



APOSTLES

OF THE APOSTLES

# THE MINISTRY OF THE APOSTLES

## ACTS 5:12-16

Both in his Gospel and here in Acts, Luke has a great deal to say about women and their relationship to Christ and the church.

- There are at least a dozen references in Acts to women, as Luke shows the key role women played in the apostolic church.

The Apostle Paul has gotten a lot of flak over the years for his statement that women should be silent in the churches.

**1 TIM. 2:12**

# WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

## OLD TESTAMENT:

1. In **EXODUS 35:25-26**, women took part in providing for the tabernacle.
2. Two whole books of the Bible, Ruth and Esther, are devoted to the excellent women whose names those books bear.
3. Deborah was a strong woman and a prophetess who judged Israel. **JUDGES 4:5**
4. In **2 KINGS 22:14-20**, everybody went to Huldah the prophetess to receive instruction from the LORD.
5. **PROVERBS, CHAPTER 31** is dedicated to describing an especially amazing woman.

# WOMEN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- On several occasions, He came to the defense of women.  
**JOHN 8:3-11; LUKE 7:37-50**
- Women loved Him and a group of them followed Him (**MARK 15:40-41**), and some of His most encouraging words were spoken to women. **JOHN 11:23-26, 38-40**
- Mary was welcomed to sit at Jesus' feet (**LUKE 10:39-42**), taking the same posture as a disciple.
- Women were the first to learn of His resurrection.  
**LUKE 23:55-24:10**

# WOMEN IN THE LIFE OF PAUL

- Paul, Luke and Silas found a safe house in the home of Lydia. **ACTS 16:14-15, 40**
- Paul worked with several women in the ministry, like Priscilla. **ROM. 16:3**
- He speaks with great warmth and appreciation of Phoebe. **ROM. 16:1-2**
- Paul's commended coworker, *Priscilla*, taught *Apollos*, the great preacher (**ACTS 18:24-28**) mentioned in **1 COR. 16:19**.

# WOMEN TEACHING MEN

There are two oft-quoted passages: **1 TIM. 2:12-14** and **1 COR. 14:34-35**.

- Is a total prohibition against a woman ever teaching a man what these verses really mean in context?
- Or was that a *cultural prohibition for the time*—or about maintaining order during church gatherings?
- The “prohibition” of women teaching men is as the pastor of the church, which goes back to the headship issue that is clearly taught in Scripture. **EPH. 5, COL. 3**

# SO THE APOSTLES WERE ALL MEN BECAUSE THEY WERE ALSO HEAD PASTORS

Each time God opened a new pastoral door, He called a man's attention to it. It was His way of saying, "**Follow these leaders, because I have sent them.**"

- One of the qualifications for an apostle was that he had seen the risen Christ. **ACTS 1:22; 1 COR. 9:1**
- *Since nobody can claim that experience today, there are no true apostles in the modern church.*
- These amazing men had miraculous ministry!