

A Biblical Worldview

Gender, Singleness, Marriage and Family

Week 4: Biblical Womanhood

Scripture

Titus 2:3-5 (NASB95)

³Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, ⁴so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

According to Titus 2:3-5 there are two basic characteristics of a Biblical woman. (1) Reverent in behavior and (2) teaching what is good. We are given some clarification to what those two characteristics mean. Let's examine this together.

- 1) Reverent in behavior
 - Not malicious gossips
 - Not enslaved to much wine
- 2) Teaching what is good
 - Love your husband
 - Love your children
 - To be sensible
 - Pure
 - Workers at home
 - Kind
 - Subject to their own husbands

Reverent in Behavior

The phrase "reverent in behavior" is a single Greek word that only occurs once in the NT. It literally means "that which is related to holiness". A Biblical Woman is a woman that lives a life marked by acts of holiness. So, what does that mean? The word holy literally means set apart. Thus, a biblical woman's actions are set apart from the world. 1 Peter 1:13-16. Romans 12:1-2.

Being set apart may be easier said than done, but it is the standard none the less. Women are also warned about pitfalls that pull them from living a holy life. Now, there are many temptations that come along and pull one away from holiness but gossip and wine are specifically mentioned as being counter to holiness in this passage.

Pitfalls to Holiness

First, gossip. Gossip is a wicked sin that destroys relationships. Gossip is so grievous that it's mentioned in the Romans 1:28-32 list of sins.

Secondly, not enslaved to much wine. Alcohol is not how one copes with problems. Alcohol is not to be used as medication. Alcohol is not a tool to manage stress. If you need wine to survive the day, then that reveals much about your lack of walk with the Lord.

How to Battle the Temptation of Gossip and Drunkenness

So, what is the holy opposite of gossip and enslaved to wine? What should women be doing rather than gossiping and continuously drinking wine?

Ephesians 5:18-21 (NASB95): *¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.*

How do you live a life reverent in behavior? Be filled with the Spirit and speak to one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. In other words, live out the fruit of the Spirit and speak words of encouragement.

Teaching what is Good

The second characteristic that should describe a Biblical woman is teaching what is good. A couple of things to define: what is teaching and what is good?

Teaching involves personal interaction. Teaching is not something that should be done passively but actively. Women should seek out opportunities to teach other women. Especially those that are new in the faith. Encouragement is a key aspect of their teaching one another. Older women need to be encouraging younger women to do things that are good.

What is that good?

1. Loving your own husband
2. Love your children
3. Be sensible
4. Pure
5. Workers at home
6. Kind
7. Subject to their own husbands

All these things are good because it is God's design.

Discussion Questions:

- ❖ Why is it more important to be biblical than culturally appeasing?
- ❖ Why should we take the call to be holy so seriously?
- ❖ Why should we prioritize God's Word in our life?
- ❖ How should we speak about and to one another? Why does it matter?
- ❖ Why is it important to teach what God has said is good?