

The Things We Believe  
“Women Will Be Saved Through Child Bearing”  
Wednesday, October 14, 2020

- \* There is a very strange scripture that seems to imply that a woman is somehow “saved through child bearing!”

1 Timothy 2:15 (NLT)

But women will be saved through childbearing, assuming they continue to live in faith, love, holiness, and modesty.

- \* Even after a logical look at this verse it seems pretty obscure if not downright confusing!
- \* Any logical person admits that all redemption comes through the same means...the life, death and resurrection of Christ!!!
- \* What DOES this verse actually say to us?
- \* Context is everything! When having a conversation or when interpreting scripture...context says it all!

1 Timothy 2:5-15 (NLT)

There is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. 6 He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time. 7 And I have been chosen as a preacher and apostle to teach the Gentiles this message about faith and truth. I’m not exaggerating—just telling the truth. 8 In every place of worship, I want men to pray with holy hands lifted up to God, free from anger and controversy. 9 And I want women to be modest in their appearance. They should wear decent and appropriate clothing and not draw attention to themselves by the way they fix their hair or by wearing gold or pearls or expensive clothes. 10 For women who claim to be devoted to God should make themselves attractive by the good things they do.

11 Women should learn quietly and submissively. 12 I do not let women teach men or have authority over them. Let them listen quietly. 13 For God made Adam first, and afterward he made Eve. 14 And it was not Adam who was deceived by Satan. The woman was deceived, and sin was the result. 15 But women will be saved through childbearing, assuming they continue to live in faith, love, holiness, and modesty.

- I. The first thing to notice is Paul's encouragement to Timothy concerning...THE MESSAGE GOD GAVE THE WORLD!
  - A. The message of the Gospel, the redemption of Christ, must never get lost in the shuffle of debate and discussion!
    1. This is where unity finds its footing! At the cross!
    2. After there is unity in the essentials there can be liberty in our opinions and approaches of the Christian life!
    3. Then after we give one another liberty in how we walk out our faith, there can be charity in everything else!
  - B. For our discussion tonight, notice that Paul makes a single comment about men! "Lift up holy hands free from anger and controversy!"
    1. That's it...that's all he says!
    2. Then he goes on a diatribe about women!
      - a) Women should be modest in appearance
      - b) Wear cloths in such a way as to not bring attention to themselves

- c) Don't go overboard with the way they fix their hair, wear jewelry and wear expensive cloths
- d) If they are devoted to God they should concentrate on having an attractive heart not outward appearance
- e) They should learn quietly and in submission
- f) Women can never teach men or have authority over them

C. Then Paul says:

- a) For God made Adam first, then Eve
- b) Adam wasn't deceived but Eve was and that's how sin came into the world
- c) Then Paul makes this most amazing statement:  
"But women will be saved through child bearing!"

D. After this "laundry list" of issues with women, Paul says, "It will all be okay because women are saved through bearing children!"

(I'm really not sure how any logical person of thought would not think these statements are really bazaar!)

II. Let's step back a little and realize some historical issues of that early day in the establishing of the Church of Jesus Christ!

A. There was a great move of women's liberation and false teaching surrounding the early Church!

Acts 19:23-35 (NLT)

23 About that time, serious trouble developed in Ephesus concerning the Way. 24 It began with Demetrius, a silversmith who had a large business manufacturing silver shrines of the Greek goddess Artemis. He kept many craftsmen busy. 25 He called them together, along with others employed in similar trades, and addressed them as follows: “Gentlemen, you know that our wealth comes from this business. 26 But as you have seen and heard, this man Paul has persuaded many people that handmade gods aren’t really gods at all. And he’s done this not only here in Ephesus but throughout the entire province! 27 Of course, I’m not just talking about the loss of public respect for our business. I’m also concerned that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will lose its influence and that Artemis—this magnificent goddess worshiped throughout the province of Asia and all around the world—will be robbed of her great prestige!” 28 At this their anger boiled, and they began shouting, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” 29 Soon the whole city was filled with confusion. Everyone rushed to the amphitheater, dragging along Gaius and Aristarchus, who were Paul’s traveling companions from Macedonia. 30 Paul wanted to go in, too, but the believers wouldn’t let him. 31 Some of the officials of the province, friends of Paul, also sent a message to him, begging him not to risk his life by entering the amphitheater. 32 Inside, the people were all shouting, some one thing and some another. Everything was in confusion. In fact, most of them didn’t even know why they were there. 33 The Jews in the crowd pushed Alexander forward and told him to explain the situation. He motioned for silence and tried to speak. 34 But when the crowd realized he was a Jew, they started shouting again and kept it up for about two hours: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians! Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” 35 At last the mayor was able to quiet them down enough to speak. “Citizens of Ephesus,” he said. “Everyone knows that Ephesus is the official guardian of the temple of the great Artemis, whose image fell down to us from heaven.

1. Ephesus was the very place Timothy served as an “overseer” of the church!

2. This cult of Artemis or Diana as she was also called, had caused great distress in the Church!
  3. The leaders of this cult were literally rewriting the Genesis account of creation!
- B. They were teaching that:
1. Eve was created first and then Adam!
  2. Adam was the one deceived and that's how sin entered the world!
  3. They taught that since women were far above men in intelligence, leadership abilities and class...that women should not stoop to the nurturing of family and having children!
- III. This is where Paul begins to instruct Timothy! Literally speaking to each element of this cult's teaching!
- A. This is WHY Paul includes the "laundry list" for women after a simple and single statement concerning men!
1. God made Adam first
  2. Eve was the one deceived
  3. Then, the weird statement about "child bearing!"
- B. Paul is staking to truth and design when he makes these statements!

1. Paul is saying, “God’s design is marriage and roles of husbands and wives!”
2. He is saying that childbearing and nurturing families is NOT an obstacle but rather God’s design!
3. Timothy is simply being encouraged to combat this heresy taught by this Artemis cult!
4. Unfortunately, because many do not “accurately handle the truth” we make this “saved through child rearing” something it’s not. (even women in general)