**THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN A BAPTIST CHURCH**

**THE WORTH OF WOMEN:**

***Ge 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.***

***Gal. 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.***

 **Women were saved, baptized, participated in church life and service, and were honored by the Savior and respected in the church. *However religion has denigrated women, especially in the Moslem world!***

**THE WEAKNESS OF WOMEN:**

**The “weaker vessel”: *1Pet. 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.***

**Women were made by God to be *different…not inferior*…but a *“help meet”*  for her husband and to bear and raise her children.**

***Ge 3:16 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.***

**Today men are *becoming* women via the transgender and homosexual movements. But their differences are obvious to anyone wishing to know the truth!**

**They are weaker than men spiritually and Satan knows it, e.g. Eve, Sarai, Miriam, Delilah, Solomon’s wives and concubines caused his downfall, Job’s wife, James and John’s mother, and the many false religions where women are the founders and leaders, esp. in the Pentecostal/Charismatic movements.**

**THE PRINCIPLE OF LEADERSHIP AND SUBMISSION:**

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

**RESTRICTIONS ON WOMEN IN BAPTIST CHURCHES:**

**Restrictions: Pastors, preachers, deacons wives (deaconesses?!) and leadership only under their husband or pastor. (Questions? How about women speaking in church business sessions? Praying aloud in prayer meetings? Teaching in mixed company? Teaching men?**

**WOMEN WITH SHORT HAIR:**

**Short hair is a symbol of dominance (military, for example). A woman’s hair is her glory! Short hair is dishonou-ring for a woman. (Long hair is a badge of her submission .) Who defines “long” and “short”? (Ask your pastor!)**

***1Cor. 11:5 But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven. 6 For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered. 7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. 8 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. 10 For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels 11 Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. 12 For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God. 13 Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered? 14 Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? 15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering. (NOT A HAT!)***

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN:**

**Her ministry is primarily family centered. They are to marry, bear children and guide their homes. (Example: Annually, I made up our budget, but my wife wrote the checks, paid the bills, shopped for food, etc.)**

**What about women in “full time” ministry? As teachers, missionaries, leadership in women’s classes & ministries.**

**Single women have greater opportunities for service. A married woman cannot neglect her husband or family.**

**WIDOW WOMEN:**

***There are two kinds of widows:***

***1Tim. 5:3 Honour widows that are widows indeed.***

***1Tim. 5:16 If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.***

***1Tim. 5:9-11 Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man,***

 ***10 Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.***

***1Ti 5:11 But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry;***

 ***12 Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith.***

 ***13 And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.***

1. ***“widows indeed”:* desolate, totally dependent on the Lord, a prayer warrior, over 60 yrs old., never divorced or remarried, have a good testimony.**
2. ***“widows…*under 3 score years” etc. vv. 11-15**

**The church is only responsible for the relief of those under the first category: *“widows indeed”***