

# The Rebellious Woman

By Doug Hamilton

In the last lesson we had a sermon titled “The Emasculated Man of God”. It dealt with the importance of men taking serious their roles as husbands and fathers. The manner of which men live up to their God-given responsibilities will highly affect the spiritual outcomes for generations to come. We ended the lesson with the charge to take the spiritual reigns of our family and lead them in the way that God would have us to do.

In this lesson we will deal with the role of women through the eyes of God. The woman plays an intricate part in the function of the kingdom and should not be overlooked in any form or fashion. When she does not accept her God-given responsibilities, she actually becomes a detriment to the workings of her family, her church and most of all the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. In light of that, the title of this lesson is “The Rebellious Woman”.

## Very Important Point:

### A woman is not viewed as inferior to a man in the eyes of God.

Before discussing the topic of “The Rebellious Woman”, we must clarify this important fact. The woman is in no way viewed as inferior to the man through the eyes of God.

- We are to appeal to “...the older women as mothers, *and* the younger women as sisters, in all purity.” (1 Timothy 5:1–2)
- Galatians 3:27–28 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
- She is every bit as saved by the same blood of Christ.
- She is headed to the same heaven as all saved men of God.
- She is due the same love and respect as all others in and out of the church.
- She is also made in the likeness and image of God.
- She is responsible to walk in the light just like the man is expected to walk in the light.
- There seems to be a common false perception by the world while viewing what the Bible says about the woman’s role in the church. Her role in no way more or less than a man’s, but simply with different responsibilities.

Let us look at the Bible and examine what God says about the important role of the woman. We will file everything under one category...SUBMISSION.

### 1) She is to model SUBMISSION to her husband.

Colossians 3:18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

- Paul the apostle was speaking to the married women of Colossae. The word that he used for *subject* is *hupotasso* and means to place one’s self under the leadership of another. It means to submit. It was a term commonly used during this time period to refer to the ranks within the military. When a lower ranking soldier in the Roman army received directions from the higher ranking officer, he carried it out. He might not have a good understanding for the logic of the order, but he trusted his commanding officer for he was

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in the chain of command that went all the way up to Caesar himself. He subjected himself under the authority of the king through subjecting himself to his direct commander.

- It is with this in mind that Paul wrote to the Ephesian wives in 5:22–24 *Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*<sup>23</sup> *For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.*<sup>24</sup> *But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.*
- Notice that Paul states the wives are to be subject to their own husbands, as to the Lord. He is the first man on the planet that she is to subject to, not her biological father that gave her hand away at the altar, not to the elders that head the local congregation, not to some other woman's husband who might be teaching the Bible class and not the preacher proclaiming the message on Sunday morning. Her husband is the first man in her life and behind God, she must be under his authority.
- Special Note: Obviously if the husband's leadership is not "*fitting in the Lord*" or miserably failing to resemble Christ as "*the head of the church*", then she is not required to follow his lead into sin and destruction. At that point she is to find a spiritual replacement for a way he is not leading (i.e. church friends, church teachers, elders, preachers). If however the husband is trying to lead in a Godly way, though not being perfect but forgiven, then she is to yield to his leadership in all things. He is willing to lay down his life for her, for he has proven it in the way that he lives with her and for God.
- In fact it is her submission to her husband that he becomes a better leader in the family. *1 Peter 3:1–2 In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives,*<sup>2</sup> *as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.*

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- The Rebellious Woman does not take this into consideration when hitting the dating scene. She forgets what the Bible says about being yoked up with unbeliever. Next thing you know she is in love with someone that has no interest in Christ. She ends up marrying him and will likely enter a life-long struggle submitting to her man and or submitting to her God.
- She does not want to allow her husband to lead because she does not trust the leadership she has chosen and God has commanded. Sometimes she might even forbid marriage because it might cramp her style and nobody tells her what to do. In reality her problem is not with the chain of command but the one at the top, our Commander in Chief Jesus Christ.

#### 2) She is to model SUBMISSION to her children.

1 Timothy 2:15 But women will be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

- In this passage Paul was talking about leadership in the church leading to the elders and deacons of chapter 3. This example of a woman desired to lead in the assembly in prayer and teaching, but Paul explained why that is not so. In any group of two there can only be one leader and one follower. When it comes to marriage that was chosen in the Garden of Eden. It is not by height, weight, IQ or wages, but male and female.

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- The liberal worldly forces of the society cry out with words like “Chauvinist” or “Misogynist”, but they failed to read the greatest line in between. Paul said that the woman’s legacy of leadership is through bringing the next generation of leaders into the world. Without a good and respectable mother training the next generation in faith, love, sanctity and self-restraint, we are doomed not only in the church, but even in the world. She has command to train the women and children in righteousness.
- Titus 2:3–5 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good,<sup>4</sup> so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,<sup>5</sup> *to be* sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.
- That is a huge task of leadership for the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world. Her job is worth more than priceless jewels. *Proverbs 31:10 An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.*

### How much is the Mother’s job actually worth?

- From a worldly standpoint the following has been assessed. Salary.com, a service that tallies average salaries by occupation, surveyed 40,000 mothers to determine the time they spend performing 10 typical job functions, such as day care teacher, cook, housekeeper and taxi driver. The average pay for those jobs, if someone else was hired for them, equaled \$138,095 when you include overtime pay. Mom works multiple jobs and rarely gets a break from the action, working an average of 52 hours of overtime, said Bill Coleman of Salary.com. According to the Salary.com survey, stay-at home moms work a 92-hour work week more than half is overtime.
- It is not in the study that is the most valuable. From the spiritual standpoint, there is great emphasis placed in the life of the children through the mother from her behavior. In the same way that a child tends to be greatly influenced in the later years by the father, mothers provide a durable foundation in the child’s early life. She provides the necessary lessons of nurturing, morality and gentleness. It is through her that the greatest lesson of early childhood that they learn a pattern of submission through the husband. The father of her children will likely learn to submit unto their Heavenly Father through the mother more than any other way in their lives.

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- The Rebellious Woman does not see it this way. She will submit to her husband with eye-service while undermining him to their children when he is gone. She does not take the most important job in the world serious, but lightly. She refuses to train up her children in the way that they should go and when they grow old they will depart the faith.
- Even worse she might ridicule her husband until he refuses to be part of the family. Her children see this and cannot comprehend what it means to submit to the father for it is an alien concept.

#### 3) She is to model SUBMISSION to her church family.

1 Corinthians 14:34–36 The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says.<sup>35</sup> If they desire to learn

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anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.<sup>36</sup> Was it from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only?

- In Corinth the women were used to taking a leading role in society. It is when they took those liberties into the house of God during the worship service that Paul had to say something. They were trying to lead the congregation in prayer and teaching. This was against the design of God for it was the man that was supposed to be the spiritual leader among the people of God. If they did not gain a hold on this it would add to the chaos in the church of Corinth.
- It was not only in trying to take over the teaching that they did err, but also without saying a word.
  - 1 Timothy 2:9–10 Likewise, *I want* women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments,<sup>10</sup> but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.
- Some of the women in the early church used to dress extravagantly and revealing to the point that it became a distraction to those in worship. Paul reminded them to focus on the inner beauty through the good works of a Godly life. This is something that would enhance the life of the church. Her submission could serve as an example to the church.

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- The Rebellious Woman does not think this way. She will ask ten minute question at a Bible class that never had a question at the end. She thinks that it is stupid that we do not have female preachers, elders and deaconesses. She is not content with leading women and children, but has much that she wants to instruct the men about. She ignores what the Bible has to say about this.
- When the rebellious woman dresses for worship on Sunday morning it is not for modesty, but for compliments and shock effect. She does not know any better and as a result becomes a distraction for the worship assembly. She does not model submission for the church.

### 4) She is to model submission to God.

1 Timothy 3:11 Women *must* likewise *be* dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.

- There is a saying that behind every good man is a good woman. That saying is true in the words of Paul, for the elders and deacons are to be leading their families well. Paul was writing to Timothy to better explain the qualities of the men in the leadership of the congregation. Within it he took a couple moments to describe the wives of these leaders. Just like the husband and the children, the wives also have to take personal ownership of their own submission to God.
- The Godly woman will want to be a good model of the grace and mercy of god. *Proverbs 31:30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.*

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- She wants to show God that she is in submission to Him for the word to see. *1 Peter 3:4* “but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.”

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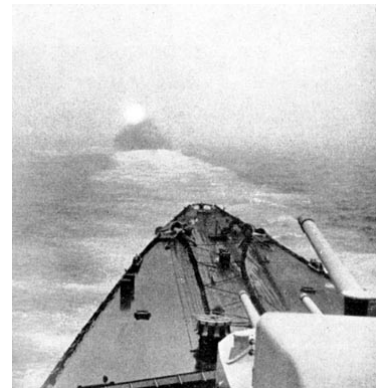
- The Rebellious Woman does not take the Father’s position when it comes to submission. She will do what she wants and when she wants, for God is not in her thinking when it comes to submission. She might start out like a saint but became a Jezebel because she failed to care what God thinks.

### We all must submit!

Years ago there was a captain of a ship that braved the foggy waters near a coastline that he was unfamiliar with. His signalman saw a faint light in the distance and informed the captain. The captain sent the message to the other ship “Alter your course 10 degrees to the South.” The quick response was “No, you alter your course 10 degrees to the North.”

The captain was growing angry and radioed the message again, “Alter your course to the South by 10 degrees.” Once again a quick response came back, “No, you alter your course ten degrees to the North.”

The captain angrily stepped up the warning, “Alter your course 10 degrees to the South. We are a battleship.” There was yet another reply, “No, you turn 10 degrees to the North, for we are a lighthouse.” Needless to say the captain stopped rebelling in light of the facts and submitted to the reality.



### In summary

- Ultimately it is rebellion to God’s word and plans that causes the domino effect for both men and women. If there is rebellion in a woman’s or man’s life, they will always falter in whatever role they are called to fill. We all have to have a submissive spirit when it comes to God. That is the challenge...will we be submissive to God. The woman is given the primary role of modeling this. (Thank God for the women.)