

THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH
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I. Introduction

A. The Major Views.

1. All roles in the church should be open to both men and women.
 - a. *Men and women are equal before God therefore no role differentiation*
 - b. *Paul is the one who wrote the restrictions and he was wrong*
 - c. Paul was writing in a cultural context
 - d. Phoebe (Romans 16:1 - diakonon)

2. All roles in the church should be open to women except those which exercise teaching or leadership authority over men.
 - a. *Role distinction does not imply inequality*
 - b. *The Bible teaches basic order of the sexes (Genesis 2; Ephesians 5)*
 - c. *Galatians 3:28 - standing before God, not interpersonal relationships*
 - d. *Ministry of women under leadership of men in all relevant passages*
 - e. *Terminology applied to women never applied to the highest office of pastor or elder*

B. Ministry of Women in the Church.

1. Evangelism - Priscilla a fellow worker
2. Exhortation - Counseling
3. Knowledge - Teach, write, counsel
4. Wisdom - Guiding younger women
5. Teaching - Older teach younger women
6. Serving

II. The Ordination of Women as Elders or Pastors.

A. Order of man and women in creation (Gen.1 -3).

1. Genesis 1 - Adam given authority
2. Genesis 2 - special revelation given to Adam - He names the animals (and woman)
3. Genesis 3 - Eve was deceived and Adam fell

B. The Subordination of Women

1. 1 Corinthians 11:2-16 - Head covering as a sign of submission
2. 1 Corinthians 14:33-35 - Keep silent in the church
3. 1 Timothy 2:13-15 - do not teach / exercise authority over a man

C. The Status of Men and Women before God (Galatians 3:28).

III. Conclusion

A. Status before God and role in the Church.

1. Men and women are equal before God.
2. The Bible teaches a order in the church, where women are subordinate to the men.
3. Difference in role does not imply a difference in equality.

B. Application.

1. Women should be allowed to serve in any role that does not exercise teaching or authority over men in the church.
2. Exception to the role order may occur when there is no qualified man to fulfill the position. These situations should be viewed as temporary.

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* = PRO—Women Ordination