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Mary, Mary Quite Contrary

Or

[1]Does the Lord Jesus Christ Want women To Rule as Elders in His Church ?

By David Clarke

This is <u>not confidential</u> and is for all to read.

Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity.

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Foreword

by Ken Matto

We live in a day of **rank apostasy**. That apostasy is not limited to the unbelieving world because much of it is accepted by the Christian world. David Clarke hits head on one of the tenets of the apostasy which has exploded internationally. A time like this had been prophesied by Isaiah. Isaiah 3:12 (KJV) As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths. The tenet which David Clarke hits head on is the one of women preachers and women elders in the churches. Isaiah states that women were ruling over the people of God, when the men should have been in leadership roles. The Scripture states that "they which lead thee cause thee to err." In this book you will find a confrontation between elders and the word of God. When church leaders neglect the truths of Scripture and base everything they believe on as their "personal opinion", then the paths have been destroyed for the Christian, as Isaiah teaches.

One of the outgrowths of the charismatic movement, is the teaching that women are just as qualified as men to be elders and pastors. This is not to say that women are lacking leadership qualities but the Bible is very clear that they are not to rule over men and are not to have rule in the churches. It is unfortunate that many feminized men in the church kowtow behind the concept that disallowing women rule in the churches is not showing them love. The reality is that being disobedient to the commands of Scripture is nothing more than rebellion against God. 1 Samuel 15:3 speaks about rebellion being as the sin of witchcraft. God has given specific instructions concerning the churches and their structure and who are we to claim that we know more than God.

The deep apostasy which many churches have accepted is made visible in this book but not only churches, Bible colleges have also acquiesced to disobeying the Bible and have endorsed women rulers in the church. It is a shame that those who bring the truth are considered the troublemakers in the churches. Tell me, what kind of love do you show someone when you actually help them to be disobedient to God? Will they still love you when they are in hell paying for their sins of rebellion? It is time for Christian men to step up and be men. 1 Corinthians 16:13 (KJV) Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. This book needs to be in the library of all Christians to help them oppose the incursion of women rulers in the church. It is still not too late to bring about a repentance on the part of church leaders for allowing themselves to be swayed by false teaching. A strong church obeys God, a weak and dying one disobeys God, regardless of how many attend.

Dr. Ken Matto
Scion of Zion Internet Ministry
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1 Introduction

I felt compelled to write this book, after my return from a 10 month preaching mission to the jails in the Philippines, between October 2002 and June 2003. The complete mission is recorded in the Trojan Horse Diary for that year entitled, "**Before the Cock Crows"**.

Like all that I have written and published it is from my experience as a Christian, were I record those conflicts that I faced when seeking to follow Christ through the many difficulties that I encountered. I seek to show how the Lord stood by me when men forsook me. My desire is to pass on my learning to others .

My story of conversion from crime to Christ is told in my book, **Converted on LSD Trip** and also **Bierton Strict and Particular Baptists** and **Borstal Boys**,

I was converted and became a Christian on the 16th January 1970, and sought to followed Jesus Christs as best I could. I learned to read in order to educate myself.

I was not brought up in a Christian home nor connected with any church but learned the truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ through reading the bible and classical Christian literature my self.

Within three years of my conversion I came from ignorance, having no educational qualifications, barely able to read. I left school at the age of 15 years old, not knowing what the book of the Acts of the Apostles was all about, or why Jesus had to die, to a comprehensive knowledge and history of the bible, who Jesus is, the doctrines of grace, predestination, election, justification by faith, in short the historic teachings of the protestant reformation. These truths assisted me in my reformation turning from a life of crime to Christ.

In my earlier books I tell how I educated my self, went on to Higher Education, became a baptist minister in a Strict and Particular Baptist church and taught electronics for over 20 years, in colleges of Higher and Further Education.

In the Philippines I discovered sadly, to my disappointment, that many religious errors in practice and doctrine had developed in a country, which is very religious. I had already encountered the beginnings of such errors some 20 years earlier when the I was a minister amongst **Strict and Particular Baptists** in England. These errors include the failure to understand or the rejection of the facts that:

1 That the scripture both Old and New Testaments are the only source of reliable knowledge relating to the way of salvation.

2 That the underlying text of the New Testament are those manuscripts contained in the **Majority** or **Received Text** of Scripture, all of which were used by the Protestant Reformers.

3 That the New Testament epistles of the Apostles carry authority and are the word of God.

3 The Protestant Reformers correctly understand the way of salvation that is outlined and referred to by some as Calvinism.

Introduction

The provocative question**, "Does the Lord Jesus want women to rule as elders in His church"** is a very reasonable one as we are living in the days when women are being appointed as elders, leaders and preachers in the church. It never use to be so. I believed this provocative question will be the means of addressing this and other matters in scripture. I do not believe appointing women as elders honours women kind. Women do not respect men who are **a weak, cowardly, or ineffectual persons.**

Women Rights, Equality of Sex or Race

When treating the subject of Elders in the church we are not dealing with the affairs of a secular society and so it had nothing to do with women rights, equality of sex or race.

The Suffragettes

Emmeline Pankhurst 1858 -1928) was a Suffragette and worked very hard to bring equal rights for women to vote as men. In the year of her death all women over 21 gained the right to vote. The Suffragette movement brought about many changes for the better in a secular society but not so for women seeking to follow Christian principles. One of her famous quotes was, "**Trust in God She shall provid**e". Terms which do reflect Christian beliefs. We know God will provide and He is not a she.

Weapons formed against Christians

This book seeks to show what the bible has to say about the role of women in the church and family. It demonstrates that the secular world and those who turn from following the scriptures persecute those who wish to follow Christ . It is believed that such people are empowered by those in the feminist movement which is not a good thing.

Our Citizenship

We belong to Christ our citizenship is in a kingdom that is not of this world. The Lord Jesus Christ redeemed

his church, bought them with his blood, he gave his life and died for her. We are not our own we were bought with a price. The Church is his bride and he is her head. We are subject to Christ under His law. The church consists of believers in Christ who follow the teaching of the apostles of Christ. They are normally baptized, having been born again and receive the bible as the word of God. All instructions regarding doctrine, behaviour and practice are directions for believers and not directed at unbelievers who are not members of Christ

Mark Those Who Cause Division

We are exhorted by the Apostle Paul to **"Mark those who cause division and offences",** in the church.

Romans 16 verses to 20

And avoid them.

I am writing this book to bring attention to the fact that certain men in the church I attended in 1999 caused a division by seeking to promote women at elders. The church is the "Jesus Is Lord Church", Warsash, Hampshire UK.

I have mark and named the elders who caused the division with a view to point out the errors and contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints.

Romans 16 verse 17

Now I beseech you brethren mark them, which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine, which ye have learned: and **avoid them.**

2 Method of Approach

The following pages contain a documented history of this controversy that arose at the "Jesus is Lord". The controversy ended due to my withdrawal from the church after they insisted I should remain silent and not object to a women being made an elder.

I was asked **"How could I continue to go to the Church if I hold such different views to them**". I.e. I did not support them wishing to appoint women elders.

History of The Elders Announcement

On the first Lord's day in January 1999, it was announced in church, by Martin Lloyd, the church Secretary, that the elders were unanimous in their view that **women could now be nominated to become elders in the church**. I believed that this was wrong and contrary to scripture and was an error.

Documentary Evidence

This history is made known, by a series of letters and the correspondents between myself , the elders and other parties involved.

It was **the elders who caused the division and so they were marked, according to the scripture. These men were responsible for the offence.**

Please feel free comment and respond in any way you feel appropriate.

Martin Lloyd and elder and secretary, responded to my complaint, on 25th January 1999 , after I questioned him and another elder about the proposition to opening up the rights of the church members to nominate **women to the eldership,**

3 Announcement To The Church

When It was announce that church nominations were now open to women as well as men I immediately spoke to Brian one of the elders saying that I believed it wrong to appoint a woman as an elder, as it was contrary to scripture. I felt compelled to address this matter as it was introducing a controversy, in the church that was against the word of God.

I Write To The Elders

I straightway wrote this letter to the elders at Warsash church.

Dear Secretary and Elders,

It was announced today that the Eldership were in

unanimous agreement that women could be ordained as elders as well as men and nominations would be taken from the church to appoint new elders.

I groaned immediately as I felt very sad that a controversial issue was being introduced to the church. I spoke to Brian and another elder. (Two of the elders were away) saying I believed that the elders were in serious error on this point and I believed it my duty to say this to them. I stated that I did not like controversy and would avoid it but this matter was thrust upon the church.

I said that unanimity did not make a matter right, as all the disciples of Jesus were unanimous when they forsook him. That did not make it right.

I commended them for standing against making practicing homosexuals elders but I could not do the same about this issue.

The secretary said they had looked at the issue and that was their viewpoint and I should be subject to their authority.

I said I was not arguing about their authority but I was under authority to Jesus and I felt it my responsibility to say to them how I felt and believed. I stated that I did not have to believe what they believed.

I asked them what did they think I should do about the issue which has been raised by them not me.

Apostle Exhortation

My immediate thoughts called to mind the apostle Paul's exhortation to Titus which was to ordain elders in every city.

Titus 1. Verse 5.

He says, "If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly etc.

Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and convince the gainsayers.

The Elders To Be Men Not Women

I Timothy 5 v 1

Paul states that an Elder should not be rebuked but entreated as a father and the younger men as brethren.

The next verse states that elder women should be treated as mothers; the younger as sisters. In these two verses an elder is male there is no suggestion that an elder is a woman.

I understand the Hebrew word for elder is " zaqen" meaning old age - bearded. Meaning male as in

Gen 50 v 7.

The Hebrew word for elder women "gadol" meaning great as in

Gen 29 v 16.

Paul writes to Timothy

1 Tim 3 v 1

Saying, If a man desire the office of a (bishop), he desires a good work. The word bishop is similar to overseer as used in

Acts 20 v 28.

In this place it states the Holy Ghost made them overseers. These were men not women as later in

Acts 21 v 5

It says their wives and children came and kneeled down as they parted.

Paul states

1 Tim 3 v 2.

That a bishop must be blameless the husband of one wife. One that ruleth his own house having his children in subjection. If a man know not how to rule his own house how shall he take care of the church of God.

Here we are to understand the bishop or overseer is a man not a women.

The Apostle does make distinction between the man and the women and argues his point from scripture.

Men to pray women to adorn themselves

1 Tim 3 v 8.

He says I will that men pray every where lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

In like manor also that women adorn themselves in modest apparel with shame faced ness and sobriety.

Adam was first formed then Eve.

Adam was not deceived but the women being deceived was in the transgression.

I do not wish to be controversial but I believe the clear light should direct us or Gods word we be not be wiser that what is written. Obedience to Gods Word is better that sacrifice. Remember what happened to king Saul. I believe it is against the word of God to ordain women as elders.

Yours Sincerely in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ

David Clarke
End.

Lessons From Scripture

My thoughts on reflection about this matter were that I had learned the gospel truths from reading the scriptures very early on within a few months after my conversion from crime to Christ. I written of my conversion and experience in my book, "**Converted on LSD Trip**", also "**Bierton Strict and Particular Baptists**" and "**Borstal Boys**". I was shocked that these men and elders wished to contradict and go against scripture.

A Letter of Reply

I received a reply to my letter from Martin Lloyd, which is as follows and I would like you to read carefully as it is importance for you to see where he is going wrong.

Warsash "Jesus is lord" Church

Mr. D. Clark
11 Hayling Close,
Fareham
Hants.

Warsash United Reformed Church
Interim Secretary: M Lloyd
8 Home Rule Road,
Locks Heath,
Southampton,
S031 6LG
Tel. (01489) 581009
25 Jan. 99

Dear David,

Thank you for sharing with Brian and myself your concerns about the possibility of our fellowship having female elders and for the letter you gave me Sunday evening concerning the same subject. I should perhaps point out that it is not a new view and there is within the fellowship a number of female elders and has been for a number of years. They are at this point non-serving but still Elders.

I hope you will agree that what we are talking about is in fact a matter of interpretation of the scripture. Within the Eldership at Warsash we hold different views on some doctrine. We believe that God has called us as Elders and therefore accept by His grace one another's view while possibly not agreeing with it. Which of us is right and which of us is wrong is not important, what is important is that we love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ to the best of our ability. I believe at Warsash that is what the Elders are doing.

We have in the past been side tracked on different issues, which have been raised by various circumstances. These issues have in my opinion, at best, slowed our progress as a church and, at worst, prevented us doing what God has called us to do. I agreed that doctrine and interpretation of the Holy Scriptures is important but if it slows us down or stops us reaching out, which is what we believe our Lord is calling us to do, then it can not be right. If our doctrine prevents us from working with other Christians then we must throw it away and reconsider it. Doctrine has evolved over the years and praise God will continue to do so. No one has a pure doctrine and no one is perfect only Jesus.

Be assured that we will continue to pray over this and many other issues, and we thank you again for expressing your opinions and beliefs. Thank God that He has given us a fellowship in which we may do this openly.

Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ,
Martin Lloyd: E-mail: Martin@Iloyd7.freeserve.co.uk

My Second Letter to the Elders

At first sight the response of Martin Lloyd might seem very reasonable and a kind considerate letter but that it not the case and felt it important to respond with reason and scripture to is reply and so here is my letter to him.

My letter of Response

28th January 1999

Dear Secretary and Elders,

Thank you for your reply to my letter regarding women elders.

I do not agree with you that the possibility of an appointment of women Elders at the Church is a question about interpretation of scripture.

I have declared to you what the scripture actually says about the appointment of Elders. I have not made any interpretation of the scripture but taken it in its literal

straightforward sense.

Scripture is clear that men were to be appointed as elders in the church and not women. We have no example of a women being appointed as an Elder in the New Testament.

I have said I believe it a serious error to depart from the scripture revelation in this matter.

You say that you agree doctrine and the interpretation of scripture is important but if it slows us down or stops us reaching out then it cannot be right.

I believe this is also an error because the scripture says

(2 Tim 3 16)

All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for reproof, for correction, for instruction, in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

On this basis I put to you that scripture teaches we should keep the commandments of God and not rush ahead because we want to make haste. This was the error of King Saul.

The scripture clearly tells us

(1 Sam 13 12)

of King Saul who rushed ahead of God, he did not want to be slowed down, and made his own burnt offering and supplication without waiting for the appointed priest of God. He felt he could not wait for Samuel. Verse 13 Samuel said to him you have <u>done foolishly</u>: thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord.

We are also instructed by scripture to <u>lay hands on no man suddenly</u>

(1 Tim 5 22)

This is in the chapter where Paul instructs Timothy in the appointment of Elders.

I use the scripture here, in both places lawfully, to correct an error.

I believe it also another error to teach that the doctrine of scripture is progressive. The scripture is clear

(Jude* 3*)

that faith was once delivered unto the saints. This is not a progression but a revelation to the church, now contained in the scripture.

I grant that we grow in grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ and so the doctrine of Christ. This is progressive but the doctrine of the gospel was delivered once unto the saints. There can be no new revelation about Elders to the church. The doctrine of Elders is contained in the scriptures alone, not in new revelation to the church.

I feel and sense that God is about to try or prove the church at with this issue as He indicates He will do.

I am responding as I am instructed too

(1 Th 5 19- 21)

to prove all things and to abstain from all appearance of evil.

The scripture teaches

(Deut 13 1 - 3)

Thou shall not harken to the voice of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the Lord your God proveth you to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

I believe I have done as I am called of God to do. To speak as I have so learned Christ.

I have no desire to be involved in contention or arguments. I would exhort you as I would a Father and a brother to hear what I say because I believe I speak the words of our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth.

Yours in the name of The Lord Jesus Christ,

David Clarke

28/1/99.

4 Christ For The Nations Bible College

About this time I was invited (30/01/1999) , as a potential student, to All Nations Bible College so I went to the open day early 1999. The Dean Of Faculty was Charles

Daniel who was known to the church at Warsash and also a visiting preacher. Whilst there I took the liberty to speak to the him about the issue of women elders as he as he was responsible for the subject of Biblical Authority at the bible college. He said he would have to have a Word from the Lord before appointing a women elder however she would have to have the appropriate qualifications. He was not against the principle of a woman elder.

I was disappointed at this reply as this meant I judged such teaching unsound and wanted to know the Bible colleges position before I considered any more being a student there.

The Charles came and spoke to the Church a week later and I report on his sermon shortly.

I Write To The Bible College

I wanted to speak to the Principle about the college view on the subject of women elders but judged it best to write to him. Here is my letter:

8/2/99

Dear Mr. Swadling,

Thank you for your letter regarding the bible college training centre. I was very pleased to visit you on your open day and as a new potential student I found what you had to say very remarkable and helpful.

I wanted to ask about the colleges position regarding Female Elders as the church (name withheld URC) from whom I have received much help from have recently announced that the elders were unanimous in accepting women may serve as Elders in the church.

This has been very disturbing to me as the scriptures are clear that the qualifications for an elder is to be the husband of one wife and to have his children in all subjection.

There are no examples of women elders in the New

Testament. The scripture speak against woman usurping authority over the man.

Peter Jacob, one of our former elders, taught use to speak and believe only what the scripture says. To reject every thing else.

The view held now by the elders is a deviation from scripture and has cause much distress and one family has now left.

In speaking upon the subject I was informed that the bible college share the same view; that women may serve as elders in a Christian church.

I would be very grateful if you would speak clearly about the bible college position with respect to women elders.

Yours very sincerely

David Clarke.

Please share this with the Dean (visiting preacher) and your staff as I did speak to him briefly about the matter on the 30/1/99.

The Principals Reply

To: Mr D Clarke
11 Hayling Close
Fareham
Hampshire
P014 3AE

10th February 1999

Dear David

Thank you for your letter dated 8th February and I am pleased you enjoyed your time here at Christ For The Nations Bible Training College.

I note your question about Female Elders and really to clarify the situation I would say that Christ For The Nations does not officially have an opinion or view on this particular subject because we are not a Church and we teach about

leadership. This sort of issue really is down to the individual Church Elders and leaders of the various Churches. I have photocopied an article, which Barbara Sambrooks one of our lecturers here has written which I think you should find quite helpful.

Also when we look back in history we see that God has very clearly used many women to become leaders and Elders in various denominations who have really been effective in the Body of Christ. I think what we have to do is look at the cultural background at the time for when Paul was writing to Timothy in the Scriptures you are quoting from Paul was talking to Timothy about the Church in Ephesus and it was a Jewish culture he was talking about and in the Jewish and Greek culture at that time men did have positions of authority and leadership but women seldom did.

There are many instances as you can see from Barbara's notes where women have been Church leaders and house group leaders and God has used them mightily. My personal opinion is if God anoints and calls someone then it is not up to us to judge and be divisive. It caused a great split in the Anglican Church but as far as l am concerned what is more important is not whether someone is male or female but rather their character and whether they are people of integrity or not? If you look at the qualifications of leadership in every part of the Bible what God is looking for is people whose heart is towards Him and that they obey what He is calling them to do. The Church I attend, The Vine Christian Fellowship actually has women Elders as well and I personally do not have a problem with that providing that as with men Elders they are people under authority: i.e. submitted one to another.

I say these things are down to the individuals and in any Church situation if you belong to a Church and the leadership is doing things, which you feel, are not Scriptural and not right then obviously it is your choice to find a Church where you do fit and you are content and happy.

In the broader context of The Body of Christ we should not judge one another and as I have said before as Christ For The Nations is not a Church we do not have to take a view on this other than try to give a balanced overall picture and various denominations and Churches come to their own conclusions.

I hope this has been helpful and if you would like to come and chat with me I would be more than pleased to do that.

Every blessing and hope to see you soon.

Kevin Swadling

Principal/Director

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My Response to the Principal's Letter

The Kevin The Principal acknowledged that the bible college has no official position as to whether a woman could be an elder yet they teach about leadership. I was hoping to hear the Word of God directs them in all issues like this and so we do not teach a women can be elders in Christian church.

He went on to give his personal view that history has dictated to him that it is OK for women to become Elders and they are very effective.

I realised that this was another serious error. We should never look to history for direction when God has spoke directly on the subject in question. If you look at history then look to Eve in the garden of Eden, **Gen 3. 16**. Do not take Eve as the example to follow suit. History teaches it is foolish to go against what God had spoken about. If we chose to go against what God as commanded we are wrong.

In his opinion the Apostle Paul's argument against women teaching and ruling was a cultural issue of his day and does not now apply to the churches of today.

This is another serious error. The Apostle argues in Corinth," if any wish to be contentious (regarding women acting in the church) we have no such custom, neither in the Churches" .

Cor 16.

That is in the churches of the New Testament, not just Ephesus.

And again," Let your women keep silence in the Churches: for they are not permitted to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law

(1 Cor14 3 4)

That is not just Ephesus.

Other Apostolic Witnesses

And Peter states " Likewise ye wives be in subjection to you own husbands

(1 Pet 3 1)

This is Peter and not just Paul.

I have quoted from two Apostle who are witnesses to show that it is not a cultural thing but the way God had ordered things.

Kevin argues that if God anoints anyone to do any work in the church who are we to judge on the basis of sex.

I argue that it is not for me to judge what God orders or does and we are given the scriptures in order for us see the way and to, "try them that say they are apostles and are not". The church at Ephesus was commended by the Lord Jesus for doing just that.

(Rev 2. 2)

The scriptures forbids women elders (and gives its reasons - these are creational not cultural reasons and the result of the fall) who are we to go against the Lord?

The Kevin then gives example of The Vine Fellowship

who have women Elders.

I thought it was a poor answer to sight the Vine Church has women elders. It is is like Eve saying "Adam look I have taken the forbidden fruit and it looks good, tastes good and I'm sure it will do you good, Go ahead and eat it like me".

Resist the devil

The answer is no, we do not follow any man to do evil but resist evil and follow the Lord Himself.

I am told it is a local church affair and if I feel the local church is un-scriptural then I am free to go elsewhere.

Had Paul allowed Peter to oppose the Gospel, like he did, where would we be today. Paul contended earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints he did not ignore problem but faced them and tackled them.

Not Alone In My Views

In order to show I am not self opinionated I requested the help of Dr. Ken Matto <kmatto@comcast.net>

To the Principal's Reply

Kevin Swadling does not even quote one verse of Scripture to support his view about women elders and by answering the way he does becomes the authority by saying "my personal opinion." The fact that he has rejected the use of Scripture and the searching of it, suggests that he, like many has been feminized and is in Satan's camp. There are some other issues at stake when one elects to have women elders:

1) 1 Peter 3:1 (KJV) Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

Ephesians 5:24 (KJV) Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

If you notice in these two verses, it speaks about the wife being subject to her own husband. If a woman is elected as

an elder, then she has become a ruler in the church. She not only rules over her husband, but over every man in the congregation which is totally unbiblical as she is to be in subjection to her own husband. If she is an elder, then she also has the rule at home, for how can she rule her husband at church but not at home?

1 Timothy 5:17 (KJV) Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

The word "elders" and "elder" in the New Testament, whether the elders of Israel or the elders of the church has 8 different inflections but they are all masculine gender except one which is in the feminine and it is the only place it is used in the NT.

1 Timothy 5:2 (KJV) The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

It is an adjective describing women who are elderly, not who are ruling as elders.

2) The second problem which arises is how can she be the husband of one wife?

Titus 1:5-6 (KJV) For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: {6} If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

She can be the wife of one husband but she cannot be the husband of one wife. That is an obvious prohibition for women elders.

3) If she insists on being an elder, then she plainly violates Scripture.

1 Timothy 2:12 (KJV) But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

She is not have authority over a man and if she is an elder, then she usurps authority over every man in the congregation, including her husband. She has now become

the head of the house and has reversed God's order of authority. The word "authority" in the Greek is the word "authenteo" which carries with it the meaning of "have or exercise authority over." We already saw and it is as plain as day that elders have authority in the congregation

Dr. Ken Matto <kmatto@comcast.net> 15/03/2015

Women Can't Have Authority Or Teach

We shall now look at the article that Kevin Swadling sent me by Barbra Stanbrooks article on the subject of women teachers and she was a teaching member of the staff at Christ For The Nations Bible College. Here is that article.

Barbara Sambrooks Article

Within 1 Timothy we have some very controversial verses of Scripture. It would be far easier to try to ignore them rather than explain them for fear of offending various groups within the Church.

We need to know something of the social background of Ephesus , the city where Timothy was a pastor the religious and social background has a great bearing on what was written

In Acts 19 we read that a riot broke out when Paul's preaching threatened the livelihood of the Silver Smiths who made idols of the goddess Artemis. The origins of this goddess went back far beyond the Greeks; she was the mother goddess revered, in many guises, throughout Asia Minor. To the Greeks she was known as Artemis. The Romans knew her as Diana. In Graeco-Roman mythology, at the birth of Artemis/Diana, she was so horrified at the birth pains her mother endured that she was completely averse to marriage. In ancient writings praising the honour of Artemis she is portrayed as the one who remains a virgin, loves women, helps them to hunt and capture men in war, helps them in childbirth and even protects civil urban Greeks from the wild forest. She is seen as saviour and ruler

of the cosmic powers. Astrology played an important role in her worship.

Ephesus housed Timothy's Church. It also housed the temple of Artemus. The Temple was the largest and most lavish structure in the whole of the then known world. It was used as a bank, money and valuables placed there were safe, no one would dare to violate the temple. The central object of worship in the temple appears to have been a meteorite called "Diopetes", which means "Fallen from heaven" (Acts 19:351. Priestesses attended the temple of Artemis. Males could only become priests if they had been castrated. These eunuch priests were called "Megabyzoi".

Another pagan religion that was prolific in Phrygia, the area in which Ephesus was situated, was the Cybelereligion. Cybele was another "mother goddess". Again, any male priest in this religion had to be castrated. They were known as "Galli", they wore female clothing and let their hair grow like a woman's hair.

As we read through the epistles to Timothy we need to bear this background information in mind. Also, one must be aware that in the two pagan cults mentioned the women were dominant. With this short overview we can perhaps begin to appreciate the motivation behind Paul's writing.

The church in Ephesus, to which Timothy was the pastor, lived in the shadow of the great temple to Artemis. France writes that it "cannot have been unaffected by the surrounding atmosphere of a flamboyant and probably fairly uninhibited form of worship in which women and eunuchs played a leading role"(France p.58).

1 Tim.1: 3 - Timothy is urged not to let anyone teach false doctrines. It is interesting that "certain men" is more correctly translated "certain persons. Could it include women?

Why did Paul use an unusual term, why did he not use the plural of the word anthropos, or andros which both translate into the English as man?

I Tim. 1:7 - Some people are wanting, to be teachers of the law but they have no understanding. If we keep the religious background in mind, and read this verse With **Chp 2:11-12** we may gain a little more understanding of the text.

I Tim 2:12 –"Authority" in the Greek text a cognate of the word authento is used. This only occurrence of this word in the whole of the New Testament, it does not even occur anywhere in the Greek version of the Old Testament. Authento is more correctly translated "usurped authority". It means to seize or assume power wrongly, to dominate Paul would not even let a man exercise "authento" within one of his congregations. Authority must be given, not grasped. Why would Paul have written such a thing?

If Paul had meant that a woman could have legitimate authority he could have used another Greek word, proistemi, which he has done in other places (**Chp. 3:4-5,12, 5:17),** and which is translated as authority, or management. The word he did use, authento, is used of one who does anything by his/her own hand. In non-biblical Greece it is used in regard to a murderer. What the women in the pagan cults, local to Ephesus, were doing was "murdering men", not physically but emotionally.

In the Syriac and Arabic versions of our Timothy text authento is understood to have connotations of insolence, bullying, domineering. One scholar has said that from the evidence it would seem that there were women in Ephesus who were brutalizing men.

Could it be that some female converts from the pagan religions had come into Timothy's congregation and were trying to have the superior role, as they would have had in the temple of Artemis? Such a background would certainly explain why such a large percentage or the letter contains so much about women. Here is Timothy, a young male leader in the Church, the equivalent of what would have been seen as a priest. In such a society as Ephesus it is no

wonder that Paul wrote **Chp.4: 12**. We can see that Paul was writing to address the specific problems in Ephesus; other communities would not have had these same problems.

Salvation Through Childbirth!

Does it mean that

1 a woman's salvation can be achieved through childbirth?

What if a woman does not marry

2 or does not have children, does it mean that she cannot be saved?

3 Does it mean that a woman will be kept safe through childbirth? . What of those thousands of women who die during childbirth?

If it is number three then the Word of God is untrue!

If it is either of the first two where is the place of the cross in the salvation process?

To exercise good exegesis we need to read **Chp.2: 9-l5**). as a complete unit.

D.M. Scholer says that there was a problem in the church in that some women were despising their roles within marriage. This could be due to the local cults. (**Chp. 1:9-1** I deals with women's dress and demeanor.

As we look at our section (**2:9-l 5**) this does appear to speaking about the marriage situation

Verse 12 Authority over a man (Gk. Andros). This verse, coupled with the rest of the section appears to be addressing marriage; Christian marriage. A women (Gr. Gune) can also mean a wife; there is no difference in Greek, just as andros can mean man or husband.

Paul then goes on to use the example of Adam and Eve, as France puts it; the paradigm married couple (**vs. 13-14).** Our section of the text concludes "with the commendation of childbearing, which is the most distinctive "wifely role". In the context of marriage it is the safest role if it functions

within God's plan for the family (France p.61)

Vs. 13-15: The Explanation for these verses is often taken back to the creation principle. France contests the argument.

V.13: commences "For", this takes the reader back to Genesis chps.2 & 3 not Gen. 1. (France p.67)

We read in **Gen. 1 26-27** humankind, both male and female are given joint authority. This is a creation principle that human beings have authority. Authority is not based upon gender but upon who they are in relationship to their creator. Both male and female are created in the image of God and He delegated, or entrusted, authority to them. lf we say that Adam, the male, was created first, then, men have authority over women Then we have to conclude that priority in creation order would mean that humankind must be subject to the authority of the animal kingdom, which is nonsense. **In Gen. chps.2 & 3** Adam was created first but Eve was first to get tempted. If the woman is responsible for sin's entry into the world why does Paul tell us that it was Adam (Rom.5)? (France p.67)

If Paul is saying, in Timothy, that women cannot he trusted with authority because they are more gullible surely such an argument can only be taken back to The

(**Gen.3**.)

France suggests that this is an illustration of the potential dangers in relationships between men and women. In Gen. chps. 2 ~ 3 the woman took the initiative with disastrous consequences. She acted independently.

Nowhere in Paul's writing does he ever use save with regard to physical safety, or well being. Christians are not guaranteed physical safety; Christ did not have it, Stephen did not have it, Peter did not have it, Paul did not have it we could continue. Can I draw your attention back to the religious background of Ephesus? Marriage was despised; childbearing was looked down upon in those pagan religions. Paul is trying to correct a perverted system of belief that

had crept into the Church from the surrounding religious thinking. He wants Timothy to teach the wholesomeness of Christian marriage and family life. Remember that Artemis was the one who looked after women in childbirth. Paul is telling Timothy to teach that Christ will look after them in childbirth. Their salvation is secure in childbirth; whether they live or die their salvation is secure.

Main Source Books:

R.T France. Women in Church Ministry, Paternoster Press, Stambaugh & Balch.

The Social World of the First Christians, SPCK.

Barbra Sambrooks MA, BA., Dip. Th. Lecturer in Biblical Studies CFN UK.

A Disappointing Reply

From the Principal's reply I was very disappointed and I sighed at the situation. Barbara Sambrook's article may be answered but that is not the object of my notes today. How ever here is my first response..

In the book of Revelation Ephasus is the first Church Jesus sent word too with a commendation because they could no bear them that are evil and who tried them who claimed to be Apostles and found them liars. They had laboured patiently and not fainted for the cause and name of Jesus Christ in the city of Ephasus and suffered persecution at the hands of

Rev. 2. 1

Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

7 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'

Ephesians 1

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

2 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved .

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

10 That in the dispensation of the fullness of times

he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance , being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed , ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened ; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe , according to the working of his mighty power,

20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named , not only in this world, but also in that which is to come :

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23 Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

Timothy was not a weak man and contended earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints and taught the sovereignty of God, predestination, election, particular redemption and church order, which included the distinctive roles of men and women in the church. The women were subject to their own husbands, prayed with their heads covered and kept silent in the church.

There would have been no trial of any woman who claimed to be an apostle as that would never had arisen because it was forbidden for any woman to preach teach or usurp authority over the man. Any women could not claim to be an apostle for it was forbidden for a women to teach and usurp authority over a man. Had a woman tried to claims he was an apostle she would have been rejected as a liar , as other men were.

Diana and Artemis

The notable thing about Babrah Stambrooke article is that she is speaking about the role of women as teachers and having authority in the church. In her reference to the Temple of Diana and Artimas and the silversmith, who opposed the teaching of the Apostles, she outlines the prominence of the Goddess Dinah. She cites the legend that Artimas was horrified at the sufferings of her mother in childbearing. She now she had become a deity and all men serving in the temple of Diana were castrated. This sounds like a distortion of the historic facts relating to Eve in the garden of Eden.

It is written that God not only cursed the ground for mans sake but spoke to Eve saying because you have done this in pain you shall suffer in Childbearing. That her desire shall be towards he husband however he should rule over her.

In other words as the result of the sin of Adam and Eve in the garden God turned them out of the garden, cursed the ground so Adam would have to work by the sweat of his

brow, Eve would now suffer in childbearing and she would have a natural to rule her husband but he would rule over her. This was some thing that God brought about.

Unto the serpent God said he would put enmity between his seed and the seed of the woman and it should brush his head and it should brush his heal. In other words this was a prophecy relating to how redemption would come about namely though the seed of the woman bearing the child, the Son of God, whose heal was bruised at the crucifixion but this was to crush the head of Satan.

So in the Christian community the gospel speaks about the relationship between man and woman, children and parents and man and women's role in the Church. Children are to be obedient to their parents, the woman was not to rule the man, was not to teach or function as an elder and learn in silence in the church . Also this relationship between man and women is compared to the relationship between Christ and his church. Christ is the head of the church even as the man is head of the women. It is this social conduct that is to be recognized and lived out in the christian community that has a living the world. Such is the law of Christ .

Certain Men

Barbara now sights a reference to certain men creeping in unawares and the suggestion is that "certain men" could mean men or women. This is a quotation from Jude and not spoken about the Ephesian Church. The words "certain men" in the Greek is "tines anthropoi". The word "anthropos" is the generic term for man. Barbara's case does not hold water because both words for "certain men" in Jude 4 are in the masculine gender. In fact, all usages of "anthropos" in the New Testament are in the masculine. So it cannot mean male or female, just male.

Dr. Ken Matto
Mar 6 at 11:40 PM 2015

However Timothy would have been full well aware that certain men had been foreordained to condemnation just as Pharaoh and Judas and other apostates were.

Jude 1 4

For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

The New International Version

This reads for certain individuals, whose condemnation was written about long ago, have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

In this version the citation of this text of scripture is used to cast doubt on the use of the word men. It is not a quote for the **Majority Text** of scripture as found in the Authorized King James bible, Jude verse 4 but from the unreliable **Sinaiticus** Text brought forward by **Wescott and Hort in 1844.** This is not a fair argument to suggest that when ever the word man is used we are to take it it means man or woman. The context dictates that it is a reference to a man or men plural and masculine.

My Early Experience

As I have mentioned I have written this book out of my experience and conflict with professing Christians. In my early days I had to read the scripture and Christians books my self to learn the essential truths for my self. I soon learned that is was essential to have a reliable accurate copy of the bible and it became my firm conviction and belief that the Majority Text or Received Text of the New Testament was the word God and the all those so called scholars, who used alternative texts, such as the **Sinaiticus**, and **Vulgate Latin** versions to compose their New Testament were in

fact leading others in error. This citation of Barbara in the **New International Version (N.I.V.)** is just such a case. Like wise **Jehovah's Witnesses** do just the same, they produced their own New Testament from selecting parts of corrupt manuscripts to compose their New World Translation.

A Commentary On Christian Conduct

Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary

2:8-15 Under the gospel, prayer is not to be confined to any one particular house of prayer, but men must pray every where. We must pray in our closets, pray in our families, pray at our meals, pray when we are on journeys, and pray in the solemn assemblies, whether more public or private. We must pray in charity; without wrath, or malice, or anger at any person. We must pray in faith, without doubting, and without disputing. Women who profess the Christian religion, must be modest in apparel, not affecting gaudiness, gaiety, or costliness. Good works are the best ornament; these are, in the sight of God, of great price. Modesty and neatness are more to be consulted in garments than elegance and fashion. And it would be well if the professors of serious godliness were wholly free from vanity in dress. They should spend more time and money in relieving the sick and distressed, than in decorating themselves and their children. To do this in a manner unsuitable to their rank in life, and their profession of godliness, is sinful. These are not trifles, but Divine commands. The best ornaments for professors of godliness, are good works. According to St. Paul, women are not allowed to be public teachers in the church; for teaching is an office of authority. But good women may and ought to teach their children at home the principles of true religion. Also, women must not think themselves excused from learning what is necessary to salvation, though they must not usurp authority. As woman was last in the creation, which is one reason for her subjection, so she was first in the transgression. But there

is a word of comfort; that those who continue in sobriety, shall be saved in child-bearing, or with child-bearing, by the Messiah, who was born of a woman. And the especial sorrow to which the female sex is subject, should cause men to exercise their authority with much gentleness, tenderness, and affection.

Barbra and Kevin are Wrong

As you will see from my previous answers Barbara is wrong. The Ephesian situation was not a cultural issue with women. The issue against women in the Ephesian Church was common throughout out the whole world as the churches custom for head coverings for women was customary in all the churches.

Apostolic Reasons

The Apostles Paul and Peter give reasons from scripture as to why man was to rule and not women, these reasons were derived from the way God ordained things. The Lord made it that way.

The things on earth are after the order of things in heaven. Just like the tabernacle in the Old Testament. As there is order in the Godhead so there is order between man and women. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are co equal divine persons yet the Lord Jesus Christ is subject to the Father in things pertaining to our redemption. The woman is subject to the man in relationship yet equal in persons to the man before God.

God created man and women , male and female create he them. According to the heavenly pattern. Which means the relationships between man and women are correctional not cultural. The man and women were created to reflect the relationship, at that time yet to be revealed between Christ and His Church. Just as the head of Christ is God the Father, which has nothing to do with culture so the head of women, is man **(1 Cor 11 3**). Adam was created first and then the woman as a helpmeet for him. Adam named all

the creature eve was not involved. Adam was the head of women, from the beginning. This is the Apostles argument. It would be foolish to depart from God way of things.

The Curse

Some thing else took place after the fall after Eve took the forbidden fruit.

Adam Eve and the ground were cursed by God and that curse remains so long as women give birth to children in pain and thorns and thistle grow on bushes.

Gen 3 verse 8

8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. 9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? 10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. 11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? 12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. 13 And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. 14 And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: 15 and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. 16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. 17 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. 20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. 21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

For further reading and sermons on Cassettes. read and listen **Derek Prince** and **David Pawson**.

The Principal then came and preached at the Church shortly afterwards and I understand he reasserted his views on that occasion.

5 Behind The Scene

After my visit to the Christ For The Nation Bible College and my correspondence relating to women elders in the church, within two weeks of this issue arising certain things, it seemed too much of a coincidence that Charles the Dean of Faculty should preach a sermon at the Warsash church that indicated a collusion with the errors held and taught by the Warsash Elders. After listening to his sermon on, 14 February 1999, I realised I must write to him in order for him to clarify what he had said and taught. Here is my letter to him.

Letter to the Dean (visiting preacher)

From: David Clarke
Copy to: The Elders Jesus is Lord Church.
17th February 1999
Dear Charles

Re: Your sermon at the Church Sunday 14/2/99

You raised some issues, which I felt needed to be clarified on Sunday. It seems some of the things you were

saying were ambiguous giving a double message. The secretary was moved to say he believed it was directly from the throne of God. I heard ambiguous things and would like clarification.

Joshua 1 2

The Lord spake unto Joshua son of nun, Moses's minister, saying.

Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou and all this people.

The essence of the message was Moses is dead you now have a new leader. Do not look back to Moses- God is to do new things.

Afterwards I questioned you re - new doctrine and the fact that God is to shack every thing so that old doctrine must be cast away to be replaces by new doctrine. You had refereed to old wines skins and new wine skins etc. I wanted to establish what you actually meant so I asked you "What new doctrine has God revealed to the church today which was not known to the early church in the Apostles time". You replied said no, no. I did not say new doctrine like that but our understanding of it is new to us. Why do I think there are over 2000 denominations. I said I accept that and people grew in knowledge and understanding but the truths and gospel doctrine had been once delivered to the saint in the early church by the apostles.

I established or understood that you did not teach new doctrine or expect it.

I asked this because of our situation at the church and its seems things are changing. Former elders have left and another is to leave shortly. The and the remaining Elders have announced recently they are unanimous in believing there is no reason why a woman should not be appointed as an Elder.

I have written to them saying how disturbed I am because this is a departure from the clear teaching of scripture. The reply I received was unsatisfactory and contained other

issues, which were also in error. To which I have written but so far I have had not further correspondence. There has been no communication with me about it since.

I was informed that "doctrine and the interpretation of scripture is important but if it slows us down or stops us reaching out then it cannot be right".

It was also put forward that "the doctrine of scripture is progressive" - **a statement which I took exception too**.

It should be maintained the doctrines of Christ, as revealed in the New Testament Scriptures, have been once revealed. The truth concerning salvation and the church etc. were taught by the Apostles in the New Testament times. The scripture of the Old and New Testaments contain the doctrines taught and received by the church. We are not to look for new doctrines there are none. If any one teaches we have more light than the Apostles and so teach new doctrine and new things they are in error. To depart from the teachings of the Apostles is a departure frm the truth.

In light of this I would like to reflect on your sermon.

Dead To The Law

Yes Moses is dead and every believer is dead to the law (which came by Moses) by their union and death with Jesus when he died. Our baptism portrays this. This is so that we might be married to another even Jesus our husband and savior who has been raised from the dead.

The Passing Away Of The Old Covenant

The Law and its administration has been shaken and no longer stand. The destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD gives a full stop to that declared reality..

The Perfect Law Of Liberty

The Perfect Law of liberty and ministration of the Spirit has taken its place. Our Jesus is exulted above all things. We enter into the benefit of these things only as we like Joshua do not "let the word of God not depart from us." For It is to be a light and a lamp for our feet. There will be no rest if we

depart from the clear teaching of the Word of God.

Joshua A Type Of Christ

Joshua is indeed a type of Christ but Joshua of old did not give the people of God rest otherwise God would not have spoken of another rest yet to be entered into.

Heb 4

let us therefore labour to enter into that rest. This labor is the labor of faith, which we exercise when we rest in Christ when we believe.

I understood you to be saying now that Joshua is come (a new leader) God is going to do new things do not look back to Moses etc. throw away all you old teaching and doctrines and receive the new things God is going to do. This sounded awkward in light of our situation at the church.

Elders Wish To Depart From Scripture

The new leaders at Warsash are now saying they want to depart from scripture and appoint Women elders. This is not what Joshua did but rather he was charged then to follow the Lord in every thing.

Joshua 1

This book of the Law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but Thou shalt meditate therein day and night , that thou mayest observe to do according too all that is written therein.:

Turn not from it to the right hand or the left. etc.

God was only with Joshua whilst he stuck with his God. The charge to any leader would be the same.

The people said to Joshua, "All that thou commandant us we will do, and whitherso ever though sendest us we will go".

According as we harken unto Moses in all things , so we will hearken unto thee only the Lord thy God be with thee.

Joshua would not have fared very well if he said the

moment he took office I am going to abolish circumcision because he agreed he saw no reason for it and besides it upset the women folk. He would not have got very far. The people followed Joshua because he followed the Lord. Joshua was a courageous man of God and we should follow suit.

Elders Have Departed From Truth

Our Elders have departed from the Scripture on this issue of women elders. It is not a question of interpretation of scripture. The scripture could not be plainer. An Elder is to be a man and the women not to usurp authority over the man. Paul says :

Cor 14 37

If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual then let him acknowledge that the things that I write are the commandments of the Lord.

A Ridiculous Proposition

To suggest Christians throw away all old teaching and doctrines because they are old and get ready to receive new things is ridiculous. We should not throw away the truth about:

1 The Person of Lord Jesus Christ. Or how we should function as a new testament church.

2 Or the confession of faith or beliefs on the back of All Nations Bible college handbook. Unless they can bee proved untrue from the Scripture of the Old and New Testament.

We Have Spoken Before

I know I have spoken to you about women elders before but the question regarding your sermon was to clarify your general principle.

It could be taken from what you said you support a departure from scripture with the coming of a new leadership because God had said he will "Shake the heavens and every thing under them", to establish new doctrines like

women elders in the church.

This , I think you would agree , would not have come from the throne of God.

Your Sincerely,

David Clarke.

My Thought On Reflection

I felt that my letter was very reasonable and to the point and it also gave Charles feedback which any preacher would value but How ever no every one thought as I did and the following week I was instructed to see the elders at the Warash church after the Sunday morning meeting.

6 Summoned to see the Elders

28/2/99

Today was the day I was summoned to see the Elders regarding my objections to them supporting women becoming elders?

On the 21/2/99 I was asked to meet the elders after the morning meeting, on the 28/2/99. I met with the elders as agreed and we meet in the small room. The Elders were 5 elders one being the secretary.

I was informed by the secretary that they had not called me to discuss any issue with me about women elders but rather as what had happened was so very serious he wondered had I any Idea how serious it was.

He stated I had written to a visiting preacher from a bible college and I was very rude to him. This was out of order as I was undermining the leadership at (Name withheld) church.

Art Thou He That Troubleth Israel

His tone of voice and method of speech was such that he might just well have said, " Art thou he that troubleth Israel"

(1 Kings 18 17)

I replied I was sorry if I had cause any offence but I had not meant too.

However before I could say any more I was silenced by the secretary's retort he said, "No, No it has got nothing to do with offence".

I said well I couldn't say any more as I did not know what to say.

I was told by the secretary that I was out of order and how could I explain my writing such letters not only to the visiting preacher but also the Elders.

In trying to explain I started to say "I was invited to become a member and assumed--- but before I could finish I was stopped from speaking again the secretary him saying, "No, no, not any more. That invitation to become a member had been with drawn".

I was taken back by this and had to checked this out with him first of all by saying I did not know that as it was news to me. He then said as far as he was concerned he would not support me becoming a member now and only then added could not speak for the others. The other elders remained silent so I assumed they were unanimous in this view too.

I said, "well I had not been aware of this until now and sought to explain that I was acting in good faith and in a way that I thought right.

I said to the secretary that I had asked him and another elder before when I raised my objection at first, how did they want me to deal with the issue. At that time the secretary had said they were the Elders and I should be subject to them. I asked them to pray with me over the issue as I knew this matter could not be left and I wanted to act in wisdom and to honour God.

I followed my objection by a letter to the elders and received a reply.

The reply I received was unacceptable as it contained very serious errors so I wrote back pointing them out about them.

I explained my letter to the visiting preacher was

between him and me and that I had given a copy to them as I was being open with them and not doing things in the dark or a corner.

I said I had no intention of arguing with them and I was not going too.

The secretary said why did I write again without saying anything new. Another asked me elder, "then why all these letters if I was not arguing".

I replied to the secretary and said I was not saying anything new because I was sticking to the one issue. Women do not qualify to be elders according to the Word of God.

I replied to the elder I wrote again by way of reply to secretary in order to point out the errors contained in their reply to me. I simple state they were wrong and gave the reasons.

I could have informed the secretary that, "Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and Idolatry". That like King Saul who was instructed to go and smite Amalek and utterly destroy all that they have and spare them not; but slay both man and women, infant and suckling, ox and sheep camel and ass. They too have not obeyed the commandments of God.

God has instructed the church men are to be neither elders not women. They want to go beyond the commandants of God and appoint women contrary to the scriptures. Saul thought it a good thing to spare the best of the sheep and oxen, to sacrifice to the Lord their God. Saul did not obey the voice of the Lord but did evil in the sight of Lord.

1 Sam. 15 1- 23.

To go beyond scripture and against scripture is the same sin as King Saul.

I was then asked if I would subject my self to the elder ship should women join their team.

I replied it depends what they meant. I said they were not ruling my conscience and they had no jurisdiction

over my faith. I said I would be subject to their authority in respect to the things in the church.

I also said I would not be saying any more to them about women elders.

I am In A Seriously Bad Way

The secretary told me that he had known me 5 years and as far as he could see I had not change in all that time. He saw no change in me and it saddened him very much. He stated I was seriously spiritually in a bad way. I replied to Martin that if that was the case then the Lord Jesus was sadder that him.

He said I was consumed with this women elder ship, that it had taken me over. He maintained no one writes pages the way I did on such a subject.

I replied to the secretary saying I am not the same as him. I was different. That he was now judging my motives. I explained this had not consumed me as I had far more serious and pressing things in my life to deal with at the moment. I though to my self after the event that it was written of Jesus "the zeal of thine house has eaten me up".

(Psalm 69 .9)

which of course is commendable.

The Elders recently in normal course of events brought up this issue, so I acted normally for me. The secretary then told me they could not help me. That he had already recommended some time ago I go to El El ministries.

I asked were they asking me to leave. The secretary said how could I continue going there if I held the views I held.

I suggested that if they thought I was wrong in this issue, why did they wish me to leave, as surely they would want me to come to know the truth and follow them. (This being the scripture reason for reproof)

I suggested by staying they could help me. I certainly would wish them to come to knowledge of the truth this was why I had written to them in the first instant, and this

would be my wish for the future.

I went on to explain I had been helped this past year and blessed of God at the Church and I had no intentions of going elsewhere, at the moment. However I asked if they would support me if I looked elsewhere; another elder said they would.

I said I had no intention of going elsewhere nor was I making any threats. I also said had I known that they held to women being elders I would not have sought to join them when asked to do so

At that time there were six male elders and no hint a women becoming and elder. I said I would be looking elsewhere but at the moment I have no where else to go.

I reiterated I had acted out of love to them in dealing with this issue. I did not want to get involved in controversy. It causes me great distress. I did not want it but I did what I believed the Lord would have me do.

I had been faithful to the Lord Jesus.

I felt very calm and was not surprised at their reaction. I was very disappointed however and felt sad at such a situation.

They That Honour Me I Will Honour

I felt the Lord stood by me and I know I had been faithful to the Lord in this issue. I am reminded " They that honour me I will honour".

(1 Sam 2 30)

I now know how Paul felt when he wrote," no man stood with me, but all men forsook me. (**2 Tim 4 16**)

End.

David Clarke: March 1999.

Former Support from The Church

Over the past year I had received a great deal of help and support from the church.

During this time there were seven male elders and there

were no women elders and I understood these men were seeking to honour the Lord in every thing.

The churches had also decided to sever links with their trustees who were the United Reformed Church. This was because they would not support homosexual persons becoming elders. I supported them in their stand and encourage them in it.

In November I had been asked if I would like to become a church member and I said I would like too but I declined in the end, due to my domestic situation. I was informed I was to consider my self-one of the church and could join when I wanted.

After this one of the former elders announced he was leaving with his wife and also another senior elder announced he would also be leaving, in May 1999. Another former elder had also left leaving only five left. There had never been a mention of women being elder's whist I was there. It was at this time these remaining elders sought to appoint new Elders and open up nominations for women. At my meeting with the elders it was stated that they saw no reason why a woman should not become an elder so felt it my duties to give the reasons. Now I had learned these things soon after I had become a Christian and was use to establishing every point of belief from scripture alone and this was what surprised me, why did these men not do so ?

7 Blindness No Excuse Ignore Scripture

We see no reason why women should not be made elders is a quotation of the Elders at "Jesus is Lord Church" Warsash !

These are the scriptural reasons why women should not be made elders or rule over men .

Man is the head of the woman

Cor 11

But I would have you to know the head of every man is

Christ; and the head of the women *is* the man and the head of Christ is God.

Every man praying of prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.

But every women that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head; for that is even all one as if she were shaven.

For if a women be not covered , let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a women to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered.

For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, for as much as he is in the image and glory of God, but the women is the glory of the man.

For the man is not of the women ; but the women of the man.

Neither was the man created for the women but the women for the man.

For this cause ought the women to have power on *her* head because of the angels.

Never the less neither is the man without the women , neither the women without the man in the Lord.

For as the woman is of the man , even so is the man also by the women; but all things are of God.

Judge in your selves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered.

Doth not even nature itself teach you , that if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him ?

But if a woman have long hair it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering

If any man seem to be contentious , we have no such custom neither in the churches of God. (Either there were more than one church at Corinth or Paul means all the churches throughout the world)

Christian Practice

This was Christian custom and practice and not a cultural

practice from the world and the reason for it is because of what scriptures teaches regarding the relationship between the man and women in creation and since their fall into sin in the garden of Eden. A Christian marriage was to reflect the relationship between Christ and His church.

Adam Created First

God made Adam first giving him instructions and commandments to name the creature and not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil before Eve had been made.

Gen. 2

And the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

And the Lord God commanded the man saying of every tree of the garden you may freely eat:

but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shall not eat of it for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shall surely die.

Adam Named The Creatures Not Eve

Gen. 2

And out of the ground the Lord God made every beast of the field and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature , that was the name thereof.

And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

Eve A Helper

God made Eve for Adam in order to help and support him in his work

Gen. 2

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead therof

And the rib which the Lord God had taken from man,

made he a women, and brought her unto the man.

Subjection After The Fall

God placed women under subjection to man after she had sinned in the Garden of Eden. This is not a cultural issue.

Gen. 3

Unto the women he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shall bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband and he shall rule over thee.

Peter Instructs wives

to be subject to their Husbands

Wives should be subject to their own husbands , says Peter the Apostle to the Jews.

Peter 3

Likewise ye wives be in subjection to you own husband; that if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.

Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair and wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

But let it be the hidden man of the heart in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quite spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

Examples From Scripture

For after this manor in the old time the holy women also who trusted in God, adorned themselves being in subjection to their own husbands:

Even as Sara obeyed Abraham calling him Lord: whose daughters ye are as long as you do well and are not afraid with any amazement.

Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles

Wives should be subject to their own husbands says Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles

Ephesians 5

Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord

For the husband is head of the wife , even as Christ is head of the Church : and he is the savior of the body.

Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Col. 3

Wives submit your selves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

Women To Learn In Silence

Women to learn in silence not to teach or usurp authority over man

Tim. 2

Let the women learn in silence with all subjection.

But I suffer not a women to teach, nor usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

For Adam was first formed then Eve.

And Adam was not deceived but the women being deceived was in the transgression.

Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

This was the rule in all the churches not just Corinth

These are the commandments of the Lord not Paul's opinion

Cor. 14

Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but *they are commanded* to be under obedience, as also saith the Law.

Cor. 14

And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home ; for it is a shame for a women to speak

in the church.

Cor. 14

If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual then let him acknowledge that the things that I write are the commandments of the Lord.

Aged Women To Teach Younger Women

Tit. 2 1

The aged women likewise that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

that they may teach the younger women to be sober to love their husbands, to love their children,

To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

Eldership Men Not Women

Elders to be men not women ruling his own house well

Tim. 3

This is a true saying, if any man desire the office of a bishop (elder) he desires a good work.

A Bishop must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

Not given to wine no striker, not greedy for filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, nor covetous;

One that ruleth his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity.

For if a man no not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God ?

A Note Of Explanation On

Tim. 2

Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

The word **saved** is the same word used to describe the

experience of the women with an issue of blood for 12 years and Jesus healed her. She was **made whole** (saved).

Made whole = saved.

A women will find wholesomeness (saved) in child bearing. i.e. Bringing up children and functioning as a godly wife. God made her to love and support a husband and bring up children.

The Virtuous Women In Proverbs

Proverbs 30 verse 10

Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.

11 The heart of her husband does safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

The whole chapter treats of the fulfilled women.

These are some of the scriptures, which speak directly on the subject of women and leadership. I hope this is of some help. This matter is as clear as Jesus is Lord.

Man should protect women not help ruin them

Why do women wish to resist Gods order by wanting to become Elders? Men who support women in this area are not protecting them. When Eve sinned Adam should have prayed for her, not go along with her sin. So men ought to contend for the truth of God in this matter, to safe guard women from similar consequences. Other wise they will become Punget (Ugly)

A Warning To The People Of God

Isaiah 3

As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people they, which lead thee, cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

Isaiah 8

To the Law and the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

To ignore Gods word on a matter so plain is foolish. Should we ignore the Word of God it might even be written

of us one day "Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind". **Math 15 4.**

I have given more than seven scriptural quotations to show that a woman cannot qualify to be an elder. I am however also aware it is written: the sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

Prov. 26 16.

I would urge you to reconsider the issue regarding women Elders. This is my duty to you all in love. I am speaking the Word of God in the name and authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is a trial to both you and me.

I certainly can see how the Lord trying me in this issue to see if I am prepared to speak out for Him.

David Clarke

16/2/99

Hayling Close,

8 A Tried Faith

It was after this battle with the elders at Warsah I decided not to attend their meetings any more but felt it only write to the church and give them a copy of what I had written and said to the elders and I also wrote my views as to their future ad how God works with men. Here were my thoughts.

The Lord is testing the "Jesus is Lord Church"meeting at Warsash 21st February 1999

The Trial Of Your Faith - God Will Try You

It may seem surprising to some that God tries our faith, to see if we love him or no, just as he tried Abraham and the children of Israel.

How these trials come to us it doesn't matter.

What matters is how we react to them and deal with them. We should be faithful to God in our trials; obedience to God is better that sacrifices.

Abraham An Example

Abraham was called of God to go to a land that God

would show him.

God promised Abraham a son in his old age to be his heir

We read in Genesis

Gen. 15

After these things the Word of the Lord came unto Abraham in a vision saying, fear not Abram: I am thy shield, and exceeding great reward.

And Abram said Lord God what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless and the steward of my house is this Eleazer of Damascus?

This shall not be thine heir but he that cometh forth out of thine own bowls shall be thine heir.

And he believed in the Lord and He counted it to him for righteousness.

God Try's Abraham Faith 40 Years Later

Forty years after God had promised Abraham a son in his old age God tried Abraham so see if he feared the Lord.

Gen. 12

For now I know thou fearest God , seeing thou hast not held thy son, thine only *son* from me.

We read of Abraham's trial in

Gen. 22

And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, behold here I am.

And he said Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

Abraham Obeyed God

Heb. 11

By faith Abraham when he was tried offered up Isaac: and he that received the promises offered up his only begotten son.

God Proved Abraham To Be Faithful

Gen 12

And he said lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know thou fearest God , seeing thou hast not held thy son, thine only *son* from me.

Abraham a pattern for believers

We too as believers will go through trials as Abraham did. We have the scriptures to support us and direct in these trials.

We Are Encourage To Withstand Trials

James 1

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

We All Shall Have Trials

Peter 1

That the trial of your faith , being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

And in another place

James 1

My brethren count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

knowing this that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

Difficult Trials Are Those Sent By God

As the children of Israel were tried and tested those 40 years in the wilderness so will we be tried in the same way by God during our Christian life.

Deut 8

Moses said, "All the commandments which I command this day shall ye observe to do , that ye may live and multiply , and go in and posses the land which the Lord swore unto

your fathers.

And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thy heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no".

As God lead them in the way to prove them and humble them to know what was in their heart so he will try us today. And He is doing so in just the same way.

Gods Trials Have A Purpose

God wishes us to be faithful to Him in everything. God will try us to see if we will be faithful to his word. His word is a lamp unto our feet.

It seems to me that the trial presented to us at the moment is the issue about **women elders**. This is a trial sent of God. It is to try us to know what is in our hearts. To see if we will keep His word or no.

I have spoken to the elders about the issue. I am told we are the Elders I should be subject to their authority. I am not questioning their authority but their wisdom.

I feel the Lord would have me speak about this issue openly . I am responsible to speak what the Lord has taught me

I have put together, in these papers, several scriptures pointing out Gods word to us on the issue about women elders. It is very clear. An Elder is to be a man, the husband of one wife, with his children in all subjection. Not a women.

I would ask you to read these scriptures on the subject and make you own minds up. I would exhort you to act according to the word of God.

We are told by the Lord Him self he will try us in issues like this

Deut. 13

If there Arise among you a prophet or dreamer of dreams and giveth you a sign or a wonder, and the sign

or the wonder come to pass , whereof he spoke unto thee saying, let us go after other gods , which thou has not known , and let us serve them :

Thou shalt not harken unto that prophet , or that dreamer of dreams : for the Lord you God proveth you to know whether ye love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

What Are We Going To Do - God Is Trying Us Today

It is my privilege to encourage you in the Lord your God. I have not been called hear to no purpose And is my delight to see Jesus honored and gloried in our midst.

My desire is you prove true to the Lord in this trial and act the way the Lord wants you too.

I say follow Gods word which speaks clearly to us stating that a women does not qualify to be an elder.

9 The Christian Marriage

(By David Clarke 23 rd June 1996 amended June 1999 and January 2003)

This is published to help all who have been troubled by divorce and remarriage. For if we know the reason for our existence and our calling and purpose we may know for what and to pray.

In the Beginning

God from the beginning of creation instituted marriage. Adam was made first and Eve was made from Adam's flesh and bone as his helpmeet. After they had fallen into sin God spoke reprovingly to Adam for harkening to the voice of his wife after she had sinned in the Garden of Eden. God also spoke to the women saying,

Gen. 2 18.

"I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband and he shall rule over thee ".

Gen. 3 17

To Adam he said because you have harkened to the

voice of your wife and disobeyed my voice he cursed the ground saying in sorrow would he eat of it all the days of his life. Thorns and thistles would grow and in the sweat of his brow would he eat bread. Until he die.

As women suffer in childbirth and thorns and thistles grow and men have to work by the sweat of their brow so this curse remains and has not been removed because God uses this for his own glory.

Natural Disposition The Women To Rule

From these scriptures we learn that the natural disposition of the woman is a desire to rule over her man and this is part of the curse, but he must learn to rule over her. In the same way the Lord instructed Cain.

Genesis 4 verse 7

If thou doest well , shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well , sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. We may learn from this and hearken to his voice.

New Testament Revelation

As we come to the New Testament we learn from the example of our Lord Jesus Christ how to rule our wives and this is by love. For it is written he loved his Church and gave himself for her; so too must we love our wives. The women are not commanded to love their husband but rather to honour and respect them.

The Christian View Of Marriage

Has Always Been Clear

Ephesians 5 22

" Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be subject to their own husband in every thing.

Husbands love you wives even as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it. Etc. So ought men to love

their wives as their own body. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

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.

1 Cor. 12 3

Before God the head of every man is Christ and the head of the woman is the man and the head of Christ is God.

There is clarity about the position of man and women before God. In this light we can view marriage.

The is no direct indication in the scripture as to how a marriage is entered into but it is generally agreed the man and woman wishing to marry

Marriage promises are made in public before witnesses.

Must do so willingly

There is a leaving the parental home and a cleaving too each other.

The intention is for life

Partners cannot leave the marriage

A marriage can only be devolved if;

a Adultery takes place and that only by the injured party. Divorce does not have to take place if adultery happens.

B The unbelieving partner wishes to leave (this leaving being an act of the will and ceasing to behave as a married person) and the believer releases them.

The legal part to marriage and divorce is only a technical aspect. It is not the actuality. Just like a death certificate does not make the person dead nor a birth certificate give life to the baby, neither does a marriage or divorce certificate make a marriage or give rise to divorce.

Christian marriage involves the marriage partners promising each other certain things. The following marriage vows are derived from scripture and are long-standing Christian beliefs.

A The man promises his bride to love, honour, cherish, care and look after her even as Christ loves and cares for his church. ***Col 3 19, Eph 5 25, 1 Pet 3. 7.***

B The women in return promises to love honour and obey her man (as the church does to Christ). This is the pattern spoken of in **Eph. 5 22-24.** This order and pattern of promises are only derived from the scripture and has been the order of things throughout the Church age.

These promises **form a covenant** and they are made before God and in presence of witnesses. It is **not a contract** but a covenant and should not be broken. Even if partners fail to fulfil their promises. They are still bound by promise to fulfil their vows. Even if they ignore their vows they are still married. Each partner is responsible to go the second mile in making the relationship work.

In the marriage all the husband has is his wife's even his body and likewise all the wife has belongs to her husband.

This form of marriage is how God intends it to be and I would argue to depart for the scriptural view of marriage is to turn from what God has revealed. I cannot see how any one in their right mind would turn from Gods way of things.

Views of John Owen

This has been included in Appendix 06.

David Clarke 21st Feb 1999

Conclusion

I conclude that those who seek to be wiser than what is written in the scripture, as these elders at Titchfield, Warsash and Paulsgrove, concerning Christ, the way of salvation and church order fall into the deception of Satan and work against their declared purpose of functioning as a gospel church. Such pastors are as it was in Jeremiah's day scatter the sheep of Christ and do not gather them at all- to their shame.

When I inform Christian men and women of my

conclusions they show that they too have been deceived by saying oh! **You have a problem with women.** I say no but rather I believe God and the scriptures and am like John the Baptist or more clearly like one of the two witnesses, in **Revelation 11 verse 3,** who before they were kill spoke clearly in the day of there prophecy. Then the Beast who arose from he bottomless pit slew them.

Observations

It is my observation and suggestion that women have reacted to man's failure to treat them rightly in honouring the weaker vessel and are seek to put a respectable face on feminism. They have turned from the word of God to do this and so are deceived by the devil. The spirit behind this movement is that same spirit which animates the Queen of Heaven and it is not of God. Repentance is the only hope of recovery to the mind and will of God. The Lord speaks of a bed that these who committed acts of spiritual adultery will be case onto and those who commit such sins with the false prophets Jezebel. I suggest it will be a bed of embarrassment which it will be the Lord doing as he gave them space to repent but did not.

Appendix 01 Covering Is An Issue

A new word has come into our religious language. It is **"Covering".** It is said and believed that every one in Christian ministry needs to be covered if they are to be involved in the work of God. It is said you need to be covered or supported by your church, before you enter into the work of God. Without this it is wrong and you will fail or cannot achieve or do the work of God.

Might I suggest that this is not true and we have no scripture to support this proposition?

A reference to covering does appear in the Corinthian letter stating that a man should not cover his head in the

worship of God but the woman should. The suggestion is that when a woman covers her head she signifies she is in subjection to her husband. Paul argues this custom is Christian practice in the churches and is derived form the scriptures of the Old Testament and sights references.

The Head of Every Man

The head of every man is Christ, says the apostle and not the , or the Church.

I maintain we must depend **totally upon God for direction. The head of every man is Christ** and not an elder, church or religious body of people. I ask one question by whom was Moses, Jonah, John the Baptist, Jesus, or the Apostle Paul covered?

Scripture Deals With Covering

Scripture does actually deal with the issue of covering and its practice and significance. In many religious circles the issue of covering and its scriptural meaning had been lost, ignored or thrown out of the window, only to be replaced by this new expression, "we all need to be covered". In other words the word of God is being ignored or just not seen.

Order In The Godhead, Family & Church

The scripture says the head of every man is Christ, not the church, or its elders. Also in the order of salvation and the revelation of the persons in the trinity the Son subjected himself in humility to the Father in order to work out our salvation. This does not mean Christ is less than or inferior to the Father as this is a covenant relationship of co-equal persons. So it is in the relationship between man and wife. So the head of every woman is her husband, not another man or the church or its elders or a religious organization.

In the case of the women the natural physical head should be veiled or **covered in worship** to signify she is subject to her man. The covering is an outward sigh of a natural law brought in by God signifying the differences

between the man and his wife, which was aggravated by the fall that has come about as the result of the fall of man in the Garden of Eden. The wife is to be subject to her own husband and under him. He is to cover her. This is not chauvinism or sexual discrimination but Christian practice.

Throw Away The Covering

In our modern age women are taking over positions in the church that God designed expressly for men to fulfil.

This modern day phenomenon of throwing away the "covering" which God says a woman should wear, has crept into the religious world and this practice has made an opening for direct disobedience to the word of God. They now do those things the scripture forbids and argue oh that was only a custom of their day and is not a custom of modern days so we ignore the directions.

In the West and in Asia women are appointed elders and pastors and as a result some men have become weak and are unable to stand and contend earnestly for the faith once delivered unto the saints.

The biblical order of Man and women has been lost and is being replaced by this new invention of man- we all need to be covered. This is the new cry.

Covering For All

It is my desire that through this publication I will encourage men to return to the old paths of Christ and His Gospel, and let the bible alone be the only rule of conduct and practice in matters of faith and religion.

Dealing with Offences

This stand will cause offense to many but how we deal with that offence is also spoken of in the scripture. I have shown that when I acted as a Christian and stood for the gospel truth of the Lord Jesus Christ I was opposed by men not directed by scripture. I must not leave the matter with the Lord.

If an offence is committed in any society the scripture

teaches the way to deal with the problem. The injured party in a private matter is required to go to that person directly who caused the offence, not to the church, or the elders of the church. They are not to go behind the offender's back but sort it between them both first if possible. Thus the injured party is under Christ and in going directly to that person it opens a way to allow the person to act before the Lord and put an offence right. It allows men the opportunity to exercises grace in the same way God has done to them.

Should this approach fail then an injured party can go with one or two believers seeking to resolve the issue and finally let the problem be known to the church, only if the issue cannot be resolved between them. When Jesus had things against the churches in Revelation they were give the opportunity to repent of face the consequences. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God.

History Repeats Its Self

As a member of the Bierton Strict and Particular Baptist Church it was the normal custom for women to cover their heads in worship. Men wold pray openly and women remind silent in prayer but they sang hymns. However the customary practice of head covering can take on a different meaning when ones mind is not governed by the spiritual truths of the scripture. This is demonstrated in my book Bierton Strict and Particular Baptists under heading **"Hats Or Head Coverings For Ladies",** page 212.

Here is the reference.

Hats Or Head Coverings For Ladies

Trouble was on its way in the form of religious oppression. On Sunday morning in 1983 I took to church a friend of mine's daughter. This was the daughter of Dick Holmes who I use to work with as an aerial rigger. She had been through a divorce and was having a difficult time. I suggested she came with me to church, as she needed help from God.

She was dressed in tight black slacks and a short top, which showed all her figure. She had long peroxide blond hair and her face was made up. This mode of dress was a striking contrast to the elderly ladies who dressed very modestly with very little make up on and all ware hats to cover their heads in church.

Unfortunately this was too much for Mrs. Evered who came up to me after the service (I call it a meeting because the meetings of the New Testament churches were not called services) and she said to me the next time I bring a female to chapel I should tell her to wear a hat.

Mrs. Evered said that all Gospel Standard Churches insisted women cover their heads and so should we.

I responded that by saying, " what ever others do that was their concern they were wrong if they enforced the covering of the head upon a none church member and women visitor having no profession of the Christian faith."

I said she must raise this issue at our church meeting.

This spirit of legalism naturally took me back. Here was a young woman in sever distress needing the mercy and love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ and all Mrs. Evered seemed to be concerned with was the wearing of a Hat.

I knew the principle of a believing women dressing modestly and being in subjection to her own husband and covering her head in worship. I also knew the principle of the woman not exercising authority over the man or teaching a man but this action of Mrs Evered to use the phrase, "took the biscuit".

I was a man and was being instructed by a woman, Mrs Evered, to order or insist a visiting unbelieving female wear a hat In order to uphold the principle that it was a shame for a woman to worship God without a head covering.

This covering according to the scripture was to show the angels she was in subjection to the man and not usurping authority over him.

Mrs. Evered missed the whole point of the gospel and

in her religious zeal to maintaining an outward form of religion transgressed the rule she sought to maintain.

This religious spirit was not of God and I believed the gospel needed to be preached to set men free from such darkness. But who would do this?

Why Cite This Example

The above citation is written to demonstrate and show that the outward religious practice of a head covering can be outwardly correct but for the wrong principle and motive. That does not mean we should disregard the practice and custom.

Mans Head Must Not Be Covered

The head of every man is Christ and so his (physical natural) head must not be covered in the worship of God, this indication is to angels as well as men and he is under Christ's rule directly. The woman is under her husband's rule and so this is signified by her (physical natural) head being covered with a veil or covering.

The Religious World Has Got It Wrong

I have notice that when the wrong view is held and the way of speaking used **"every one aught to be covered"** then it leads a person to look to an organizing for approval and financial support and not to the Lord. Such people begin to then realize that if they do certain things or act in certain ways then the society with whom they work may disapprove of them and threaten to with draw support.

A man who is under Christ will know the right way to walk and act in any given situation if he is lead by the Spirit of Christ. The moment a man looks to the organization or friends for support he may fall into the trap and try to please man in order to again, acceptance and support. This is the natural man's way and so he cannot walk by faith. The natural man preserves not the things, which are spiritual. The natural man does not depend on God but his own carnal wisdom. The natural man goes against the way of

faith.

An example of this error of men looking to man and women taking the lead and getting it getting it wrong can be found in the extract.

Extract From the Daily Diary

of Trojan Horse International (TULIP) Phils.
Incorporated
December 25th 2002

I went to see Olga Robertson at her home on the reservation and had a meal with her friends. Olga had arrived from America and shared with me some of her experiences. She was a women Religious Volunteer (RVO) working in New bilibid Prison. I gave her a copy of our book. Trojan Warriors", and she asked me if all these men who had written their testimonies were born again. I state to her that I was not going to judge them but they must stand by what they have written. I stated That I had not changed a word even though **Gordon Smith** had wanted me to remove from Hectors Maqueda's testimonies his references to TULIP and hard Calvinism, as he called it. He wanted to make the testimony acceptable to men and not to cause offence. I had to say no to this and maintained we were not to do that as that was changing his testimony. If this happens he wood be like the Pope of Rome seeking to alter things to please men.

Olga told off one of her men helpers who was wearing a hat in her house. She was very curt with him asking what do he think he was doing wearing his hat in her room. I was amused how he obeyed her without question and so I asked Olga did she cover her head when worshiping God. She said NO! and looked at me with a question mark on her face.

The point I was making was that the covering of the head of a man, when in the presence of God in worship, was a dishonour to **his head who is the Lord Jesus**. This being

the Apostle Paul's argument and case.

However Olga Robertson was taking offence at this man wearing a hat in her house and told him so by saying it **dishonoured to her** by wearing his hat in her dinning room.

The Apostle Paul goes on to say that if **a woman did not cover her head** in the presence of God in worship then she **dishonours her head** (the man). Her defiant No told me a lot.

This situation reminded me of Mrs. Evered in "**The Bierton Crisis"**.

Contemplations on the way of Faith

The spiritual man walks the way of faith, depending upon God and the light of His word and Spirit direct him in every situation. It is the way of faith. Our walk must be by faith. The walk of faith goes against the natural man and way of the carnal nature. We often have to reprove (silently) by doing the right thing, at the right time, regardless of what people think. In such a walk the believer is often alone (but not alone as the Lord it with him).

When men find them selves looking over their shoulders, wondering what will this person of that person think of me, if I do or say or do the approved thing, then that is where Satan has got you. If you find your self not doing things which you know are right before God and proper because you feel others may disapprove of you, then that is Satan ensnaring you so that you will become ineffectual in your work for God. We are told to resist the Devil and he will flee from you.

Forsake The World

It is put as a real proposition that we are called to leave this world, this includes the world of carnal religious people as well, and daily follow Christ. We are required to put away former things, which are not of God, to follow Christ. Our drugs, our laying, our bad ways, to walk with Christ.

The Religious Sinner

The religious sinner must also put away his formal dead religion to follow Christ. We all must take up our Cross and follow Christ. As it would be wrong to encourage a drug dependent user of drugs or a homosexual to continue his ways. Or for drinker with drink problems, to remain drinking like a fish. So in the same way it would be wrong to encourage a religious sinner to continue in his of her idolatry and false religion. They must leave their sinful way, just as a drug dependent and drunkard and sexual deviant, must leave their carnal ways. They must do it today.

We all are all required to walk by faith. Religious sinners exist as well as irreligious sinners exits. All need to be saved from them selves and forsake their world to follow Christ.

David Clarke

Written at Coin, Near Savilla. On a Trojan Horse mission to Spain. 4th May Saturday. Amended. Philippines 5th December 2002 and 1st January 2003.

Appendix 02 An Assignment for the Teachers

Women Elders

The problem of women elders and pastora's as they are called in the Philippines is high lighted in the follow history.

This story is told in my book Before The Cock Crows, in which I tell our my experience working as a missionary to the jails in the Philippines. My brother Michael and I had worked with converted inmate within New Bilibid prison t form a Teacher Training College in order to equip qualified men to teach and preach the gospel on their release from prison. An Assignment for our teacher's at the New Bilibid Teacher Training College was set out as follows. E-mail us for our Theologian's answers.

New Bilibid, (Maximum) Prison Teacher Training

College

Essay Assignment

This assignment question has been put to our teachers and trainers in New Bilibid Prison as these teach the gospel to hundred of inmates in the "The Big House". New Bilibid Prison houses over 23,500 inmates in three compounds, Minimum, Medium and Maximum Compounds. There are over 1300 men on "Death row" awaiting death by lethal injection. Twenty-two of these men are our "Trojan Warriors".

Our "Trojan Warriors" are preparing to take the gospel to the rest of the prisons in the Philippines (All 1506 district and city jails). Our first man, who has been set apart and was set aside to go to his own city in Baguio to preach the gospel on relese from prison in August 2002. His name is **Pastor William C. Poloc.** Upon his release this year he will work closely with our President Rev. Lucas P. Dungatan in the ministry taking the Gospel to prisons inn the Philippines to "Set the captives free". His testimony is number 62 in our book Trojan Warriors.

Assignment Question

Does the Lord Jesus Christ wish women to rule as elders in His Church?

Your are required to answer this question in an essay format in 2000 words.

Prelude To The Question and Why

Church history and the world of Christianity is changing. It is believed that the Church should be as a great light to the society in which she lives, to give clear moral guidelines to its people. A Church functioning correctly should help the society rise from poverty and so prosper in every way.

When the Philippines are mentioned to the western mind the picture of beautiful women and sunshine comes to mind. It is internationally known and believed by some

people that a Philippine wife is the desire of a Western man. This because of her cultural up bringing. It is generally believed the Filipino culture has developed in such a way that the women have good attitude towards the man (her husband), which lends itself to a successful marriage.

On the other hand it has been argued that this cultural phenomenon must be changed because it has left the women vulnerable and open to abuse and exploitation. Strict laws have been passed and enforced to prevent marriages between Philippine women and foreign men. It is argued by some that such laws have been found necessary in order to protect their women and society from abuse. The effect is that these laws prevent the natural migration of Philippine women to other countries.

It is known how ever, by some, that it is poverty that has robbed and damaged the Philippine Culture [1]. The argument goes on to maintain that it is **the Catholic religion**, which is the cause of the problem, as it breads poverty. So if we get rid of the Catholic Religion we get rid of poverty.

It could be and it may be that the Old Catholic views of the man women relationships may have some mileage. It would be a shame to discard every vestige of good, which has been cultivated over many years, even though the Roman Catholic Church may be so wrong in many other issues.

The moral values, which serve to bring stability to marriages and society, have always been those biblical views expressing of correct relationship between the man and women, children and parents and society and the law of the land.

These moral values dictate that the head of Christ is God, Christ is the head of the man and the man is the head of the women. These statements are not exclusive to the Roman Catholic Church but **to all Christians** who maintain that the bible is the Word of God.

The bible informs us that God designed the marriage relationship, to reflect the eternal relationship between Christ and his Church (Christ and His Bride). Sexual purity, i.e. no sex before marriage, fidelity in marriage, Marriage for life are values held by all Christians.

That the "curse" and **thy desire shall be towards thy husband but he shall rule over thee"** is in fact the conflict found in every relationship between man and women.

The women, designed by God, under this curse will always seek to rule over her husband- it is natural to her because she is so very different to the make up of a the man. The man also made in the image of God and under the curse will find this conflict mysterious at times and very hard. He must learn to rule over her, in love, otherwise the marriage will be far from harmonious not being as God so lovingly designed marriage to be. In a successful marriage the scripture will be fulfilled, which expresses the effects of gospel truth, **' In that day the wolf will lay down with the lamb".** Guess whom the wolf and lamb may represent.

The position and role of the women, in the sociality of the Church, is also expressed in the bible and the church should reflex this moral and working principle to the world as a great light in this current generation- as an example. The church should not follow a fallen world but be its leader.

This essay should argue that a departure from the bible format which defines clearly the roles and moral codes for church and family life is a sure **fore runner of sorrow** to our children and children's children.

This is why Jesus admits **no divorce** (except in the case of adultery and that is not a must) because he wishes the **Man to be as he**. He will never put his wife away. He redeemed his bride, gave his life for her to cover all her wayward ways. This he did demonstrating his love to her in actions. Under the Law of Moses they had not this light and had hardness of heart- we have the Love of Christ to constrain us)

She in return responds naturally (only through and due to His redeeming grace) willing says "I do- I will love honor and obey you.

Out side this rule of Christ a marriage cannot be as God designed it to be. In marriage children are to learn those necessary things for the make up of good society and its laws. Children need both parents to raise them up. Those children raised in dysfunctional families (due to unresolved conflicts between separated parents) suffer. Then children suffer, Society suffers in fact we will all suffer and have to live with the consequences of our actions.

It is maintained by some that a women ruling as an Elder in a Church is contrary to the will and wish of our Lord Jesus Christ and runs against the grain of scripture. Just like fornication. Homo- sexuality and lesbian relationships run against the grain of the image of God invested man from the beginning.

Others maintain that the curse in the Garden of Eden has been broken and we now have a new order for Men and Women, as they are equal and can rule as Elders in the Church. That is provided they have the gifts and qualifications to so rule.

The purpose of this essay is to prepare our Trojan Warriors, for the world out side New Bilibid (Maximum Compound) Prison.

In the world you have already found tribulation but in the church, as you will find when you leave prison, you will find great trouble over this issue. Be however of good cheer our Lord Jesus has over come the world. And be thankful He is head of His Church.

David Clarke

7th April 2002.

[1] The Philippines Damaged Culture? Earl K. Wilkinson 2001.

A Reflection

Sadly to say the men did not carry out the assignment and Rev. Lucas ~Dangatan wrote asking me not to mention anything about the role of women elders etc in our book "Trojan Warriors" as he did not wish to offend lady pastors and elders who were religious volunteers in the prison and on whom they relied for their financial support. Otherwise they might buy the book. They had many Pastorar's (Women Pastors-Elders) and religious volunteers (RVO's) working in New Bilibid Prison.

Authors Comments

The revealed teaching, in the Old and New Testament scriptures, concerning the person of the Lord Jesus, are expressed in many Christian Article of Religion, such at those of Trojan Horse International (TULIP) Phils. Incorporated. A correct understanding in these matter will enable the reader to be free from the errors which this book seek to deliver the reader from. These articles may be seen in the Appendix 04.

David Believes that Mary Baker has it wrong, as the typical priesthood and pattern of the Tabernacle portrays the following things of the reality.

A The incarnation of Christ i.e. the person of the Son of God becoming that which he was not. A real man without sin in our human nature. He is one person uniting the divine nature of God and our human nature in one person. He Tabernacle amongst us.

B That the believer being born again is the temple of Go build for an habitation of God. Through the Spirit.

C That the Church is the body of Christ the ground and pillar of the truth a temple that God has built and not man.

D That the Son of God, in our nature was the sin offering and the High Priest that was to come.

E He offered himself once and for all in a sacrifice

which can never be repeated.

F His Deity was that which sanctified the Gift.

G There is now no sacrificing priesthood after the order of Aaron.

H A woman and any other man were disqualified from the priesthood under Moses by the Lord himself.

I The Law is fulfilled in Christ.

J We now have a priesthood of all believers making spiritual sacrificed acceptable to God by the Mediation of Christ alone.

Conclusion

It is written Galatians 4 verse 30, "Cast out the bond women and her son for the son of the bond woman shall not be heir with the son of the free women"

This David says, **"Cast out the women elders, false Prophetess's Jezebel and her brood, otherwise you too will be cast into a bed. Remember her children will be killed by the Lord".**

Appendix 04 Articles of Religion

Trojan Horse International (TULIP) Phils. Incorporated

We maintain;

That the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are given by inspiration of God and are the only rule of faith and practice and that these scriptures reveal the one true and only God who is self existent, infinite and eternal. That there are three self existent co-eternal persons in the Godhead namely the Father the Son and the Holy Ghost and these three are one God and that the Lord Jesus Christ is very God and very man in one glorious complex person.

That God is the creator of both spiritual and material worlds.

That the eternal purpose of God in Christ is to manifest

his glory.

That Before the world began God did elect a certain number of the human race unto everlasting life and salvation whom He did predestine to the adoption of Children by Jesus Christ of his own free grace and according to the good pleasure of His will.

That God created the first man Adam upright and all his posterity fell in him. Adam was responsible for the fall of humanity.

The effect of the fall left mankind ruined; this included his mind will and affections. Both Adam and his wife Eve were affected in different ways.

That the Lord Jesus Christ in the fullness of time became incarnate and that he really suffered and died as the substitute for his people (the whole world a term used in scripture, expressing both Jew and Gentile). He made all the satisfaction for their sins, which the law and justice of God could require as well as made a way for the bestowments of all those blessings, which are needful for them for time and eternity.

That the justification of Gods elect is only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them and received by faith without consideration of any works of righteousness done by them and that the full and free pardon of all there sins and transgressions is only through the full free pardon of all their sins and transgressions is only through the blood of Christ according to the riches of Gods grace.

That the eternal redemption which Christ hath obtained by the shedding of his blood is special and particular that it is only and intentionally designed for the elect of God who only can share its spiritual blessings.

That regeneration, conversion, sanctification and faith are the work of the Almighty efficacious and invincible grace of God the Holy Ghost.

That all those chosen by the Father, redeemed by the Son and sanctified by the Spirit shall certainly and finally

persevere unto eternal life.

There is a resurrection of dead both of just the injustice and that Christ will come a second time to judge the quick and the dead when he will consign the wicked to everlasting punishment and introduce His own people into his kingdom and Glory where they shall be for ever with Him.

That the Church is the design of God and is His delight and the Lord, "loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob".

That baptism of believers by immersion and the Lords Supper are ordinances of Christ to be continued until His coming again.

That marriage was ordained of God to reflect the relationship between Christ and his Church.

There is order in the family, society and Church. The head of every man is Christ, the Head of Christ is God (Father) and the head of every woman is the man. Children are to be subject to their parents and wife to their own husbands. Society and Church to be subject to magistrates so long this subjection does not oppose the rule of Christ.

Note from the Director

May I suggest that articles of religion are not put up to cause division or controversy but rather use them to prompt the truth as it is in the Lord Jesus Christ? It is unreasonable to expect all people to see and agree on things all at once. Let every one be prepared to learn. A fuller and detailed version my be read in the **First London Confession of Particular Baptist in 1644.**

We could include the words used in baptism or dipping i.e. In Jesus name (His authority) I baptize you in the Name of Father Son and Holy Ghost.

David Clarke (extracted from Trojan Warriors).

Appendix 06 Marrying after Divorce

In the case of adultery. By John Owen

This article written by Dr. Owen's was first published in 1721 nearly forty years after his death.

In the year 1714 Britain invited a divorced man, George I, to the throne. English divorce laws were no different to that of the Papacy. Owen shows that divorce **'mensa et thoro'** is a fiction imposed upon the state and the grace of the Gospel and hurtful is to mankind When Jesus spoke to the Pharisees about divorce he was not talking about Separation and Dr. Owen calls the assertion "blasphemy".

Article

It is confessed by all that adultery is a just and sufficient cause of a divorce betwixt married persons.

This divorce, say some, consists in a dissolution **"vinculi matrimonialis",** and so removes the marriage relation as that the innocent person divorcing or procuring the divorce is at liberty to marry again.

Others say that it is only a separation **'mensa et thoro'** and that on this account it doth not ought to dissolve the marriage relation.

I am of the judgement of the former; for:

What Is True Divorce?

First, This divorce 'mensa et thoro' only is no true divorce, but a mere fiction of a divorce, of no use in this case, nor lawful to be made use of, neither by the law of nature nor the law of God; for,

1. It is, as stated, but a late invention, of no use to the world, nor known in more ancient times: for those of the Roman church who assert it do grant that divorces by the law of nature were **'a vinculo'** and that so they were under the Old Testament; and this fiction they would impose on the grace and state of the gospel, which yet makes indeed no alteration in moral relations and duties, but only directs

their performance.

2. It is deduced from a fiction, -namely, that marriage among Christians is a sacrament of that signification as renders it in dissolvable; and therefore they would have it to take place only amongst believers, the rest of mankind being left to their natural right and privilege. But this is a fiction, and as such in sundry cases they make use of it.

Secondly, A divorce perpetual **" a mensa et thoro"** only is no way useful to mankind, but hurtful and noxious; for,

1. It would constitute a new condition or state of life, wherein it is not possible that a man should have a wife, or not have a wife lawfully, in one of which estates yet really every man capable of the state of wedlock is and must be, whether he will or no; for a man may, as things be circumstantiated, be absolutely bound in conscience not to receive her again who was justly repudiated for adultery, nor can he take another on this divorce. But into this estate God calls no man.

2. It may, and probably will, cast a man under a necessity of sinning: for suppose he hath not the gift of continency, it is the express will of God that he should marry for his relief; yet on this supposition, he sins if he does so, and in that he sins if he doth not so.

Thirdly, It is unlawful; for if the bond of marriage abide, the relation still continues. This relation is the foundation of all mutual duties; and whilst all that continues, none can dispense with or prohibit from the performance of those duties. If a woman does continue in the relation of a wife to a man, she may claim the duties of marriage from him. Separation there may be by consent for a season, or upon other occasions, that may hinder the actual discharge of conjugal duties; but to make an obligation unto such duties void, whilst the relation doth continue, is against the law of nature and the law of God. This divorce, therefore, supposing the relation of man and wife between any, and no mutual duty thence to arise, is unlawful.

Fourthly, The light of nature never directed to this kind of divorce. Marriage is an ordinance of the law of nature; but in the light and reason thereof there is no intimation of any such practice. It still directed that they who might justly put away their wives might marry others. Hence some, as the ancient Grecians, and the Romans afterward, allowed the husband to kill the adulteress. This among the Romans was changed **"lege Julia",** but the offence [was] still made capital. In the room hereof, afterward, divorce took place purposely to give the innocent person liberty of marriage. So that this kind of divorce is but a fiction.

The first opinion, therefore, is according to truth; for,

First, That which dissolves the form of marriage and destroys all the forms of marriage doth dissolve the bond of marriage; for take away the form and any moral obligation, and the relation itself ceaseth. But this is done by adultery, and a divorce ensuing thereon. For the form of marriage consisteth in this, that two become " one flesh," Gen. ii. 24; Matt. xix. 6; -but this is dissolved by adultery; for the adulteress becometh one flesh with the adulterer, 1 Cor. vi. 16, and no longer one flesh in individual society with her husband, and so it absolutely breaks the bond or covenant of marriage. And how can men contend that this is a bond which is absolutely broken, or fancy a "vinculum~ that doth not bind? and that it absolutely destroys all the forms of marriage will be granted. It therefore dissolves the bond of marriage itself.

Secondly, If the innocent party upon a divorce be not set at liberty, then, -

1. He is deprived of his right by the sin of another; which is against the law of nature; - and so every wicked woman hath it in her power to deprive her husband of his natural right.

2. The divorce in case of adultery, pointed by our Saviour to the innocent person to make use of, is, as all confess, for his liberty, advantage, and relief. But on supposition that

he may not marry, it will prove a snare and a yoke unto him; for if hereon he hath not the gift of continency, he is exposed to sin and judgement.

Thirdly, Our blessed Saviour gives express direction in the case, Matt. xix. 9, " Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery. Hence it is evident, and is the plain sense of the words, that he who putteth away his wife for fornication and marrieth another doth not commit adultery. Therefore the bond of marriage in that case is dissolved, and the person that put away his wife is at liberty to marry. While he denies putting away and marrying again for every cause, the exception of fornication allows both putting away and marrying again in that case; for an exception always affirms the contrary unto what is denied in the rule whereunto it is an exception, or denies what is affirmed in it in the case comprised in the exception; for every exception is a particular proposition contradictory to the general rule, so that when one is affirmative, the other is negative, and on the contrary. The rule here in general is affirmative: He that putteth away his wife and marries another committeth adultery. The exception is negative: But he that putteth away his wife for fornication and marrieth another doth not commit adultery. Or they may be otherwise conceived, so that the general rule shall be negative, and the exception affirmative: It is not lawful to put away a wife and marry another; it is adultery. Then the exception is: It is lawful for a man to put away his wife for fornication, and marry another. And this is the nature of all such exceptions, as I could manifest in instances of all sorts.

It is to no purpose to except that the other evangelists (Mark x. 11,12, Luke xvi. 18) do not express the exception insisted on; for,

1. It is twice used in Matthew, chap. v. 32, and chap. xix. 9, and therefore was assuredly used by our Saviour.

2. It is a rule owned by all, that where the same thing

is reported by several evangelists, the briefer, short, more imperfect expressions, are to be measured and interpreted by the fuller and larger. And any general rule in any place is to be limited by an exception annexed unto it in any one place whatever; and there is scarce any general rule but admitteth of an exception.

It is more vain to answer that our Saviour speaketh with respect unto the Jews only, and what was or was not allowed among them; for,

1. In this answer he reduces things to the law of creation and their primitive institution. He declares what was the law of marriage and the nature of that relation antecedent to the law and institution of Moses; and so, reducing things to the law of nature, gives a rule directive to all mankind in this matter.

2. The Pharisees enquired of our Saviour about such a divorce as was absolute, and gave liberty of marriage after it; for they never heard of any other. The pretended separation "a mensa et thoro"', only was never heard of in the Old Testament. Now, if our Saviour doth not answer concerning the same divorce about which they inquired, but another which they knew nothing of, he doth not answer them, but delude them; - they ask after one thing, and he answers another in nothing to their purpose. But this is not to be admitted; it was blasphemy to imagine it. Wherefore, denying the causes of divorce, which they allowed, and asserting fornication to be a just cause thereof, he allows, in that case, of that divorce which they enquired about, which was absolute and from the bond of marriage.

Again: the apostle Paul expressly sets the party at liberty to marry who is maliciously and obstinately deserted, affirming that the Christian religion doth not prejudice the natural right and privilege of men in such cases: I Cor. vii. 15, If the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases." If a person obstinately depart, on pretence of religion or otherwise, and

will no more cohabit with a husband or wife, it is known that, by the law of nature and the usage of all nations, the deserted party, because, without his or her default, all the ends of marriage are frustrated, is at liberty to marry. But it may be it is not so among Christians. What shall a brother or a sister that is a Christian do in this case, who is so departed from? Saith the apostle, " They are not in bondage, and they are free, -at liberty to marry again."

This is the constant doctrine of all protestant churches in the world; and it hath had place in the government of these nations, for Queen Elizabeth was born during the life of Queen Katharine, from whom her father was divorced.

(John Owen's Works, Volume 16, pages 254-257. Banner of Truth.)

Appendix 07 The Rules

The FEMALE always makes ***The Rules***.

The Rules are subject to change at any time without prior notice.

No MALE cannot possibly know all ***The Rules;***

If the FEMALE suspects the MALE knows all ***The Rules,*** she must immediately change some or all of ***The Rules***.

The FEMALE is never wrong. If the FEMALE is wrong, it is due to a misunderstanding, which was the direct result of Something the MALE said or did which was wrong.

The MALE must apologise immediately for causing the said misunderstanding.

The MALE is always wrong.

The MALE may be right if he agrees with the FEMALE, unless she wants him to disagree.

The FEMALE may change her mind at any time.

The MALE may never change his mind without the express written consent of the FEMALE.

The FEMALE has every right to be angry or upset at any time.

The MALE must remain calm at all times, unless the FEMALE wants him to be angry and /or upset.

The FEMALE, under no circumstances, let the MALE know whether she wants him to be angry and/or upset.

The MALE is expected to mind-read at all times.

If the FEMALE has PMT, all ***The Rules*** are null and void.

The FEMALE is ready when she is ready.

The MALE must be ready at all times.

Appendix 08: Gender French Language

A French teacher was explaining to her class that in French, unlike English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine.

"House" is feminine-"la maison."

"Pencil" is masculine-"le crayon."

A student asked, "**What gender is "computer"**?"

Instead of giving the answer, the teacher split the class into two groups male and female - and asked them to decide for themselves whether "computer" should be a masculine or a feminine noun.

Each group was asked to give four reasons for their recommendation.

The Male Group

The men's group decided that "computer" should definitely be the feminine gender ("la Computer"), because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic;

2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else;

3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later review; and

4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your salary on accessories for it.

The Female Group

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be masculine gender ("le computer") because:

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on

2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;

3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they are the problem; and as soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you could of waited a little longer, you could have got a better model!

The women won!!

Appendix 09 How Times Have Changed

Ladies can you please come back to reality. Remember you were made for your husband... an extract from Parish News Magazine

TIPS TO LOOK AFTER YOUR HUSBAND

(Extract from 1950 Home Economics Book)

Have dinner ready: Plan ahead the night before to have a delicious meal on time. This is away of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they come home and the prospects of a good meal are part of the warm welcome needed.

Prepare Yourself: Take l 5 minutes to rest so you will be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh looking. He has just been with a lot of work weary people. Be a little gay and a little more interesting. His boring day may need a lift.

Clear away the clutter: Make one last trip through the main part of the house jus before your husband arrives, gathering up school books, toys, paper, etc. Then run a duster over the tables. Your husband will feel he has reached

a haven of rest and order.

Prepare the Children: Take a few minutes to wash the children's hands and faces (if they are small), comb their hair and, if necessary, change their clothes. They are little treasures and he would like to see them playing the part.

Minimise all noise: At the time of his arrival eliminate all noise of washer, dryer, dishwasher or vacuum. Try to encourage the children to be quiet. Be happy to see him. Greet him with a warm smile.

Make him comfortable: Have him lean back in a comfortable chair or suggest he lie down in the bedroom. Have a cool or warm drink ready for him. Arrange his pillow and offer to take off his shoes. Speak in allow, soft, soothing voice. Allow him to relax and unwind.

Listen to him: You may have a dozen things to tell him but the moment of his arrival is not the time. Don't greet him with problems or complaints. Don't complain if he is late for dinner. Count this as minor compared with what he might have gone through that day. Let him talk first. Make the evening his. Never complain if he does not take you out to dinner or other places of entertainment. Try to understand his world of strain and pressure, his need to relax at home.

The goal: Make your home a place of peace and order where your husband can renew him self in body and spirit.

9 Other Publications

1 **Converted LSD Trip 2nd Edition**
ISBN: 0953947355

2 **Trojan Warriors**
ISBN 0953947319

3 **Before the Cock Crows**
ISBN: 0953947335
This tells of the trials and difficulties that we experienced during Mission to the Philippines.

4 **The Bierton Crisis**
ISBN 0953947348
David's Secession: From the Bierton Strict and Particular Baptist Church in 1984. This was David's the first Book

5 **Mary, Mary Quite Contrary**
"Does the Lord Jesus want women ruling His Church?" David secession from the Jesus is Lord Church at Warsash, 1999

6 **Bierton Strict and Particular Baptists**
ISBN 0953947379. This is the continuing story of David as written in "Converted on LSD".
Audio and Video Recordings

7 **My Testimony Audio recording:**
David's Testimony made at Luton on, 22nd March 1972

8 **Fishing for Men: Video**
Preaching at Bierton June 5th 1983
The Bierton Meeting.

9 **Michael Clarke's Testimony**
from New Bilibid Prison, Philippines

10 **The Rise and Fall Of Brother Bobby**
A humorous story of religion in the Philippines

11 **The Parousia.** The Second Coming of The Lord Jesus Christ

13 **Mission to the Philippines.** This tells of David's

second mission to the Philippines. The problems they encountered and the Death of Michael, from Tuberculosis. David deals with the doctrinal errors of those professing Christianity and puts forward his recommendations as to how put matter right and suggest a return mission to New Bilibid Prison.

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