

Crown Her a King™

Restoring God's Glory to the Bride of Christ

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SESSION 8: *Nobility's Rule*

CLASS NOTES

We are royalty; we are kings in the Kingdom, and we have dominion. – Last week we saw that we must first take dominion over ourselves. The next step is for us to rule or lead. But how do kings in God's Kingdom rule? How did Jesus lead? Answer: Nobly ... What does noble mean to you?

Here are some folks' thoughts on NOBILITY:

- A special social or political status, high class, wealthy, has land, powerful
- Brave – like a knight in shining armor, determined, strong, protector
- Honorable, honest, high character, good reputation, respected
- Benevolent, nobles work for the king and for others, humble
- True nobility cannot be swayed to do evil or to be selfish (not ignoble)
 - Even when cup is bumped, or toe is stubbed, or when enslaved

HOW DOES NOBILITY RULE?

- 1) **From the heart:** It must be a "get-to" not a have to.
 - a. Matt 5:41, "Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two."
 - i. You become powerful when you choose – king even in slavery
 - ii. You love regardless – You release the KINGDOM – it flows from you
 - iii. We can put others before ourselves because we don't operate out of insecurity or lack.
 - b. Foundation of Godly leadership must be love for God is love. John 4:7-8, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love."
- 2) **For the people:** World system is corrupt and self-seeking. Dominion is twisted, ruling over each other.
 - a. ***Noblesse Oblige*:** meaning "nobility obliges". Wikipedia: "The *Oxford English Dictionary* says that the term "suggests noble ancestry **constrains to**

- honorable behavior; privilege entails to responsibility". Being a noble meant that one had the responsibility to lead, to manage, to provide, and so on.**
- b. You are blessed to be a blessing: **You are royalty FOR OTHERS!**
 - i. Abraham, Gen 12:3, "And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."
 - ii. Bill Johnson: "The Challenge of Favor"
 - c. God's Kingdom is an upside kingdom where the least is greatest, where you give to gain, where you die to live. As nobility, as kings in this upside down (or more genuinely "right-side up") kingdom, **we rule through love. Because we know we are powerful, we never serve from a slave's mentality.**
 - i. Jesus' example: Servant-leadership. He taught His followers to do likewise. "A Towel and a Basin in Two Kingdoms"
 - d. Luke 22:24-26, "And there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest. And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles **lord it over them**; and those who have authority over them are called 'Benefactors.' But *it is* not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and **the leader like the servant.**"
 - e. Lay down your life for others: Jesus – John 10:11, I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.
 - i. ***He went to the cross FOR US!!***

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF LEADERSHIP? WHY GOVERN?

Life, liberty (freedom), and the pursuit of happiness

- 1) **To protect life.** John 10:10, "I came that they may have life, and I have it abundantly." -- Soldiers protect life.
 - a. **STRUCTURE IS FOR PROMOTION OF LIFE.** Life does not exist to promote the spinal cord. Spinal cord exists to **FACILITATE** the life of the being.
 - b. **Laws are for the lawless.** Protect us from murder, thievery, etc.
 - c. We have laws written on heart, so it's a "want-to" not a "have-to"
- 2) **To protect freedom-** Love always offers a choice or it's not love.
 - a. Gal 5:1, "It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery."
 - b. Gal 5:13, "For you were called to **freedom**, brethren; only do not turn your **freedom** into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

- c. 2 Cor 3:17, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." - **Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is FREEDOM!**
- 3) **To bring happiness; to facilitate destiny – TO EMPOWER OTHERS.** Government exists for the benefit and promotion of the people.
- a. **Free nations are founded on the principal of the consent of the governed.**
 - b. What were you personally, specifically created to do? What is your vision? Your dream? What were you created to do?
 - c. **Jesus empowered us to do greater works than He did. (John 14:12)**
 - i. **From strength, servant leadership promotes – lifts others up!**
 - d. We should be moving forward to subdue the earth and to establish His Kingdom on earth.
 - e. **Righteousness! Justice!!**
 - i. Psalm 89:14, "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Loving-kindness and truth go before You."
 - ii. Psalm 97:2, "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne"
 - iii. Matt 5:20, "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
 - f. "Hilters" of the world dominate and force. – Wrong Kingdom!
- 4) But how does God lead? Did God force His will in the Garden? Did Jesus force His will on the Disciples? On His followers? On you? Does love demand its own way? /// President and Commander-in-Chief, different roles in times of war.

SO WHAT IS BIBLICAL "HEADSHIP"?

2 Peter 3:16, "Some things in Paul's letters are hard to understand, and people who are ignorant and weak in faith explain these things falsely. They also falsely explain the other Scriptures, but they are destroying themselves by doing this."

??? I Cor 11:3, "Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ." -- Is this part of false teaching that Paul is refuting several verses later? Not sure because **headship is absolutely biblical**, but the statement is right before the verses on head coverings, etc. that Paul refutes.

Greek word for head is **kephale** (ke-fä-lä')

- 1) Can mean RULER. Can mean preeminent, supreme, chief. However, "authority over" like our English word 'head' would imply is *exousia*
- 2) Can be literally HEAD OF A BODY. Calls attention to unity of the two. Or loss of head can imply loss of life – **it always means a dependency on each other.**

- 3) Can also mean SOURCE of, like the head of river. First time 'head' mentioned in Bible, Genesis 2:10 (in Hebrew) – river flowed out of Eden and became 4 heads = the source of

So what is headship? = Noble, Christ-like leadership!! – Can it ever be forced? No!

Is it about hierarchy (pyramiding people into an order)? No!

Eph 5:23, "For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church..." PORTRAIT OF THE MAN LIFTING UP THE WOMAN: THIS IS HEADSHIP.

What about submission? Stay tuned for next week's episode...

JESUS HATED THE NICOLAITANS:

- Revelation 2:6, Jesus said to Church at Ephesians: "Yet this you do have, that you hate the **deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.**"
- Rev 2:15-17, Jesus said to Church at Pergamum: "So you also have some who in the same way hold the **teaching of the Nicolaitans.** Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it."

"The name "**Nicolaitans**" is derived from the Greek word *nikolaos*, a compound of the words *nikos* and *laos*. The word *nikos* is the Greek word that means **to conquer or to subdue**. The word *laos* is the Greek word for **the people**. It is also where we get the word **laity**. When these two words are compounded into one, they form the name *Nicolas*, **which literally means one who conquers and subdues the people**. It seems to suggest that the Nicolaitans were somehow conquering and subduing the people." — Rick Renner

BUT WHAT ABOUT ELDERS/OVERSEERS? Don't they have to be male? and married?

Tim 5:1-2, Rebuke not an elder, but entreat {him} as a father; and the younger men as brethren; the elders (women) as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

Elder here is *presbuteros* = presbytery = no difference, word women was added for clarification.

Paul is saying that we should honor those who are "elders," those who are **more mature in the faith**, and treat them as fathers and mothers. We should treat those less mature as brothers and sisters.

Paul is saying we should treat male elders than same as female elders. He makes no distinction with regard to rank, but clearly he is showing that there are female elders too.

Is there some prejudice in translation with regard to elders and overseers? All the underlined words below are NOT in the original. They were added to the translation.

1st Timothy 3:1-13, "It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. Deacons likewise must be men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach. Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. Deacons must be *husbands of only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households. For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus."

- Verse one contains the phrase "if any man." The Greek is *ei tis -- tis* is an indefinite pronoun meaning "**some or any person.**"
- A problem arises when the *New American Standard Bible* adds the English personal pronoun "he" or "his" many times to the text, which gives the impression that the author meant "any male." The masculine pronoun is used nine times in these English verses. However, only one time is any personal pronoun is used at all in the Greek, and the one pronoun is an indefinite one – neither masculine nor feminine.

- *The phrase "husband of one wife" may or may not be a literal phrase.
 - If literal:
 - If it is literal, then it would most likely apply to Ephesus only as that was a city in major trouble. It was most likely mandatory to be male AND married because of the promiscuity and female dominance issues from Artemis worship. Remember " *authentien* " .
 - HOWEVER, if literal, then Paul would be saying no one who is not married can lead.
 - That would be harsh since neither Jesus nor Paul himself would qualify to be leaders in church.
 - Neither would widowers or those called to celibacy.
 - If not literal:
 - Then expression may have been used to mean "**monogamous**" for that is a term not found anywhere in the scriptures. It does not appear that they had one singular word for monogamy.
 - **The phrase "husband of one wife" is repeated again in verse twelve after mentioning females and deacons. This would indicate that it was an expression meant to imply monogamy as a requirement for both overseers and deacons, and perhaps for males and females.**
 - MARRIAGE IS NOT MENTIONED ELSEWHERE AS A REQUIREMENT
 - If not literal, **being monogamous was the requirement – not being a husband** . I seriously doubt Paul would stipulate any leadership requirement that would exclude himself, men who chose celibacy over marriage, or even the Lord Jesus who did not marry.

More traditional churches do not allow women to teach men or hold any office of authority. However, most Spirit-filled churches today want to liberate their women... but many still feel like there must be a ceiling somewhere.

Some believe that women can teach and hold any office except that of SENIOR LEADER, unless she's married and co-leading.

Where did we get that from? The verses used to justify this are in 1 Corinthians 14 and 1 Timothy 2 which SILENCE women. Yet, their intention is not to silence... just to limit. Still, they take those scriptures to purport that the Bible espouses male dominance by God's design. It's bad hermeneutics.

DOES A WOMAN NEED A HUSBAND IF SHE IS CALLED TO LEAD?

Can Christ alone be her head or is the HUSBAND a requirement?

If two are called to be one, is a single person only half a person?
(NO! -- Two whole people come together, not two halves!)

If a female co-senior leaders' husband dies, must she stop leading?

Do women need a male covering?

- "We have no such practice, neither do the churches of God." 1 Cor 11: 16) We don't have to cover our head for the angels... we don't need anything to cover us except the blood of Jesus.
 - The covering notion came from contentious, false, traditions of man, **Chaldee**
- ✓ Deborah was married... but she did not co-lead with her husband
- ✓ There is no mention of husbands for Phoebe, Lydia, or Chloe. If they were required, then they should have mentioned. (A male name is mentioned with the apostle Junia, but the scripture doesn't indicate if that's her husband or not.)

Are our women better off in the world today than in the church? Sadly, yes.

- Is the world acting anti-Biblical by esteeming women?
- ... or is the Church acting anti-Biblical because they don't?

NOBILITY'S RULE: Being a noble means that one has a responsibility to lead.

- Nobility leads: by selfishly laying down one's life, by lifting others up, by operating in and through love.
 - So, can women be noble? Can women lead? Even in the church?

We want so badly to put **worldly "hierarchy"** in where it is not in the church model in the New Testament. **BUT It's an upside down Kingdom.** So can women lead from the bottom up? YES!!

We must all lay their lives down for others to walk in the freedom of the Truth. Unity is the key to power, and honor is the key to unity. Only if we walk in honor can we walk together. **Next Week: "United We Stand!!"**