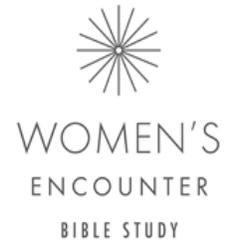


Lesson # 6 Behavior in public worship
1 Timothy 2:1-15
Nov. 7th, 2018
Linsey Smith



Rightful Worship of God

Main point: Jesus died as a ransom for all kinds of people. Christ followers are called to proclaim this good news to all people and by submitting to God's commands and patterns in scripture they are able to make His love known.

Introduction story: What you see is what you get??

I. Good Bible Study Methods

- A. Principle of Harmony- interpret scripture in light of other scripture. There are NO contradictions in the Bible.
- B. Principle of History- Truths of scripture are timeless but they are revealed in time so specific application of them may vary.
 1. What part of the text is cultural expression?
 2. What part of the text is central revelation?
- C. Cautionary statement: *Watch out for your heart and your feelings!* Jer. 17:9, Matt.15:19, Ps. 51:5, Solution= *Ask for Lord!* James 1:5
- D. Main point of letter: 1 Tim. 1:3, 6:2

II. Cultural Considerations

- A. Godliness= proper respect for God. Holiness= moral earnest lifestyle before observers (vs. 1-2)
- B. "lift up holy hands" (vs. 8) was a OT reference to a morally pure attitude of men when they prayed.
- C. Government/kings/authorities brings to mind for listeners a different government than our democratic institution. There would be a collective memory of centuries of persecution.
- D. Roman emperors made their subjects pray to them, invoking them as lord and saviour. Since the roman government realized they could not get Christian subjects to pray to the emperor they allowed them to pray to their God FOR the emperor.
- E. Decency and propriety- demands that women not flaunt their wealth or their beauty. Gold and pearls were a way to show the wealth of women in the church. (vs. 9-15)
- F. Consideration of how corporate public worship was set up. Not projecting your experiences in church onto this first century church gathering.
- G. Jewish women were not given opportunities for education. Paul is elevating women here (vs. 11) as is seen all over the Bible (2 Tim. 1:5, 3:14, Acts 18:26, Luke 10, 24:10, Romans 16, Judges 4)

III. Theology to Consider

A. Prayer!

1. Prayer for ALL people
2. Motivator to Pray

B. Salvation

1. Universalism = All people will be saved in the end because it is God's desire and He gets what He wants. Principle of Harmony does not support this perspective, Matt. 6:10, 7:21, 9:13, 12:50
2. Truth of Salvation = For all who choose Christ, Romans 10:9-10
3. Spiritual elitism = The few, the chosen
4. "All" in verse 1 same as "all" in verse 6 referring to all types. Possibly connected to Revelation 7:9.

C. Gender

1. Gen. 1:27 Created male and female
2. Identity and gender identity
3. Gender roles
 - a) "I do not permit" (vs. 12) tense has led to varying perspectives on female church leaders and the role of male "headship" (caring responsibility)
4. Adam and Eve and childbirth- Most confusing verses which need to led us to admit we don't have all the answer but we keep seeking and trusting God based on his character in spite of understanding.
 - a) "The priority of Adam's creation established his headship, as we have seen, while Eve's folly in challenging it led to disaster.... he is adds an consolation that they are saved."
AND/OR
 - b) Women are saved through the birth of a man, the man Christ Jesus (1:5)

"The set pairing of "faith and love" summarizes the whole of the Christian life in terms of one's relationship with God and its outworking in sacrificial service in the human sphere. Holiness indicates separation from sin and probably implies sexual purity in contrast to the promiscuity associated with the prohibited dress code....The dress and behavior of these prominent Christian women would create either a positive or a negative perception in the public mind. The prohibited style of dress and the grasping for dominance would communicate an undesirable message to those who observed these wealthy Christian women in public places." (Towner, pg. 236)

IV. Questions to consider for personal application

- A. How do you engage with reaching the world with Christ's love? Is it evident from your prayer life that you are burdened by this mission?
- B. How does the current sexual climate of our culture affect the church's view of men's and women's roles?
- C. What does scripture teach about the essence (permanent and universal) of our created maleness and femaleness?
- D. How is your sense of fashion influenced by secular culture? Is it hard for you to buck fashion trends in order to follow spiritual principles? Are you dressing for God or for the people in church?

- E. Does the difficulty in understanding the details of some passages disturb your view of scripture?
What clear truths do you cling to when you are tempted to doubt?

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(Linsey.smith@athletesinaction.org)

3 For that typical nation of God, there was no question about the place Jehovah's worship occupied. He was their Deliverer. They owed their very lives to him. He was also their Lawgiver. But did they keep the worship of Jehovah in first place? And what about God's modern-day servants? What place does Jehovah's worship hold in their lives? "Romans 15:4. Israel's Worship of Jehovah. 4. What was the layout of Israel's camp during their wilderness sojourn, and what was at the center of the camp?" 19 A widowed older sister provides another fine example of putting Jehovah's worship in its rightful place. She drew great encouragement to endure from those she had helped to learn the truth. They were her "family." It seems harder than ever to make time to worship God. Whether it's a busier schedule because of homeschooling, added stress, or church being closed, I think all of us can say this is an area that can use some serious growth. However, the craziness of this year can't be all to blame. If we're honest, we probably didn't give God the praise He deserves last year either. Or the year before that. And so on.. In truth, it comes down to the heart. John Calvin calls our hearts "idol factories." This can sound harsh, but a quick evaluation of my life confirms his hypothesis. This year has actually opened my schedule. School is closed, extracurriculars are cancelled, and I have more free time than I've ever had. Still, I find it hard to worship. Why is that? It's my sinful heart. 'Worshiping' God doesn't mean bowing down on your knees in some ritualistic way humming like a monk. There's heaps of ways to... I've found when you don't have a good Holy fear of God you can step out from underneath his blessings and protection which is a bad place to go. Thanks! Helpful 0 Not Helpful 0. Matthew 22:37 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. This is the first and greatest commandment." (basically if you love God do as you please because if you genuinely love God, you'll want to do what honors Him most.) Thanks! Helpful 0 Not Helpful 0.