

### **Recap of 3/11/18 (1 Timothy 2:11-15)**

1. 1 Timothy 2:11-15 is one of the most misunderstood, and consequently, controversial, passages in the New Testament. The passage concerns instructions about the public ministry of women in the church. The issue in the passage is order versus disorder, that is, the disorder which occurs when God's design is abandoned.
2. Warren Wiersbe expresses it this way: "Paul reminds Christian men that Christian women are important to the Lord and to the work of the church. The gospel brought freedom to women in the Roman Empire, but some of them did not know how to handle it and went to extremes asserting their liberty. Hence, the reminder about the spiritual leadership of men in the church."
3. Paul's instruction to women is misinterpreted to mean women must not speak in public ministry, but the Greek word translated "quietness" in verse 11, and "be silent" in verse 12 does not mean "to say nothing," but rather means to not be unruly or disorderly. This is also seen by its' use in 2:2 ("quiet lives") where it has that meaning.
4. The word "submission" in verse 11 comes from the military world and means to line up in ranks. Again, it's a word that has to do with order and responsibility, not with value, ability, or equality.
5. Some disregard this teaching by accusing Paul of misogyny (hatred for women), or by saying that it is tainted by the male-dominated culture of the day. But show great respect for the ministry of women in other places (see especially Romans 16) and his appeal is not to culture but to God's design as seen in Creation (vv. 13-15). Based on that, Paul restricts the office of Elder to men. Whether male or female, we can only have God's best if we fulfil His design for us.
6. "A good woman is the best thing on earth. Women were last at the cross and first at the open tomb. The church owes a debt to her faithful women which she can never estimate, to say nothing of the debt we owe in our homes to godly wives and mothers." (Vance Havner)