Stephen was martyred, when the first great persecution arose against the Church, was there any record that women were also cast into prison (Acts 8:3), although none were reported martyred.

Etceteras

Women are more vulnerable to deception; they are more easily deceived. Paul pointed this out when he was giving reasons why women were to be subordinate. He said, "**And Adam was not deceived, but the woman, having been deceived, became in transgression**" (1 Timothy 2:14). But people do not need the Bible to tell them that. It is common folk knowledge that women are more naive and gullible than men are. They are much more vulnerable to being cheated and defrauded. Every woman has had to face liars and cheats who consider her to be easier prey, and most women are.

There are other ways that the glory of women is less than the glory of men. They are less able to control their emotions; they are less assertive than men are; women are less skilled at making good judgments and wise decisions. (Intelligence tests cannot reveal this because in order to conform to prevailing ideology such tests are deliberately constructed to produce equal averages.) For all these reasons women need fathers and husbands to protect and oversee them. See also Numbers 30 for additional evidence of this truth.

What country exists where women as a whole dominate men? There is not a single one. In every case the male population

dominates the female population. This worldwide dominance of men over women is based upon natural causes—the many ways in which men were created superior to women. This fact of nature is not based merely upon the physical superiority of men, because in every country the most dominant men are almost always physically weaker than those men whom they dominate. This is true not only in government but also in the military, business and industry, sports (coaches versus athletes), and virtually every other realm. But with women, their weaker physical nature only reinforces their unfitness for dominance. God has created women naturally less able than men so that it is natural for men to rule over them, as he has commanded to be done.

What About the Church?

I have often heard it stated, by way of praise, that the church has exalted women. This is a misleading statement. God's righteousness promotes kindness and compassion for every underclass: slaves, children, the handicapped, the aged, the poor and the helpless, as well as women. But Christianity was never intended to be a classless system like communism where everybody is supposed to be equal. Moreover, the popular teaching that woman is the "crowning glory of God's creation" is a false idea perpetrated mostly by well-meaning but misguided men. It may seem to be more gentlemanly to exalt women upon a pedestal, but in fact it has worked to undermine God's purposes in the same kind of way as Sarah's well-meaning recommendation that Abraham bear a son by Hagar (see Genesis 16).

You cannot elevate somebody over you and expect them to remain subservient. Did Hagar? Do military officers rise upon the entrance of an enlisted man? Do they take off their hats and bow as a show of respect? What effect would that have on discipline, obedience, and the maintenance of order? Is there any wonder why Americans have so many rebellious women? We could learn a lot from the example of the Japanese who are wiser about this than we are. Now, regarding rising upon the entrance of somebody, read Leviticus 19:32 to see how this adulterous generation has turned what God really wants upside down. It is a pathetic commentary on this generation to see that in many ways our military system practices greater obedience to God than the general population (although political pressure is gradually corrupting our military system as well).

Consider God's own book, the Bible. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Word of God is almost entirely a book written by men about men; women are entirely secondary. (Read my essay *The Bible: A Masculine Book* for more proof of that fact.) For example, we know of no book in the Bible that was written by a woman. Of the sixty-

six books of the Bible only two small ones feature a woman with any degree of prominence: Ruth and Esther.

But both of those books could just as well be called the books of Boaz and Mordecai because Boaz is mentioned more often than Ruth in the one, and Mordecai is mentioned more often than Esther in the other. Moreover, the noble character of both of those pious women, which made them worthy of praise, was their faithful subservience not leadership. I read somewhere of a feminist attempt to translate the Bible free of its so-called “male bias”. They gave up in frustration, saying: “The Bible is sexist through and through.”

Neither Jesus nor any of his apostles ever selected a woman for a leadership role in his Church, or to make proclamations to them. Once when Paul was at Caesarea he met a man who had four daughters who prophesied, but instead of using them to inform Paul, the Holy Spirit sent a prophet all the way from Judea to tell him that he would be put in bondage in Jerusalem (Acts 21:8-11). According to the Bible every agent from Heaven (AGGELOI, which is transliterated, *angels*) who came to earth appeared in the form of a man, never a woman. Female agents from Heaven (“angels”) are a figment of man’s imagination.

Mary was honored by God to give birth to the earthly body of his only begotten Son. However, after Jesus matured she became subservient to him, working faithfully but quietly in the background, and little mentioned. Indeed, Jesus de-emphasized her significance. For example, the Bible records the following response at a time when Jesus was told his mother wanted to see him: **“Who is my mother, and who are my brothers? And having stretched forth his hand towards his disciples, he said, Behold, my mother and my brothers”** (Matthew 12:48-49). The only “queen of Heaven” ever mentioned in the Bible is a pagan goddess condemned by the prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 44).

Those Inevitable Exceptions

Regarding exceptions, yes, everybody knows there are some women who are stronger and/or more intelligent than some men. Nevertheless, God’s role for men and women is based upon their gender, not upon their abilities. And God has commanded women to be subservient to men simply because they are women. Women were created to be a subservient class regardless of their individual talents. In spite of much deceitful propaganda to the contrary, class distinctions are absolutely necessary in any complex social system.

If a man is an officer in the Army he has superior rank over enlisted men simply because he is a member of the officer class. If a man is a member of management in a company he has superior rank over non-management employees simply because he is a manager. If a man is a member of the U.S. Congress he has superior rank over

ordinary citizens because he is a member of that social class. If you think otherwise, try opposing any of these leadership classes.

Of course, how an individual becomes a member of a higher ranking group varies widely. How to become a military officer differs from how to become a company manager. And both differ from how to become a Congressman. Such things as ability, financial assets, influential relationships, personal effort, all contribute to enabling somebody to become a member of a certain class. In some companies and in some countries class membership depends upon family relationships; that is, class membership is restricted to blood lines. In the wisdom of God, membership in the masculine class is determined and fixed from conception.¹ If you think this is unfair, just trust God, and he will never disappoint you in the end. The time is coming when he will glorify us all, both men and women, who accept what cannot or should not be changed in this life. For there will be no gender differences in Heaven..

And yes, there have been times in the history of a society when men sink so low spiritually that God will elevate some women over them, to humiliate them. An example of this in the Bible is the story of Deborah and Barak. Deborah was a prophetess who judged Israel during one of their times of spiritual backsliding. Because of their sinfulness the people were being oppressed by Jabin, king of Canaan. But the sons of Israel cried to Jehovah, and in response he told Deborah to send Barak to defeat Jabin. Barak refused to go without Deborah. His unmanly dependence upon her caused God to give the honor he would have received to a common woman, Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite. Here is the first part of the story:

Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, she judged Israel at that time. And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill-country of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel came up to her for judgment. And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali, and said to him, Has not Jehovah, the God of Israel, commanded, [saying], Go and approach to mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the sons of Naphtali and of the sons of Zebulun? And I will draw Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, to thee, to the river Kishon, with his chariots and his multitude, and I will deliver him into thy hand.

And Barak said to her, If thou will go with me, then I will go, but if thou will not go with me, I will not go. And she

1. In this corrupt world everything is vulnerable to aberration. Through no fault of parents or child, there are very rare cases of individuals born whose body develops into sexual confusion; males who look like females, etc. To let rare aberrations negate rules invites chaos.

said, I will surely go with thee. Notwithstanding, the journey that thou take shall not be for thine honor, for Jehovah will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman (Judges 4:4-9).

Being defeated by a woman was considered in Bible times to be a great humiliation, as can be seen in the example of Abimelech: **“And a certain woman cast an upper millstone upon Abimelech’s head, and broke his skull. Then he called hastily to the young man his armor bearer, and said to him, Draw thy sword, and kill me, that men not say of me, A woman killed him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died”** (Jdg 9:53-54).

When women become elevated over men it is a sign of God’s punishment against them. Consider these words of Jeremiah: **“Turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities. How long will thou go here and there, O thou backsliding daughter? For Jehovah has created a new thing in the earth: a woman shall encompass a man”** (Jeremiah 31:21-22). Consider also these words of Isaiah: **“As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, those who lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths”** (Isaiah 3:12).

These prophecies also apply to this faithless generation of Americans: Women now protect men. And children indeed oppress us, in the homes, in the schools, and in the streets. And many women rule over us—women court judges, women generals, women police, women congressmen, women governors, women mayors, women school principals and superintendents, women foremen, women supervisors, women chairpersons. And our leaders (even in our Christian institutions) are forcing this upon the population, thus misleading the people and confusing the way of their paths.

Therefore, the people are stumbling and the nation is spiritually declining. It is a curse from God. He is punishing the men of this adulterous generation. But how can we as Christians be the leaven of the world if we worship the idols of the world, and think and act the same way they do? We have been sanctified by God—set apart to think and act in his enlightened and exalted ways.

Now, I know much of what I have written here may seem shocking to the modern mind. People of earlier times would have had no problem agreeing with me. One biographer of Susan B. Anthony, the notorious 19th Century feminist, admitted that when Susan B. Anthony was born the idea of women’s equality was unheard of. My intention is not to shock you, but to awaken you to its dangers because I love you. And please recognize that none of these words of mine, or any of the words from the Bible, are intended in any way to degrade women.

My brothers, it is not womankind that I am attacking. My target is this insidious idol and its worshipers who have puffed themselves up against God. They are part of a proud and rebellious generation who worships “self-esteem”. And a proud and rebellious generation hates subordination. But there is nothing demeaning or humiliating about accepting a lower role.

Perverse Families

The first way concerns the kind of relationship that God wants wives to have with their husbands. God wants Christian women to truly honor their husbands. Paul said to the Ephesians, **“Nevertheless ye also, each one in particular, shall so love his own wife as himself, and the wife that she fear her husband”** (Ephesians 5:33). And remember Peter’s words: **“Likewise the wives, being subordinate to their own husbands, so that even if any are disobedient to the word, they will be gained without a word by the behavior of the wives, observing, in fear, your pure behavior”** (1 Peter 3:1-2).

My brothers, the Greek word for “fear” used in these two scriptures commanding wives to fear their husbands is exactly the same Greek word used in the command for all men to fear God. To fear God involves not only recognizing the danger of challenging his power and authority, but it also means “to honor and admire profoundly and respectfully,” and “to venerate and adore.” And God wants wives to have the same attitude toward their husbands. For as Christ is head of every man, and deserves fear, honor, and veneration from every man, so also is the man head of a woman and deserves fear, honor, and veneration from her.

Ladies, I will tell you something about men: Every real man in his heart wants his wife to fear, honor, and venerate him. And, if he is not an altogether worthless fellow, he will love you more deeply and cherish you more fervently for doing so. He will make you a happier and more secure woman, and best of all your Heavenly Father will reward you.

Peter went on to instruct Christian wives, saying,

Of which let it not be the outward world of braiding of hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on apparel, but the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible, of the meek and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. For this way formerly also, the holy women, trusting in God, adorned themselves, being subordinate to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose children ye became, doing good, and not being afraid of anything fearful. Likewise the husbands living together knowledgably, as with a weaker vessel, apportioning worth

to the female as also joint-heirs of the grace of life, for your prayers not to be hindered (1 Peter 3:3-7).

Sarah honored Abraham not only with her obedience, but she also addressed him as “lord”. Today, in this age of equality worship nobody wants to use that expression anymore. But even if that expression seems too offensive to use these days, there are other ways to address somebody with honor and respect. In the military service enlisted men are expected to address their commissioned officers with the word “sir.”

Should not a Christian wife who wants to follow in the steps of Sarah show reverence to her husband, obey him, and address him with proper respect? It is not enough for her husband to be convinced that she honors him in her heart. She must demonstrate that attitude by her words and her deeds, both in private and in public. Children and unbelievers learn more by what they see of us than what they hear. Her overt behavior is one way that God approves whereby she can inform everybody (men, women, and children), anywhere, at any time about righteous living. Nobody should underestimate the power of displaying a pious life.

Perverse Appearance

The second way in which my brothers and sisters today have forsaken the Word of God and are worshipping the idol concerns their manner of appearance. Remember that God created women to be subordinate to men. Military officers dress differently from enlisted men. This serves as a constant visual reminder of their superior authority. This is probably the same reason why God wants men and women to dress differently. God created men and women with differences in appearance. Of course, for the sake of modesty some of these differences should be covered. However, God wants us to use both our natural covering (hair) and our man-made covering (clothing) to maintain our distinctiveness in appearance. Truly, it is a disgusting spectacle to see one sex trying to look like the other.

Indeed, the Bible says everybody who does this becomes repulsive to God. One of the Laws of Moses forbade such a revolting practice: **“A woman shall not wear that which pertains to a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment, for whoever does these things is an abomination to Jehovah thy God”** (Deuteronomy. 22:5). And Paul wrote, **“Or does not nature itself teach you that if a man actually wears long hair it is a disgrace to him? But if a woman wears long hair, it is a glory to her, because her hair has been given for a cloak”** (1 Corinthians 11:14-15).

Since the rise of feminism there has been a great erosion of the distinctions between men and women. Many women now have very

short hair no different in appearance to a man, and there are men whose hair is long enough to fall well below their shoulders, even to their waist. There are men now who wear facial jewelry, and women with tatoos on their bodies. I have seen married couples where the man acted like the wife and mother, while the woman acted like the husband and father. Indeed, most women now lead their men around like dogs on a leash. Open your eyes and look. It is very unusual to see an American woman following a man when married couples walk together. They even have baby changing facilities in men's public toilets.

America is fast becoming a matriarchal society, like that of our Negro subculture. The Bible strictly commands the subservience of women to men. Equality is an illusion. Taking away the God given rights of men, and giving women equal rights in all things, is just setting the stage for female dominance. God knows exactly what he is doing, and why he commands things he does. What modern men no longer realize is that women have always ruled men from the time of birth until at least adolescence. That is the most important developmental period in life. Consequently, women have enormous power to manipulate and shape the tender minds of children.

Unless children learn very early in life that women are subservient to men, they become conditioned to be subject to women at all ages. That seems to be how matriarchal societies develop. And matriarchal societies are destructive perversions. The rise of lawless teenage gangs in America is one of their bitter fruits. Homosexuality appears to be another one. For it includes a perversion of sexual identity (males acting like a females in sexual activity), and is rapidly growing in number and influence.

I will quote the words of one popular older commentary written by Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown, published in 1871. Concerning the matter of differences in dress, they said, "... the adoption of the habiliments of the one sex by the other is an outrage on decency, obliterates the distinctions of nature by fostering softness and effeminacy in the man, impudence and boldness in the woman as well as levity and hypocrisy in both; and, in short, it opens the door to an influx of so many evils that all who wear the dress of another sex are pronounced 'an abomination unto the Lord.'" They were exactly correct. The men of that generation had much more wisdom in spiritual matters than men of this one. It grieves my soul to see such spiritual degradation these days.

Our nation has drifted so far from the will of God that many ugly perversities are now considered normal. Some backward peoples think it charming to slit their lips and fill the holes with large blocks of wood. This more barbaric generation of Americans has its own grotesque ways of appearance. We have all seen a man with a shaved face, and long flowing hair that makes him look more like a

woman. (Many are even adding facial jewelry.) Does this please God?

And why does a woman cut her hair as short as a man's? It not only throws away the crown of her glory, but it makes her look more like a man. Does this please God? Men who dress like women are called "female impersonators". Christians still recognize this to be a gross perversity. Which of us would receive a man dressed that way into fellowship? But what do we call women who dress like men? I see them everywhere in our churches. Things have become so bizarre in these modern times that gross perversities are accepted as perfectly normal and natural. My brothers, open your eyes! We are to be a unique people, sanctified by God, set apart for him, and different from the world. Should we join them in their perversions because it is convenient or fashionable?

Perverse Speaking

The third way in which my brothers and sisters today have forsaken the Word of God and are worshipping the idol concerns the command to keep silent in the churches. Paul gave this command, saying: **"As in all the churches of the sanctified, let the women keep silent in the churches. For it is not permitted for them to speak, but to be subordinate, as the law also says. And if they want to learn anything, let them question their own husbands at home, for it is an ugly thing for women to speak in an assembly"** (1 Corinthians 14:34-35). This command is repeated in Paul's first letter to Timothy. He wrote: **"Let a woman learn in silence in all subjection. But I do not allow a woman to teach, nor to act autonomously from a man, but to be in quietness"** (1 Timothy 2:11-12).

This command is clearly related to the subservient role of women, as Paul even said. In more sensible times, subordinates were supposed to be "seen and not heard" (unless called for) in the presence of their superiors. But for Christians this restriction is so strict that Paul did not even give men the option of inviting a lady to speak when they assemble as a church. Their silent submission sends out a message both to their children and to outsiders that they recognize men as their superiors.

Disobedience to this command appears to have crept in when the human institution of Sunday School (or, if you prefer, "Bible class") was introduced into the churches in the nineteenth century. It is argued that the restriction on women applies only to the so-called "worship service" and not in classes. But you will find no such teaching in the Word of God.

These are the same kinds of tactics and lame excuses used by the denominational world to justify their disobedience to other commands. Moreover, the command is as strong as it is plain. Paul

said, **“Or did the word of God come forth from you? Or did it come to you only? If any man presumes to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge what I write to you, that they are commandments of Lord. But if any man is ignorant, let him be ignorant”** (1 Corinthians 14:36-38). That stern warning suggests that there were some (perhaps by twisting and misinterpreting other scriptures, as some do today) who were trying to elevate women to a more active role in the Church. Paul’s last statement in that Scripture reminds me of the words of our Lord Jesus near the end of the Bible:

Let the man doing wrong still do wrong, and let the filthy man still be filthy. And let the righteous man still do righteousness, and let the holy man still be holy. Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me to render to each man as his work will be. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those doing his commandments, so that their right will be to the tree of life, and they may enter in the gates into the city
(Revelation 22:11-14)

Now about commandments. Every rule is part of a broader principle (the spirit behind it). The command for silence is one manifestation of the principle of women’s subservience to men. Jesus quoted the prophet Isaiah when he told the Pharisees: **“This people comes near me with their mouth, and honors me with their lips, but their heart is far distant from me ...”** (Matthew 15:8, from Isaiah 29:13).

Similar people today claim to love God but deny him by their actions. They try to circumvent his principles by constricting his rules with their hedges and their fences, and by searching for every loophole to defeat them. “O yes, that is what it says,” they admit, “but you only have to do it this way or that way, here or there.” “It really means this or that.” “It was really only for them and not for us anyway.”

True children of God do not run from his rules; they not only obey them, but they try to find the underlying principles that support each rule. In so doing they become wiser, and they can then generalize, and apply God’s Word to any eventuality. For example, Jesus said, **“Ye have heard that it was said, Thou shall not commit adultery. But I say to you, that every man who looks on a woman to crave her has already committed adultery with her in his heart”** (Matthew 5:27-28).

The command forbidding adultery was only an outward manifestation of an underlying principle. Therefore, women who may submit to the rule of silence during the assembly but then speak and act as if they were equal with men outside the assembly miss the whole point, and they risk missing Heaven as well.

Perverse Prayer

The final way in which my brothers and sisters today have forsaken the Word of God, and are worshipping the idol concerns the command that women (and women only) keep their heads covered when they pray or prophesy.¹ Paul also gave this command. He said, **“But every woman praying or prophesying with her head uncovered dishonors her head, for it is one and the same thing as the woman who has been shaven. For if a woman is not covered, let her also shear herself. But if it is an ugly thing for a woman to shear herself or be shaven, she should be covered. For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, being an image and glory of God, but woman is a glory of man”** (1 Corinthians 11: 5-7).

This is another of God’s commands related to the subordination of women, and it is also plain and clear. Both men and women in past times understood it with no difficulty. Throughout the centuries in virtually all churches, men and women obeyed this command. (Incidentally, the Greek word Paul used means a head covering and not a veil over the face as practiced by the Arabs.) It has been in my lifetime, at the same time that American women have rebelled against their subservient role, that this command has now become almost universally rejected.

Paul also wrote: **“Every man praying or prophesying having something upon his head dishonors his head. But every woman praying or prophesying with her head uncovered dishonors her head ...”** (1 Corinthians 11:4-5). Few Christian men dishonor Christ by keeping their heads covered, but these days almost every Christian woman dishonors her head by *not* keeping her head covered, and few Christian men object. It is another of God’s commands surrendered to this false god. Paul said that if a woman refuses to cover her head then she should also shave her head.

How many women do you know who would be proud to have all the hair shaved from off their heads? And what man today has the authority to do it? His church would expel him, his wife would sue him, and his government would jail him. Paul said a naked, baldhead is no less shameful to a woman in the sight of God than to pray or prophesy with her head uncovered. Faithful sisters, your

1. The word ‘prophesy’, like many other words, varies in meaning depending upon the context. Nobody living after the age of the apostles can claim to utter new knowledge, or make predictions, based upon divine inspiration. Hence, the proper application of this command today is for Christian women to have this sign of authority upon their heads when they proclaim the word of God to children or to other women.

men may be too cowardly to order you, but do you want to practice your faith in a shameful condition?¹

Paul further explained the necessity of women covering their heads properly when he said, **“Because of this the woman ought to have authority over her head, because of the heavenly agents”** (1 Corinthians 11:10). It is necessary for women to demonstrate their respect for ranks of authority on earth because all disciples of Christ are going to be given authority in Heaven. For Jesus said, **“He who overcomes, I will give him to sit with me in my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father in his throne”** (Revelation 3:21).

Moreover, Paul said that in Heaven we are going to be given authority to judge the inhabitants of both Heaven and earth: **“Or know ye not that the sanctified will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are ye unworthy of very small legal disputes? Know ye not that we will judge heavenly agents? Then why not mundane things?”** (1 Corinthians 6:2-3).

It is God’s will for all creatures to be subservient to his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Moreover, it is God’s will for women to be a subservient class of citizens on earth to be dominated by men. Furthermore, it is God’s will for Heavenly agents to be a subservient class of citizens in Heaven to be dominated by his adopted children, Christians. If Christian women rebel against men on earth, how can they justify judging Heavenly agents who may rebel against them in Heaven?

The truth is, submission to some kind of authority is required of everybody. Of course, some kinds of submission in this world are especially difficult because it seems to be so unjust. For example, it is a common occurrence to find many men and women alike living in obedience to others who are of weaker character and/or ability. But God has promised that if we patiently endure, such things will be reversed in Heaven. Remember Lazarus and the rich man (Luke 16).

But if any of you are inclined to be contentious about the command for a head covering, like those who oppose immersion in water for salvation, and other plain commandments, and would dispute the necessity of this very simple and easy requirement, know that you can find many excellent web sites by both men and women who

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1. Incidentally, do not believe the undocumented nonsense about bald prostitutes in those days, which is sometimes used as an argument that a woman’s natural hair was the covering Paul meant. Like all women everywhere (except some occasional modern entertainment freaks—is there no limit to their perversity?) those ancient street-walkers kept their hair, but I have read that Roman whores sometimes dyed their hair with bright colors.

support this commandment. It is ironic that many conservative Christians condemn others who refuse to obey simple commands such as immersion in water for the remission of sins, but do not insist that our women obey the even simpler act of covering their heads appropriately.

Sexual Perversity

Every man with eyes can see how much sexual perversity in increasing in modern pagan America. God has always condemned sexual perversity. Homosexuality was the reason for his destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. And now we use the word Sodom to identify a form of homosexual behavior, sodomy. There is a strong correlation between feminism and homosexuality. Both have increased together in pagan America. Paul prophesied what would happen in our land when we turned from God. He said,

... although knowing God, they did not glorify him as God, nor were they thankful, but became vain in their reasonings and their heart was darkened without understanding. Professing to be wise, they became foolish, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image like corruptible man, and of birds, and four-footed things, and creeping things [the image now is the mythical force evolution]. And for this reason God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to uncleanness, to degrade their bodies among themselves, who changed the truth of God into the lie, and worshiped and served the creation against him who created it, who is blessed into the ages. Truly.

Because of this God gave them up to shameful passions, for even their females changed the natural use into what is against nature. And likewise also the males, having left the natural use of the female, burned in their lust toward each other, males with males producing shamelessness, and receiving in themselves the recompense of their deviancy that was fitting (Romans 1:21-27).

But sexual perversity is not limited to homosexuality. The practice of pedophilia is also growing. The reason why homosexuality and pedophilia are growing in America is clear to me. They are both unnatural perversions resulting from the unnatural perversion of sex roles. Everybody knows there is an inborn desire for sexual intercourse. There is also an inborn desire for men to dominate women, and for women to be submissive. God made it that way from the beginning when he told Eve, **“And thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee”** (Genesis 3:16).

Feminism opposes and therefore frustrates both of those natural desires. Hence, marriage relationships are now frail and unstable. Divorce was rare in Christian American, but now half of all

marriages end in divorce. Moreover, an increasing number of Americans are not marrying at all. Hence, they satisfy their sexual appetite in other ways. Since women are refusing to be submissive, men of weak character are using other men and children to satisfy their lust. Perversities always develop when the natural ways God created for us are frustrated.

The Ultimate Victory of Righteousness

My brothers, when Christians keep the love of God supreme in their hearts; when they live righteously and love their neighbors; when they keep themselves pure, resisting the temptations of the world; when they are willing to endure hatred and persecution as the early Christians did; then the time will come when we will prevail. We can **“overcome evil with good”** (Romans 12:21) if we have the courage to **“fight the good fight”** (1 Timothy 6:12).

Remember, although severely persecuted, Christians eventually conquered the mighty Roman Empire, armed only with the sword of the Spirit. I regret to say that American Christians have yet to be as courageous. Consider the matter of racial segregation. Is there anybody today who is so prejudiced that he believes in complete racial segregation? Would any church now refuse to allow a faithful Christian of dark skin to worship with them?

I was a youngster when racial segregation was the law of the land in the southern states. I remember the separate Caucasian and Negro (a name which is both more descriptive and honorable than “black” or “African-American”) rest-rooms. I remember when those people had to sit in the rear of the buses, and when they were refused restaurant and motel accommodations. I remember when they did not worship in the same congregations with Caucasians: they were not welcome for membership. Those Christians could not attend some of our Christian colleges. My wife taught in the academy of one of them. During her application interview with the president he told her that as long as he was in control no Negro would ever be allowed to attend. Was this the spirit of Christ in him? Did not James rebuke those who show such partiality (James 2:1-6)?

How then could devout Christians have practiced racial discrimination? For the same reason feminism is accepted today: because they were blinded by popular opinion, and it was the law of the land. Therefore a great opportunity to bring glory and honor to the Church was lost. If the Church had endured the hatred and persecution that went with not showing partiality, then when segregation did fall, the Church would have been recognized as a hero of justice and right.

The Church would have been honored by the world for its courage to oppose prejudice and racism, and for its love for the poor and the oppressed. And Christ, our Lord, would have been glorified. It did

not happen because those Christians lacked conviction and courage. And where is their conviction and courage about feminism today? Remember Paul's words: **“And be not conformed to this age, but be ye transformed by the renewal of your mind, for ye to approve what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God”** (Romans 12:2).

My brothers, this essay was not written for unbelievers. They do not care what God wants. Indeed, they hate his ways. It was written to help those who have ears to hear—my brothers and my sisters, children of God—to help you avoid suffering the hardships and sorrowful consequences of sin with those who live foolishly with the world. Please reflect upon what I have written, and be noble like the brothers at Berea who searched the scriptures daily to see whether the things said were so (Acts 17:11). While instructing Timothy, Paul said, **“Consider what I say, for may the Lord give thee understanding in all things”** (2 Timothy 2:7). Through the instruction of men like Paul, my Heavenly Father has opened my eyes to understand. He will open your eyes, too, if you really want him to. But if you close your eyes and harden your heart, do not think the Lord will excuse your lack of understanding any more than he will excuse others who are practicing errors of a different kind.

“Now to the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, alone wise, to God is honor and glory into the ages of the ages. Truly” (1 Timothy 1:17).

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