

an essay:

AGAINST THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

Robert Baral  
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## I. A QUESTION – WHY SHOULD WOMEN NOT BE ORDAINED IN THE CHURCH?

Why should women not be ordained in The Church of CHRIST? First, because GOD's Word commands that only men are to be ordained in The Church. But also second, because it undermines the structure of The Church and therefore the home and marriage itself. And third, because it opens the doors wide for all other manner of sin to enter The Church and corrupt her. And fourth, because if The Holy Scriptures are not kept by The Church and Christians as The unerring very Word of GOD, then the very foundations of The Faith are lost, and so are GOD's people!

## II. FIRST, THE WORD OF GOD FORBIDS IT

First, because GOD's Word commands that only men, and godly men, be ordained in The Church: The Biblical model is set down for us by CHRIST Himself, as He ordained only men to be His Apostles, as only men were Priests under The Old Covenant. Apostolic succession is clearly continued in This Way in Scripture. So The Apostle Paul likewise gives pastoral command and counsel to Timothy and Titus in the qualification for ordination into Church office in I & II TIMOTHY and TITUS, he first said over and over that only men are to be considered. There, as throughout Scripture, GOD decrees that only godly men who meet certain standards are to be considered.

Paul says in I TIMOTHY 3:1-6, "...If a man desire the office of a Bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of The Church of GOD?)" Here we have 2 clear qualifications for ordination, that a candidate have the fruits of a godly life, and that he be a man.

In I TIMOTHY 3:8-12 we find Paul laying out the same 2 classes of qualifications for those who would be considered for ordination, "Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well." That he have a godly life, and that he be a man.

The Word of GOD clearly calls for men, and only men, to be ordained into Church Orders – Deacons, Priests, Elders, Bishops. This is The Biblical Model. To ordain women is to put aside GOD's Order and substitute for it man's order. And as we have seen, the floodgate having been opened several decades ago for women to become pseudo-clergymen, much of The Church is infected today with a wide range of heresy, sin and apostasy! So when The Church rejects so fundamental a clear Biblical Mandate, that only men are to be ordained, she makes herself a harlot to the world, flesh and devil

by ignoring The Scriptures. And if done here, she then makes herself free to do so everywhere.

### III. SECOND, IT UNDERMINES STRUCTURE OF CHURCH, FAMILY & SOCIETY

Second, because it undermines the very structure of The Church, therefore marriage and the family, and with it society. To ordain women is to turn the GOD-ordained structure for creation, The Church, marriage and the home upside down. Or worse, to make the standards of the world, the flesh and the devil the standards, in place of GOD's Word. I think of Paul's Words in EPHESIANS, that CHRIST is The Head of The Church, and we The Body, just as the GOD set up the husband as the head of the woman and the home, and gave Himself for The Church.

So Paul says in EPHESIANS 5:22-25, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto The Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as CHRIST is The Head of The Church: and He is The Saviour of The Body. Therefore as The Church is subject unto CHRIST, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as CHRIST also loved The Church, and gave Himself for it!" No ambiguity here! If Christianity is to be defined by The Word of GOD, then the Christian marriage upholds the ordained order as the husband as the head of the wife and family. Even so, also in The Church, that He is The Head and we are The Body. To ordain women is to deny the ordained structure for the marriage, family, society and The Church.

Rebelling against GOD's Word to ordain women soon throws out marriage, denying what GOD revealed to Moses in GENESIS 2:23-24, "And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." And then JESUS adds in MATHEW 19:6, "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore GOD hath joined together, let not man put asunder." To place women in The Church as pseudo-clergymen is to pull asunder what GOD has ordained as the proper roles of the sexes everywhere!

### IV. THIRD, IT OPENS THE DOOR FOR ALL MANNER OF SIN IN THE CHURCH

Third, ordaining women opens the door for all manner of sin to enter The Church and corrupt her. The same arguments that were heard in The Church in The West only a few decades ago to justify ordination of women are the same ones used now to justify homosexuality as normative and thus okay for ordination. And once we do this in one area of The Church, the door is open to doing this in every other area of The Church. We say to CHRIST, "The Church is not Yours, but ours. We are the head and You are The Body."

And what do we see today in America, but exactly this? Rampant divorce. Cohabitation as everyday. Homosexuality is celebrated. Tens of millions of unborn babies aborted. Rampant crime in the streets. Addiction to all manner of idols – materialism, drugs, alcohol, gambling, on and on. Corruption. Dishonesty. Cruelty and hatred. Strife and division. Commonplace, not only outside The Church, but snugly encamped within The Church as well! But we should not be surprised. Rot away the foundations and the house comes tumbling down!

#### V. FOURTH, IT DESTROYS THE FOUNDATION OF THE FAITH

Fourth, if The Holy Scriptures are not kept as the foundation of The Faith, then the means of salvation becomes lost, and so do GOD's people, when The Word of GOD is rejected! Ordaining women is the same sin of rebellion that Satan used to justify his rebellion against The LORD, saying "GOD, in view of all the wisdom and knowledge that You have given me, I know better that You how to order things!" This is the same sin that caused men in the building of the Tower of Babel, to build themselves up before Heaven, and declare, "Let us make ourselves as The Most High, and exalt ourselves in our knowledge and wisdom above That of The Creator!"

The Church, The very Body of CHRIST, is called to be one, holy, catholic and apostolic. We confess this as much in The Creeds. The Lord Himself commissioned The Apostles, by The Power of The HOLY SPIRIT, to serve Him by serving His people. The Apostles are all men. With the interposition of women into ordained Church office, The Church rebels against her Master, JESUS CHRIST, making herself as a harlot, no longer one, nor holy, nor catholic, much less apostolic! She willingly stains her garments of righteousness, bought with The precious Blood of The Son of GOD, with the unrighteous stains of sin! The organization that remains may well be a religious organization, but it is no longer a Church of CHRIST!

#### VI. IN CONCLUSION – WE OUGHT TO OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN!

So it is no wonder we see in much of The Church today the realization of the terrible woe of ISAIAH 5:20-21, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!" "GOD's Word clearly forbids this? No problem," cry the apostates in the synagogues of Satan, "we will simply deny The Divine inerrancy and utterance of The King of the universe by His mouth, and substitute our own mere human words instead!"

But when The Church shakes her fist up to Heaven and declares, "We are going to ignore GOD's Word and ordain women!" It is no surprise that now we hear the same song and dance used to ordain sodomites as pseudo-clergymen. It is no surprise that before that, she has ignored GOD's Word on what constitutes a marriage and the home, much less on calling evil good and good evil. As David says in PSALM 11:3, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" GOD forbid! As saint Peter and The other Apostles declare in ACTS 5:29, "...We ought to obey GOD rather than men!"