

Text: 1 Tim. 5:1-15

Theme: A proper place

Grace mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

My dear beloved flock, the text for our meditation this morning is the Epistle Lesson of Saint Paul's first letter to Timothy, chapter two verses one through fifteen.

Everything has a proper place in order, things messy or orderly?

Boys and Girls, I pray that you are doing well today. How many of you like making a mess? Do you like messy rooms and dirty dishes? Sometimes messes are fun, but often times messes are not fun. Mom and Dad will tell you to clean them up, clean up the messy room, put away toys, clean the dirty dishes. They do this because they know that having order is a good thing. It is good that everything is in its proper place. This is something that we see with God as well. What is our proper place? How does God help us put ourselves in order? Ponder those questions as you hear the rest of the sermon. You may go back to your seats and those who love you.

God's order: Men as head, women as helpmate

In our text for today, one of the things that Saint Paul mentions to Timothy, alongside whom to pray for and general remarks regarding worship and one's attire, is the proper order of things. He states, ¹¹Let a woman learn quietly with all

submissiveness. ¹² I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. ¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. ¹⁵ Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control. ¹⁶ Adam was formed first, then Eve. There is an order to creation. It is not merely God saying, “Oh, I feel like making this today.” No, there is a plan being followed.

Many in our society today have an issue with these verses because they misunderstand what Paul is saying. They believe that what Paul is saying is that women should be meek and mild. That they should be doormats for whatever a man wants whenever he desires it. Alas, due to our sinful nature, this is sometimes how we act, note that we are not perfect. However, that type of submissiveness is not what Saint Paul is stating here. The Greek word translated submissive is *hypotasso*. It is a combination word of (*hupo*) and (*tasso*). It is a military term meaning, to put in order under. It is usually translated to *subordinate*; reflexive to *obey*:- be under obedience (obedient), put under, subdue unto, (be, make) subject (to, unto), be (put) in subjection (to, under), submit self unto.² It has a strong sense of submitting to someone of higher rank. A soldier must arrange himself in order under his sergeant. A sergeant arranges himself in order under the master-sergeants. A master-sergeant arranges himself in order under the lieutenants—and the lieutenants to the

¹ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (1 Ti 2:11–15). (2016). Crossway Bibles.

² Strong, J. (2020). [ὑποτάσσω](#). In *Strong's Talking Greek and Hebrew Dictionary*. WORDsearch.

captain, the captain to the major, and right on up to the general, who himself must submit to the Commander-in-Chief. It has nothing to do with meekness or mildness but merely good and proper order. Submission is not subjugation. Submission is recognizing God's order in the home and the church, and joyfully obeying it. When a Christian wife joyfully submits to the Lord and to her own husband, it should bring out the best in her. (For this to happen, the husband must love his wife and use God's order as a tool to build with, not a weapon to fight with. Submission is the key to spiritual growth and ministry: As Paul writes in Ephesians husbands should be submitted to the Lord, Christians should submit to each other, and wives should be submitted to the Lord and to their husbands.³

Not perfect, see Fall, Adam sinned didn't speak up

Joyful submission to God's created order is not something that we like to do. We do not like to submit because of sin, because our sinful nature does not want to submit to God or to one another. We want to be the ones in charge. We want to make the rules. We see the greatest upheaval of this order in the Fall. Saint Paul makes this clear. Yes, Eve was deceived by the Snake, but who was ultimately held to account for that? Adam was. Because he was there as the head, the one who had authority over Eve, but he did not speak up. He did not say, "Hey, Eve, stop talking to that snake. It is not good to do this." No, he goes along with Eve, takes part in the deception and

³ Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [*The Bible exposition commentary*](#) (Vol. 2, p. 217). Victor Books.

thereby he receives the greater curse, all creation is cursed because of him.

Creation saved by One Mediator, JC!

This fallen order is brought to perfect order again only in Jesus Christ. As God in the Flesh, He enters into His creation and puts it right again. He casts out demons. He heals the sick, the lame, the deaf and blind. Ultimately, He goes to the cross to defeat the One who upends all of God's perfection creation, Satan. There, bleeding, and dying, Jesus destroys the power of Satan, destroys our sin by taking the punishment for us on our behalf, and by dying destroys death itself. We are saved, creation and order restored, by the suffer, death, and resurrection of the One Mediator between God and Man, Christ Jesus our Lord.

It is a restoration that, as we await that Day when it will be fully restored and made new, we strive, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to live out in our lives today. We live in God's created order, Men as the Head, women as the helpmate in submissiveness, always looking for what is best for one another out of love. Not domineering but showing each other daily the love of Christ. For example, lets say it's time to buy a new car because your family is growing. You go to the dealership and look at cars, you see a Harley that you have had your eye on for years actually on sale! But you also see that they have a minivan on sale as well. Which do you get? Could you say, "Hey, I'm the head, we're getting the Harley." Sure, but more than likely, you're getting the minivan because that is what your family needs and you show your love for them that way. Another

example, wives, you are grocery shopping at Super One. You have bread on the list. Do you have to call your husband and go ok, they have this kind or that kind, which do you want? No, you have bread on the list, you know funds are there due to his job so you get bread. Maybe you even show your love for him and get one that you know he likes. Submissive, yes, but still working together in love and support.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, let us always live in God's good created order, until that day when that creation is restored to perfection once again.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard and keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.