



What the Bible Says to Women Pt 4: The Blessings and Privileges of Biblical Womanhood

May 28, 2023

The Three Goals of this Series:

1. To Encourage God's daughters and the entire church.
2. To Equip and Edify you to stand on truth, for such a time as this.
3. To Extol and Exalt the LORD who is glorious in His Truth!

Holy Texts:

Proverbs 18:22 (KJV) *Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.*

Proverbs 31:30 (KJV) *Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.*

Quick thoughts:

1. Good wives are a "good thing" (Prov 18:22) *Good thing* here carries the sense of such a woman being bountiful, cheerful, pleasant, and precious. NLT translates the term as *treasure*. The CEV says, "A man's greatest treasure is his wife— she is a gift from the LORD."
2. Good wives are also a sign of favour. Favour in Prov 18:22 means "delight" in Hebrew! This can be looked at in two ways: 1) God is delighted in a man, so He gives Him a good thing, and 2) Such a wife is herself a delight!
3. There is a different word in Hebrew for *favour* in Prov 31:30. This word means *graciousness* or *charm*. The implication is that charm can be false (in an ungodly woman), just as beauty can fade (in all women). But there is something better...
4. Good women fear God! What is the Fear of the LORD?

"The fear of the Lord is the love, reverence, awe and passion that prompt the believer to obey God. It is that state of mental and emotional sanctification where the believer sees God as holy and a reverent trembling results. It is the necessary characteristic of Christian discipleship where total obedience to the commands of Christ is seen as a loving response to a loving God.

It is a behavioral restraining element even in the heart of those who do not follow Christ. In other words, it is a cultural acknowledgment within man's conscience of the Law of God (Ro 2:15). It is a necessary component of any Godly and moral society.

It is the understanding that God will one day judge the earth and all who ever lived."

A woman who fears the LORD walks in holiness and blessing!

Psalms 2:11 (KJV) *Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.*

Psalms 19:9 (KJV) *The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.*

Psalms 34:7 (KJV) *The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.*

Proverbs 1:7 (KJV) *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Proverbs 9:10 (KJV) *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.*

Proverbs 14:27 (KJV) *The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.*

Proverbs 19:23 (KJV) *The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.*

5. Such women shall be praised! Our goals today are to both praise good women and demonstrate from Scripture the blessings of such.

Recap from Parts 1-3

To understand such a difficult topic, we must have the right view of God's Word:

1. That Scripture is Neither Authoritative NOR Binding. In this view, Scripture is seen more like a *conversation* and God more like a *motivational speaker*. *This person selects the verses that makes them feel good and rejects laws, precepts and most forms of accountability.*
2. That Scripture is Authoritative, but NOT Binding. This view says Scripture IS God's Word, but is subject to culture, circumstances, and personal vision. Here, Scripture is read more like *medication* and God seen as a *doctor*. One with this view struggles with (if not outright rejects) the Word if it is seen to "limit" them and what they want to accomplish in life.
3. That Scripture is Authoritative AND Binding. The one who holds this view sees Scripture not just as medication but as **regulation**; in this worldview, God is more than a motivator or doctor. He is **King and Judge!** Man does not have the authority to disobey God; all of Scripture is inspired by God!

A woman's creation and first purposes are thus:

- She is created for man to help him (Gen 2:18)
- She is created from man; they are interdependent (Gen 2:21-22)
- She was brought to the man. Her husband is her head. (Gen 2:22)
- She was named by the man. She takes upon herself his vision. (Gen 2:23)

Remember the tenderness of Adam's words in verse 23. His words don't describe a "hyper-patriarch" or the woman as a subservient slave or doormat. Rather, she is bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh...she is a part of him! Paul wrote: *"So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:"* (**Ephesians 5:28-29, KJV**)

Basic definitions:

- A man is a human male, created by God. A woman is a human female, created by God. Together, they are Adam: Man or the Man-kind.
- A Biblical Woman is simply "a woman who fears the LORD." (Prov 31:30)
- Biblical Womanhood is the spiritual, mental, emotional, and action-oriented state of a woman who has seen her sin in the light of God's holiness, repented and believed in Jesus

Christ, and therefore views His Word as Sufficient. She therefore finds her identity in Christ, believes all the Bible says about her sex, role, and duties, and is unashamedly fearless as she attempts to humbly obey the Biblical precepts, principles, and patterns concerning women.

Adam named Eve *Chavvâh* in Hebrew. It means “life-giving” or “a living place.” In great love and kindness, he did not associate her name with her sin, but rather with her mission! We can obviously see the love and forgiveness of both God and Adam. Oh how precious Eve was to them both!

But women do sin (as men do), and have particular vulnerabilities:

1. Discontentment with her assigned Role and Duties
2. A Desire to Dominate/Lead Men
3. Immodesty, which is normally (but not always) paired with Loudness/brashness/contentiousness
4. Manipulation/Deceiving
5. An increased susceptibility to being deceived

Suggestions to better heed these warnings and overcome these sins:

1. Prayer. Pray in these areas for God’s enablement Sisters!
 2. Remember the Gospel; remember Christ! You belong to Him!
 3. Study the Scripture for yourself!
 4. Know that God’s Word for you is good! His commandments are not burdensome! (1 Jn 5:3)
 5. Listen to godly people; get *anointed* counsel, not just *agreeable* counsel!
 6. Attend a strong, courageous church who loves you enough to give you the whole counsel of God.
 7. If married, go to your husband for help! (1 Cor 14:35)
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12 Blessings and Privileges of Biblical Womanhood

1. The Happiness of Helping

- **Genesis 2:18 (KJV)** *And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*
- There is nothing dishonorable about being an “Ezer.” Indeed, man (in general) cannot take dominion without one!
- Since helping is God’s plan, **why not be a happy helper? Why not use your God-given gifts to advance your husband (if married) and your household?**
- **For singles, why not devote yourself to your father’s mission (younger ladies) or your local church in areas where you are strong? Your help is needed!**

2. The Liberating “Limitations” concerning Leadership

- **Colossians 3:18-19 (KJV)** *Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.*
- **1 Timothy 2:11-14 (KJV)** *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. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.*
- Submitting instead of leading is always looked at like a terrible thing these days. Why? Because we are all looking through feminist lenses.

- It wasn't always that way. Many women in the late 1800's and early 1900's knew that "to whom much is given, much is required" and they eschewed feminist calls to lead.
- **Sisters, some burdens are meant for men. Others are meant for women. Rejoice that the responsibilities of certain spheres you don't have to carry!**

3. The Blessing of Birthing Children

- **1 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)** *Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.*
- This verse confuses many. The reason is because "saved" here doesn't mean "salvific." Paul isn't saying that women can only get to heaven if they bear children!
- Rather, in context (see #2), Paul is saying that a woman redeems Eve's failure when she embraces her calling as a godly woman, which for most, will include marriage and children.
- She "saves" the image of womanhood when she eschews Eve's desire for deity and dominance and instead humbly gives life with faith, love, and holiness with self-control.
- **Godly women reframe and reclaim the image of womanhood!**
- **The devil knows this too, and works to mar this image and kill her children!**

4. The Security of being Supported

- **Genesis 3:17-19 (KJV)** *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.*
- **1 Timothy 5:8 (KJV)** *But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*
- Biblically, men carry the burden of provision. Biblically, a woman is to be provided for from birth until death, either by her father, her husband, her relatives, or her church. (1 Tim 5:3-16)
- **Yes, our world is so different due to sin. But Sisters, you are supposed to be secure. That is God's perfect will.**

5. The Privilege of Protection

- **1 Samuel 30:17-18 (KJV)** *And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled. 18 And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives.*
- In Scripture, men are the protectors and are called to lay down their lives for the wives and children.
- Men are even called to protect and defend women's honor: "Treat older women as you would your mother, and treat younger women with all purity as you would your own sisters." (1 Tim 5:2 NLT)
- Feminism and abuse has overthrown much of this. Chivalry is dead? Not at CRC!
- **Sisters, know that our God counts you worthy to be continually protected! And here, you will be!**

6. The Blessing of Beauty and Beautifying

- **Psalms 144:12 (KJV)** *That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace:*

- Men and women are different. Much of our purpose can be ascertain from our physical design. Everything about the design of a woman screams beauty!
- “*Woman* is the last creature God created, and in my view, He saved the best for last! With all my heart, I believe that *Woman* was created with beauty in mind, to be delightful inside and out, and has a beautiful purpose given by God! Now, note that after Eve’s creation, God was finished! *Woman* is the last thing God made. She is the best and brightest stone on the crown of creation, the finishing touch in the mind of God, and designed by God to be a beautifying “corner pillar” fit for a palace (Ps 144:12).”¹
- **Rejoice in your beautifying role Sisters! You bring warmth, compassion, kindness, tenderness into our lives! You make our houses a home!**

7. The Comfort of Covering

- Numbers 30 describes vows taken by men, married women, and daughters...the blessings of being “covered” or being under authority. It is an amazing chapter!
- What seems to be happening there is a wife or young woman gets “in over her head” with a “bond wherewith she hath bound her soul.” (v.4, 6)
- If the husband or father hears of it and does not say anything, the vow stands. But, he can disallow it and God forgives the woman. For ex:

Numbers 30:8 (KJV) *But if her husband disallowed her on the day that he heard it; then he shall make her vow which she vowed, and that which she uttered with her lips, wherewith she bound her soul, of none effect: and the LORD shall forgive her.*
- A vow from a widowed or divorced woman stands. (v.9) But...

Numbers 30:13-15 (KJV) *Every vow, and every binding oath to afflict the soul, her husband may establish it, or her husband may make it void. 14 But if her husband altogether hold his peace at her from day to day; then he establisheth all her vows, or all her bonds, which are upon her: he confirmeth them, because he held his peace at her in the day that he heard them. 15 But if he shall any ways make them void after that he hath heard them; then he shall bear her iniquity.*
- **The principle is a blessing to women: husband/fathers bear responsibility. God wanted his daughters covered and guarded against rash statements and vows.**

8. The Sanctification of Shamefacedness

- **1 Timothy 2:9 (KJV)** *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;*
- This word means “downcast eyes” or “honor.” This is the opposite of Prov 7:10-11: “*And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart; She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house.*”
- **Sisters, despite your beauty, you have the honor to display a holy and set apart meekness and propriety in your representation of Christ for all the world to see!**

9. The Honor of a Home-focus

- **Titus 2:4-5 (KJV)** *That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.*

¹ *Return to Head Covering*, McLeod, p.68, 2017.

- A woman's primary focus and sphere of ministry, by design, is her household. She guards it. (*oikouros*) "She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness." (Prov 31:27)
- **1 Timothy 5:14 (KJV)** *I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.*
- Under her husbands leadership, she is charged with guiding household affairs! (*oikodespoteō*)
- **What a gift! Some of the most important blessings of the Kingdom happen in homes: discipling of children, family worship, nourishing food, hospitality, sharing the Gospel with neighbors, rest, peace, etc!**

10. The Distinction of Representing the Church

- **Ephesians 5:31-33 (KJV)** *For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.*
- A godly woman shows a lost and dying world how the Church of Jesus Christ loves and submits to her Master! She is the chaste and adorned bride, and although meek and quiet, she shouts loudly with her life of holiness the Gospel of Christ!
- **This should be considered a great privilege Sisters!**

11. The Humble Expectation of Gentle and Kind Treatment

- **Ephesians 5:28-29 (KJV)** *So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:*
- **1 Peter 3:7 (KJV)** *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.*
- Sisters, you are to be nourished (brought to maturity) and cherished (kept warm, treated with tender care) by your husband, and by extension, the men in your life.
- We men should strive to understand you and do so in a way that affords you honor as the weaker vessel: physically weaker in general, and with different emotional wiring and ontological purpose.
- **You should never be treated harshly or intimidated with physical strength. In short, you should humbly expect to be "treated like a lady!"**

12. The Mandate to be a Mentor

- **Titus 2:3-4 (KJV)** *The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,*
- Sisters, at some point in your journey, most of you will have the privilege to mentor and train your daughters and/or other young women in the ways of biblical womanhood!
- **This perpetuates God's goodness towards women into the next generation! What a blessing!**

LORD, you have blessed your daughters with kind and joyful blessings! Thank you! Amen!