

~WOMAN (1985)

[Hebrew, *'ish-shah'*, Greek, *gy-ne'*]

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• **An adult human female, one beyond the age of puberty. The Hebrew expression for woman is *'ish-shah'*, literally, a female man, which is also rendered wife. Similarly, the Greek term *gy-ne'* is translated both woman and wife.**

• Creation

• **Before the man Adam ever asked for a human companion, God his Creator made provision. After placing Adam in the garden of Eden and giving him the Law respecting the tree of the knowledge of good and bad, Yehowah said;**

• **And Yehowah God went on to say; It is not good for the man to continue by himself. I am going to make a helper for him, as a complement of him. (Genesis 2:18)**

• **He did not oblige the man to go seeking a companion among the animals, but he brought the animals to Adam for naming. Adam was not inclined toward bestiality and was able to determine that there was no suitable companion for him among these.**

• **Now Yehowah God was forming from the ground every wild beast of the field and every flying creature of the heavens, and he began bringing them to the man to see what he would call**

each one, and whatever the man would call it, each living soul, that was its name. (**Genesis 2:19**)

- So the man was calling the names of all the domestic animals and of the flying creatures of the heavens and of every wild beast of the field, but for man there was found no helper as a complement of him. (**Genesis 2:20**)
- Hence Yehowah God had a deep sleep fall upon the man and, while he was sleeping, he took one of his ribs and then closed up the flesh over its place.
- Hence Yehowah God had a deep sleep fall upon the man and, while he was sleeping, he took one of his ribs and then closed up the flesh over its place. (**Genesis 2:21**)
- And Yehowah God proceeded to build the rib that he had taken from the man into a **woman** and to bring her to the man. (**Genesis 2:22**)
- Then the man said; This is at last bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. This one will be called **Woman**, because from man this one was taken. (**Genesis 2:23**)

•• Position And Responsibilities

- The **woman**, being created out of the man, was dependent upon the man for being brought into existence. Being part of the man, one flesh with him, and a complement and helper to him, she was subject to him as her head.
- She was also under the Law that God had given Adam about the tree of the knowledge of good and bad. She was responsible to work for the good of the man. Together they were to have children and to exercise dominion over the animals.
- Further, God blessed them and God said to them; Be fruitful and become many and fill the earth and subdue it, and have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and every living creature that is moving upon the earth. (**Genesis 1:28**)
- That is why a man will leave his father and his mother and he

must stick to his wife and they must become one flesh. (**Genesis 2:24**)

- Since the normal course for women in Bible times was to marry, the scriptures that treat of the **woman's** responsibilities usually have reference to her position as a wife.
- The primary duty of all women in Israel was to serve Yehowah God in true worship. Abigail, who became the **wife** of David after her good-for-nothing husband Nabal died, was an example of this.
- Even though Nabal took a bad course, refusing to use his material goods to help David, the anointed of Yehowah, Abigail realized that she, as Nabal's wife, was not obligated to follow her husband in such action contrary to Yehowah's will. Yehowah blessed her when her assisting his anointed one showed her persistence in right worship.
- That is why a man will leave his father and his mother and he must stick to his **wife** and they must become one flesh. (**Genesis 2:24**)
- And both of them continued to be naked, the man and his wife, and yet they did not become ashamed. (**Genesis 2:25**)
- Now the serpent proved to be the most cautious of all the wild beasts of the field that Yehowah God had made. So it began to say to the **woman**; Is it really so that God said you must not eat from every tree of the garden? (**Genesis 3:1**)
- At this the **woman** said to the serpent; Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat. (**Genesis 3:2**)
- But as for eating of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, God has said; You must not eat from it, no, you must not touch it that you do not die. (**Genesis 3:3**)
- At this the serpent said to the **woman**; You positively will not die. (**Genesis 3:4**)
- For God knows that in the very day of your eating from it your eyes are bound to be opened and you are bound to be like God, knowing good and bad. (**Genesis 3:5**)
- Consequently the **woman** saw that the tree was good for food

- and that it was something to be longed for to the eyes, yes, the tree was desirable to look upon. So she began taking of its fruit and eating it. Afterward she gave some also to her husband when with her and he began eating it. (**Genesis 3:6**)
- And David got to hear that Nabal had died, and so he said: Blessed be Yehowah, who has conducted the legal case of my reproach to free me from Nabal's hand and has kept his servant back from badness, and the badness of Nabal Yehowah has turned back upon his own head! And David proceeded to send and propose to Abigail to take her as his wife. (**1 Samuel 25:39**)
 - So David's servants came to Abigail at Carmel and spoke to her, saying; David himself has sent us to you to take you as his wife. (**1 Samuel 25:40**)
 - Immediately she rose up and bowed with her face to the earth and said; Here is your slave girl as a maidservant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord. (**1 Samuel 25:41**)
 - Then Abigail hastened and rose up and went riding on the ass with five maids of hers walking behind her, and she went accompanying the messengers of David and then became his wife. (**1 Samuel 25:42**)
 - **Secondarily, the woman was to obey her husband. She was responsible to work hard for the good of the household and to bring honor to her husbandly head. This would bring the greatest glory to her.**
 - **The truly wise woman has built up her house, but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands. (**Proverbs 14:1**)**
 - **Says; The truly wise woman has built up her house, but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands. She should always speak well of her husband and increase the respect of others for him, and he should be able to take pride in her.**
 - **A capable wife is a crown to her owner, but as rottenness in his bones is she that acts shamefully. (**Proverbs 12:4**)**
 - **The honorable position and the privileges she has as a wife, together with the blessings to her because of faithfulness, industriousness, and wisdom, are described in (**Proverbs Chapter 31**).**

See Also WIFE

- A Hebrew **woman** who was a mother had much to do with the training of her children in righteousness, respectfulness, and industriousness and often did much in counseling and influencing older sons for good.
- However, Rebekah was listening while Isaac spoke to Esau his son. And Esau went on out into the field to hunt game and to bring it in. ([Genesis 27:5](#))
- And Rebekah said to Jacob her son; Here I just heard your father speaking to Esau your brother, saying; ([Genesis 27:6](#))
- Bring me some game and make me a tasty dish and, ah, let me eat, that I may bless you before Yehowah before my death. ([Genesis 27:7](#))
- And now, my son, listen to my voice in what I am commanding you. ([Genesis 27:8](#))
- Go, please, to the herd and get me from there two kids of the goats, good ones, that I may make them up into a tasty dish for your father such as he is fond of. ([Genesis 27:9](#))
- Then you must bring it to your father and he must eat it, in order, that he may bless you before his death. ([Genesis 27:10](#))
- Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter; Shall I go and specially call for you a nursing **woman** from the Hebrew women that she may nurse the child for you? ([Exodus 2:7](#))
- So Pharaoh's daughter said to her; Go! At once the maiden went and called the child's mother. ([Exodus 2:8](#))
- Pharaoh's daughter then said to her; Take this child with you and nurse him for me, and I myself shall give you your wages. Accordingly the **woman** took the child and nursed him. ([Exodus 2:9](#))
- And the child grew up. Then she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, so that he became a son to her, and she proceeded to call his name Moses and to say; It is because I have drawn him

out of the water. (**Exodus 2:10**)

- Listen, my son, to the discipline of your father, and do not forsake the Law of your mother. (**Proverbs 1:8**)
- The words of Lemuel the king, the weighty message that his mother gave to him in correction. (**Proverbs 31:1**)
- For I recollect the faith which is in you without any hypocrisy, and which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, but which I am confident is also in you. (**2 Timothy 1:5**)
- You, however, continue in the things that you learned and were persuaded to believe, knowing from what persons you learned them. (**2 Timothy 3:14**)
- And that from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (**2 Timothy 3:15**)
- **Girls, especially, were trained to be good wives by learning from their mothers the arts of cooking, weaving, and general household management, while the father taught the son a trade. Wives also were free to express themselves to their husband's.**
- At this Sarai said to Abram; The violence done me be upon you. I myself gave my maidservant over to your bosom, and she became aware that she was pregnant, and I began to be despised in her eyes. May Yehowah judge between me and you. (**Genesis 16:5**)
- So Abram said to Sarai; Look! Your maidservant is at your disposal. Do to her what is good in your eyes. Then Sarai began to humiliate her so that she ran away from her. (**Genesis 16:6**)
- **And at times aided their husbands in arriving at right decisions.**
- And Sarah kept noticing the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, poking fun. (**Genesis 21:9**)
- So she began to say to Abraham; Drive out this **slave girl** and her son, for the son of this slave girl is not going to be an heir with my son, with Isaac! (**Genesis 21:10**)

- But the thing proved to be very displeasing to Abraham as regards his son. (**Genesis 21:11**)
- Then God said to Abraham; Do not let anything that Sarah keeps saying to you be displeasing to you about the boy and about your slave girl. Listen to her voice, because it is by means of Isaac that what will be called your seed will be. (**Genesis 21:12**)
- And as for the son of the **slave girl**, I shall also constitute him a nation, because he is your offspring. (**Genesis 21:13**)
- So Abraham got up early in the morning and took bread and a skin water bottle and gave it to Hagar, setting it upon her shoulder, and the child, and then **dismissed her**. And she went her way and wandered about in the wilderness of Beersheba. (**Genesis 21:14**)
- The bride was usually selected for a man by the parents. But, doubtless under the Law, as it was earlier in Rebekah's case, the girl had an opportunity to voice her feelings and will in the matter.
- So they said; Let us call the young **woman** and inquire at her mouth. (**Genesis 24:57**)
- Then they called Rebekah and said to her; Will you go with this man? In turn she said; I am willing to go. (**Genesis 24:58**)
- Although polygamy was practiced, God not yet acting to restore the original state of monogamy until the Christian congregation was established.
- Then the man said; This is at last bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. This one will be called **Woman**, because from man this one was taken. (**Genesis 2:23**)
- That is why a man will leave his father and his mother and he must stick to his wife and they must become one flesh. (**Genesis 2:24**)
- In reply he said; Did you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female. (**Matthew 19:4**)
- And said; For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and will stick to his wife, and the two will be one flesh?

(Matthew 19:5)

- So that they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has yoked together let no man put apart. **(Matthew 19:6)**
- The overseer should therefore be irreprehensible, a husband of one wife, moderate in habits, sound in mind, orderly, hospitable, qualified to teach. **(1 Timothy 3:2)**
- **Polygamous relationships were regulated.**
- **Even the military laws favored both wife and husband in exempting a newly married man for one year. This gave the couple the opportunity to exercise their right to have a child, which would be a great comfort to the mother when the husband was away, and even more so if he should die in battle.**
- **And who is the man that has become engaged to a **woman** and has not taken her? Let him go and return to his house, for fear he may die in the battle and another man should take her. **(Deuteronomy 20:7)****
- **In case a man takes a new **wife**, he should not go out into the army, nor should anything else be imposed onto him. He should continue exempt at his house for one year, and he must make his wife whom he has taken rejoice. **(Deuteronomy 24:5)****
- **Laws applied with equal force to both men and **women** who were guilty of adultery, incest, bestiality, and other crimes.**
- **You people must not come near, any man of you, to any close fleshly relative of his to lay bare nakedness. I am Yehowah. **(Leviticus 18:6)****
- **And you must not give your emission to any beast to become unclean by it, and a **woman** should not stand before a beast to have connection with it. It is a violation of what is natural. **(Leviticus 18:23)****
- **Now a man who commits adultery with another man's wife is one who commits adultery with the wife of his fellowman. He should be put to death without fail, the adulterer and the adulteress as well. **(Leviticus 20:10)****

- **And a man who lies down with his father's wife has laid bare the nakedness of his father. Both of them should be put to death without fail. Their own blood is upon them. (Leviticus 20:11)**
- **And where a man lies down with his daughter-in-law, both of them should be put to death without fail. They have committed a violation of what is natural. Their own blood is upon them. (Leviticus 20:12)**
- **In case a man is found lying down with a **woman** owned by an owner, both of them must then die together, the man lying down with the woman and the woman. So you must clear away what is bad out of Israel. (Deuteronomy 22:22)**
- **Women were not to wear the clothing of a man or a man the clothing of a **woman**, a practice that might open the way for immorality, including homosexuality.**
- **No garb of an able-bodied man should be put upon a **woman**, neither should an able-bodied man wear the mantle of a woman, for anybody doing these things is something detestable to Yehowah your God. (Deuteronomy 22:5)**
- **Women could participate in the benefits of the Sabbaths, the laws governing Nazirites, the festivals, and, in general, all the provisions of the Law.**
- **But the seventh day is a Sabbath to Yehowah your God. You must not do any work, you nor your son nor your daughter, your slave man nor your slave girl nor your domestic animal nor your alien resident who is inside your gates. (Exodus 20:10)**
- **But the seventh day is a Sabbath to Yehowah your God. You must not do any work, you nor your son nor your daughter, your slave man nor your slave girl nor your domestic animal nor your alien resident who is inside your gates. (Exodus 20:10)**
- **But before Yehowah your God you will eat it, in the place that Yehowah your God will choose, you and your son and your daughter and your man slave and your slave girl and the Levite who is inside your gates, and you must rejoice before Yehowah your God in every undertaking of yours. (Deuteronomy 12:18)**
- **And you must rejoice before Yehowah your God, you and your**

- son and your daughter and your man slave and your slave girl and the Levite who is inside your gates and the alien resident and the fatherless boy and the widow, who are in your midst, in the place that Yehowah your God will choose to have his name reside there. ([Deuteronomy 16:11](#))
- And you must rejoice during your festival, you and your son and your daughter and your man slave and your slave girl and the Levite and the alien resident and the fatherless boy and the widow, who are inside your gates. ([Deuteronomy 16:14](#))
 - The mother, as well as the father, was to be honored and obeyed.
 - You should fear each one his mother and his father, and my Sabbaths you should keep. I am Yehowah your God. ([Leviticus 19:3](#))
 - In case there should be any man who calls down evil upon his father and his mother, he should be put to death without fail. It is his father and his mother upon whom he has called down evil. His own blood is upon him. ([Leviticus 20:9](#))
 - Honor your father and your mother, just as Yehowah your God has commanded you, in order, that your days may prove long and it may go well with you on the ground that Yehowah your God is giving you. ([Deuteronomy 5:16](#))
 - Cursed is the one who treats his father or his mother with contempt. And all the people must say; Amen! ([Deuteronomy 27:16](#))

·· Privileges In The Christian Congregation

- For those called by God to the heavenly calling;
- Consequently, holy brothers, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the apostle and High Priest whom we confess, Jesus. ([Hebrews 3:1](#))
- To be joint heirs with Jesus Christ, there is no distinction between men and women in a spiritual sense. The apostle writes; You are all, in fact, sons of God through your faith in Christ there is neither male nor female, for you are all one person in union with Christ Jesus.

- You are all, in fact, sons of God through your faith in Christ Jesus. **(Galatians 3:26)**
- For all of you who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. **(Galatians 3:27)**
- There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor freeman, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one person in union with Christ Jesus. **(Galatians 3:28)**
- These all must receive a change of nature at their resurrection, being made partakers together of **divine nature**, in which state none will be **women**, for there is no female sex among spirit creatures, sex being God's means for reproduction of earthly creatures.
- Through these things he has freely given us the precious and very grand promises, that through these you may become sharers in divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world through lust. **(2 Peter 1:4)**

· Proclaimers Of The Good News

- **Women**, spoken of as **daughters** and **women slaves** in Joels prophecy, were among those receiving the gifts of Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost **33 C.E.**
- From that day forward the Christian **women** who were favored with these gifts talked in foreign tongues that they had not understood before, and they **prophesied**, not necessarily making predictions of important future events, but speaking forth Bible truths.
- And after that it must occur that I shall pour out my spirit on every sort of flesh, and your sons and your **daughters** will certainly prophesy. As for your old men, dreams they will dream. As for your young men, visions they will see. **(Joel 2:28)**
- And even on the menservants and on the **maidservants** in those days I shall pour out my spirit. **(Joel 2:29)**
- So, when they had entered, they went up into the upper chamber, where they were staying, Peter as well as John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the zealous one, and Judas the son of James. **(Acts of Apostles 1:13)**

- **With one accord all these were persisting in prayer, together with some women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers. (Acts of Apostles 1:14)**
- **Now during the days Peter rose up in the midst of the brothers and said, the crowd of persons was all together about one hundred and twenty. (Acts of Apostles 1:15)**
- **Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place. (Acts of Apostles 2:1)**
- **And suddenly there occurred from heaven a noise just like that of a rushing stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting. (Acts of Apostles 2:2)**
- **And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them. (Acts of Apostles 2:3)**
- **And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. (Acts of Apostles 2:4)**
- **However, different ones mocked at them and began to say; They are full of sweet wine. (Acts of Apostles 2:13)**
- **But Peter stood up with the eleven and raised his voice and made this utterance to them; Men of Judea and all you inhabitants of Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give ear to my sayings. (Acts of Apostles 2:14)**
- **These people are, in fact, not drunk, as you suppose, for it is the third hour of the day. (Acts of Apostles 2:15)**
- **On the contrary, this is what was said through the prophet Joel. (Acts of Apostles 2:16)**
- **And in the last days, God says, I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your **daughters** will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams. (Acts of Apostles 2:17)**
- **And even upon my men slaves and upon my **women slaves** I will**

**pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.
(Acts of Apostles 2:18)**

See Also PROPHETESS

- **Their speaking about Bible truths to others was not to be limited to fellow believers. Before his ascension to heaven, Jesus had told his followers:**
- **But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit arrives upon you, and you will be witnesses of me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the most distant part of the earth.
(Acts of Apostles 1:8)**
- **Thereafter, on the day of Pentecost 33 C.E, when Holy Spirit was poured out upon them, the entire group of some 120 disciples, including some women, were empowered as his witnesses.**
- **With one accord all these were persisting in prayer, together with some women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers. (Acts of Apostles 1:14)**
- **Now during these days Peter rose up in the midst of the brothers and said; the crowd of persons was all together about one hundred and twenty. (Acts of Apostles 1:15)**
- **And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them. (Acts of Apostles 2:3)**
- **And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. (Acts of Apostles 2:4)**
- **And the prophecy of;**
- **And after that it must occur that I shall pour out my spirit on every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will certainly prophesy. As for your old men, dreams they will dream. As for your young men, visions they will see. (Joel 2:28)**
- **And even on the menservants and on the maidservants in those days I shall pour out my spirit. (Joel 2:29)**

- **Quoted by Peter on that occasion included reference to such women. So they were numbered among those who bore the responsibility to be witnesses of Jesus in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the most distant part of the earth.**
- **Consistent with that, the apostle Paul later reported that Euodia and Syntyche, in Philippi, had striven side by side with him in the Good News, and Luke mentioned Priscilla as sharing with her husband Aquila in expounding the way of God in Ephesus.**
- **Euodia I exhort and Syntyche I exhort to be of the same mind in the Lord. ([Philippians 4:2](#))**
- **Yes, I request you too, genuine yokefellow, keep assisting these women who have striven side by side with me in the Good News along with Clement as well as the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. ([Philippians 4:3](#))**
- **And this man started to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him into their company and expounded the way of God more correctly to him. ([Acts of Apostles 18:26](#))**

•• **Congregational Meetings**

- **There were meetings when these women could pray or prophesy, provided they wore a head covering.**
- **But I want you to know that the head of every man is the Christ. In turn the head of a **woman** is the man. In turn the head of the Christ is God. ([1 Corinthians 11:3](#))**
- **Every man that prays or prophesies having something on his head shames his head. ([1 Corinthians 11:4](#))**
- **But every **woman** that prays or prophesies with her head uncovered shames her head, for it is one and the same as if she were a woman with a shaved head. ([1 Corinthians 11:5](#))**
- **For if a **woman** does not cover herself, let her also be shorn, but if it is disgraceful for a woman to be shorn or shaved, let her be covered. ([1 Corinthians 11:6](#))**

- For a man ought not to have his head covered, as he is God's image and glory, but the **woman** is man's glory. (**1 Corinthians 11:7**)
- For man is not out of **woman**, but woman out of man. (**1 Corinthians 11:8**)
- And, what is more, man was not created for the sake of the **woman**, but woman for the sake of the man. (**1 Corinthians 11:9**)
- That is why the **woman** ought to have a sign of authority upon her head because of the angels. (**1 Corinthians 11:10**)
- Besides, in connection with the Lord neither is **woman** without man nor man without woman. (**1 Corinthians 11:11**)
- For just as the **woman** is out of the man, so also the man is through the woman, but all things are out of God. (**1 Corinthians 11:12**)
- Judge for your own selves. Is it fitting for a **woman** to pray uncovered to God? (**1 Corinthians 11:13**)
- Does not nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him. (**1 Corinthians 11:14**)
- But if a **woman** has long hair, it is a glory to her? Because her hair is given her instead of a headdress. (**1 Corinthians 11:15**)
- However, if any man seems to dispute for some other custom, we have no other, neither do the congregations of God. (**1 Corinthians 11:16**)
- However, at what were evidently **public** meetings, when the whole congregation as well as unbelievers assembled in one place, **women** were to keep silent. If they wanted to learn something, they could question their own husbands at home, for it was disgraceful for a **woman** to speak in a congregation.
- Therefore, if the whole congregation comes together to one place and they all speak in tongues, but ordinary people or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are mad? (**1 Corinthians 14:23**)

- But if you are all prophesying and any unbeliever or ordinary person comes in, he is reproved by them all, he is closely examined by all. (**1 Corinthians 14:24**)
- The secrets of his heart become manifest, so that he will fall upon his face and worship God, declaring; God is really among you. (**1 Corinthians 14:25**)
- For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all be encouraged. (**1 Corinthians 14:31**)
- And gifts of the spirit of the prophets are to be controlled by the prophets. (**1 Corinthians 14:32**)
- For God is a God, not of disorder, but of peace. As in all the congregations of the holy ones. (**1 Corinthians 14:33**)
- Let the women keep silent in the congregations, for it is not permitted for them to speak, but let them be in subjection, even as the Law says. (**1 Corinthians 14:34**)
- If, then, they want to learn something, let them question their own husbands at home, for it is disgraceful for a **woman** to speak in a congregation. (**1 Corinthians 14:35**)

See Also HEAD COVERING

- While not permitted to teach in congregational assembly, a **woman** could teach persons outside the congregation who desired to learn the truth of the Bible and the Good News about Jesus Christ.
- Yehowah himself gives the saying; The women telling the Good News are a large army. (**Psalms 68:11**)
- As well as be a teacher of what is good to younger women, and children, within the congregation.
- Likewise let the aged women be reverent in behavior, not slanderous, neither enslaved to a lot of wine, teachers of what is good. (**Titus 2:3**)
- That they may recall the young women to their senses to love their husbands, to love their children. (**Titus 2:4**)

- To be sound in mind, chaste, workers at home, good, subjecting themselves to their own husbands, so that the word of God may not be spoken of abusively. (**Titus 2:5**)
- But she was not to exercise authority over a man or dispute with men, as, for example, in the meetings of the congregation. She was to remember what happened to Eve and how God expressed the matter of **woman's** position after Adam and Eve had sinned.
- Let a **woman** learn in silence with full submissiveness. (**1 Timothy 2:11**)
- I do not permit a **woman** to teach, or to exercise authority over a man, but to be in silence. (**1 Timothy 2:12**)
- For Adam was formed first, then Eve. (**1 Timothy 2:13**)
- Also, Adam was not deceived, but the **woman** was thoroughly deceived and came to be in transgression. (**1 Timothy 2:14**)
- To the **woman** he said; I shall greatly increase the pain of your pregnancy, in birth pangs you will bring forth children, and your craving will be for your husband, and he will dominate you. (**Genesis 3:16**)

•• Men Serve As Overseers And Ministerial Servants

- In the discussion of **gifts in men** given by Christ to the congregation, there is no mention of **women**. The words **apostles, prophets, evangelizers, shepherds, and teachers** are all in the masculine gender.
- Wherefore he says; When he ascended on high he carried away captives, he gave gifts in men. (**Ephesians 4:8**)
- And he gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelizers, some as shepherds and teachers. (**Ephesians 4:11**)
- And he gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelizers, some as shepherds and teachers. (**Ephesians 4:11**)
- Is rendered by the **American Translation: And he has given us some men as apostles, some as prophets, some as missionaries, some as pastors and teachers. MO, NW, also**

- You have ascended on high; You have carried away captives; You have taken gifts in the form of men, yes, even the stubborn ones, to reside among them, O Yah God. (**Psalms 68:18**)
- In full accord with this, when the apostle Paul wrote to Timothy about the qualifications for the service positions of, **overseers**, *e-pi'sko-poi*, who were also **older men**, *pre-sby'te-roi*, and of **ministerial servants**, *di-a'ko-noi*, in the congregation, he specifically states that they must be men and, if married, **the husband of one wife**. No discussion by any of the apostles discusses any office of **deaconess**, *di-a-ko'nis-sa*.
- That statement is faithful. If any man is reaching out for an office of overseer, he is desirous of a fine work. (**1 Timothy 3:1**)
- The overseer should therefore be irreprehensible, a husband of one wife, moderate in habits, sound in mind, orderly, hospitable, qualified to teach. (**1 Timothy 3:2**)
- Not a drunken brawler, not a smiter, but reasonable, not belligerent, not a lover of money. (**1 Timothy 3:3**)
- A man presiding over his own household in a fine manner, having children in subjection with all seriousness. (**1 Timothy 3:4**)
- If indeed any man does not know how to preside over his own household, how will he take care of God's congregation? (**1 Timothy 3:5**)
- Not a newly converted man, for fear that he might get puffed up with pride and fall into the judgment passed upon the Devil. (**1 Timothy 3:6**)
- Moreover, he should also have a fine testimony from people on the outside, in order, that he might not fall into reproach and a snare of the Devil. (**1 Timothy 3:7**)
- Ministerial servants should likewise be serious, not double-tongued, not giving themselves to a lot of wine, not greedy of dishonest gain. (**1 Timothy 3:8**)
- Holding the sacred secret of the faith with a clean conscience. (**1 Timothy 3:9**)

- **Also, let these be tested as to fitness first, then let them serve as ministers, as they are free from accusation. (1 Timothy 3:10)**
- **Women should likewise be serious, not slanderous, moderate in habits, faithful in all things. (1 Timothy 3:11)**
- **Let ministerial servants be husbands of one wife, presiding in a fine manner over children and their own households. (1 Timothy 3:12)**
- **For the men who minister in a fine manner are acquiring for themselves a fine standing and great freeness of speech in the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 3:13)**
- **For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might correct the things that were defective and might make appointments of older men in city after city, as I gave you orders. (Titus 1:5)**
- **If there is any man free from accusation, a husband of one wife, having believing children that were not under a charge of debauchery nor unruly. (Titus 1:6)**
- **For an overseer must be free from accusation as God's steward, not self-willed, not prone to wrath, not a drunken brawler, not a smiter, not greedy of dishonest gain. (Titus 1:7)**
- **But hospitable, a lover of goodness, sound in mind, righteous, loyal, self-controlled. (Titus 1:8)**
- **Holding firmly to the faithful word as respects his art of teaching, that he may be able both to exhort by the teaching that is healthful and to reprove those who contradict. (Titus 1:9)**
- **However, from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the older men of the congregation. (Acts of Apostles 20:17)**
- **Pay attention to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has appointed you overseers, to shepherd the congregation of God, which he purchased with the blood of his own Son. (Acts of Apostles 20:28)**
- **Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus, to all the holy ones in union with Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, along with overseers and ministerial servants. (Philippians 1:1)**

- **Although Phoebe is mentioned;**
- **I recommend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a minister of the congregation that is in Cenchreae. (Romans 16:1)**
- **As a minister, *di-a'ko-nos*, without the Greek definite article, it is evident that she was not an appointed female ministerial servant in the congregation, because the Scriptures make no provision for such. The apostle did not tell the congregation to receive instructions from her but, rather, to receive her well and to assist her in any matter where she might need them.**
- **That you may welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the holy ones, and that you may assist her in any matter where she may need you, for she herself also proved to be a defender of many, yes, of me myself. (Romans 16:2)**
- **Paul's reference to her as a minister evidently has something to do with her activity in the spreading of the Good News, and he was speaking of Phoebe as a female minister who was associated with the congregation in Cenchreae.**
- **And in the last days, God says, I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams. (Acts of Apostles 2:17)**
- **And even upon my men slaves and upon my women slaves I will pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. (Acts of Apostles 2:18)**

•• In The Home

- **The woman is described in the Scriptures as, a weaker vessel, the feminine one. She is to be treated accordingly by her husband.**
- **You husbands, continue dwelling in like manner with them according to knowledge, assigning them honor as to a weaker vessel, the feminine one, since you are also heirs with them of the undeserved favor of life, in order for your prayers not to be hindered. (1 Peter 3:7)**

- **She has many privileges, such as sharing in teaching the children and generally managing the internal affairs of the household, under her husbands approval and direction.**
- **Therefore I desire the younger widows to marry, to bear children, to manage a household, to give no inducement to the opposer to revile. (1 Timothy 5:14)**
- **In like manner, you wives, be in subjection to your own husbands, in order, that, if any are not obedient to the word, they may be won without a word through the conduct of their wives. (1 Peter 3:1)**
- **Because of having been eyewitnesses of your chaste conduct together with deep respect. (1 Peter 3:2)**
- **Listen, my son, to the discipline of your father, and do not forsake the Law of your mother. (Proverbs 1:8)**
- **Observe, O my son, the commandment of your father, and do not forsake the Law of your mother. (Proverbs 6:20)**
- **She has the duty of submission to her husband. (Proverbs Chapter 31)**
- **Let wives be in subjection to their husbands as to the Lord. (Ephesians 5:22)**
- **Because a husband is head of his wife as the Christ also is head of the congregation, he being a savior of this body. (Ephesians 5:23)**
- **In fact, as the congregation is in subjection to the Christ, so let wives also be to their husbands in everything. (Ephesians 5:24)**
- **She owes him the marital due.**
- **Let the husband render to his wife her due, but let the wife also do likewise to her husband. (1 Corinthians 7:3)**
- **The wife does not exercise authority over her own body, but her husband does, likewise, also, the husband does not exercise authority over his own body, but his wife does. (1 Corinthians 7:4)**

- Do not be depriving each other of it, except by mutual consent for an appointed time, that you may devote time to prayer and may come together again, that Satan may not keep tempting you for your lack of self-regulation. (1 Corinthians 7:5)

•• Adornment

- The Bible throughout does not condemn adornment in clothing or the wearing of jewelry, but it commands that modesty and propriety be the governing factors.

- The apostle instructs that feminine dress be well arranged and that women adorn themselves **with modesty and soundness of mind**.

- Emphasis should not be put on hairstyles, ornaments, and expensive clothing but, rather, on the things contributing to spiritual beauty, namely, good works and the secret person of the heart in the incorruptible apparel of the quiet and mild spirit.

- Likewise I desire the women to adorn themselves in well-arranged dress, with modesty and soundness of mind, not with styles of hair braiding and gold or pearls or very expensive garb. (1 Timothy 2:9)

- But in the way that befits women professing to reverence God, namely, through good works. (1 Timothy 2:10)

- And do not let your adornment be that of the external braiding of the hair and of the putting on of gold ornaments or the wearing of outer garments. (1 Peter 3:3)

- But let it be the secret person of the heart in the incorruptible apparel of the quiet and mild spirit, which is of great value in the eyes of God. (1 Peter 3:4)

- A **woman** of charm is the one that takes hold of glory, but the tyrants, for their part, take hold of riches. (Proverbs 11:16)

- As a gold nose ring in the snout of a pig, so is a **woman** that is pretty but that is turning away from sensibleness. (Proverbs 11:22)

- Charm may be false, and prettiness may be vain, but the **woman**

that fears Yehowah is the one that procures praise for herself.
([Proverbs 31:30](#))

- The apostle Peter tells such submissive women who display chaste, respectful, godly conduct that you have become Sarah's children, provided you keep on doing good and not fearing any cause for terror.
- So these wives have a grand opportunity, not by being descended from faithful Sarah in a fleshly way but by imitating her. Sarah was privileged to bear Isaac and become an ancestress of Jesus Christ, who is primarily the seed of Abraham.
- Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. It says, not; And to seeds, as in the case of many such, but as in the case of one. And to your seed, who is Christ. ([Galatians 3:16](#))
- Thus Christian wives, proving themselves to be figurative daughters of Sarah even toward unbelieving husbands, are sure to receive a rich reward at God's hands.
- As Sarah used to obey Abraham, calling him lord. And you have become her children, provided you keep on doing good and not fearing any cause for terror. ([1 Peter 3:6](#))
- And Abraham and Sarah were old, being advanced in years. Sarah had stopped having menstruation. ([Genesis 18:11](#))
- Hence Sarah began to laugh inside herself, saying; After I am worn out, shall I really have pleasure, my lord being old besides? ([Genesis 18:12](#))
- But to the others I say, yes, I, not the Lord; If any brother has an unbelieving wife, and yet she is agreeable to dwelling with him, let him not leave her. ([1 Corinthians 7:12](#))
- And a **woman** who has an unbelieving husband, and yet he is agreeable to dwelling with her, let her not leave her husband. ([1 Corinthians 7:13](#))
- For the unbelieving husband is sanctified in relation to his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified in relation to the brother, otherwise, your children would really be unclean, but now they are holy. ([1 Corinthians 7:14](#))

- **But if the unbelieving one proceeds to depart, let him depart, a brother or a sister is not in servitude under such circumstances, but God has called you to peace. (1 Corinthians 7:15)**
- **For, wife, how do you know but that you will save your husband? Or, husband, how do you know but that you will save your wife? (1 Corinthians 7:16)**

•• **Women Ministered To Jesus**

- **Women** enjoyed privileges in connection with Jesus earthly ministry, but not the privileges given to the 12 apostles and the 70 evangelizers.
- **So he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, in order to expel these and to cure every sort of disease and every sort of infirmity. (Matthew 10:1)**
- **The names of the twelve apostles are these. First, Simon, the one called Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James the son of Zebedee and John his brother. (Matthew 10:2)**
- **Philip and Bartholomew. Thomas and Matthew the tax collector, James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus. (Matthew 10:3)**
- **Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who later betrayed him. (Matthew 10:4)**
- **These twelve Jesus sent forth, giving them these orders; Do not go off into the road of the nations, and do not enter into a Samaritan city. (Matthew 10:5)**
- **But, instead, go continually to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (Matthew 10:6)**
- **As you go, preach, saying; The kingdom of the heavens has drawn near. (Matthew 10:7)**
- **Cure sick people, raise up dead persons, make lepers clean, expel demons. You received free, give free. (Matthew 10:8)**
- **After these things the Lord designated seventy others and sent them forth by twos in advance of him into every city and place to**

which he himself was going to come. (Luke 10:1)

- Then he began to say to them; The harvest, indeed, is great, but the workers are few. Therefore beg the Master of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest. (Luke 10:2)
- Go forth. Look! I am sending you forth as lambs in among wolves. (Luke 10:3)
- Do not carry a purse, nor a food pouch, nor sandals, and do not embrace anybody in greeting along the road. (Luke 10:4)
- Wherever you enter into a house say first; May this house have peace. (Luke 10:5)
- And if a friend of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if there is not, it will turn back to you. (Luke 10:6)
- So stay in that house, eating and drinking the things they provide, for the worker is worthy of his wages. Do not be transferring from house to house. (Luke 10:7)
- A number of women ministered to Jesus from their belongings.
- Shortly afterwards he went journeying from city to city and from village to village, preaching and declaring the Good News of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him. (Luke 8:1)
- And certain women that had been cured of wicked spirits and sicknesses, Mary the so-called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had come out. (Luke 8:2)
- And Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's man in charge, and Susanna and many other women, who were ministering to them from their belongings. (Luke 8:3)
- One anointed him a few days before his death, and for her act Jesus promised; Wherever this Good News is preached in all the world, what this woman did shall also be told as a remembrance of her.
- While Jesus happened to be in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper. (Matthew 26:6)
- A woman with an alabaster case of costly perfumed oil

- approached him, and she began pouring it upon his head as he was reclining at the table. (**Matthew 26:7**)
- On seeing this the disciples became indignant and said; Why this waste? (**Matthew 26:8**)
 - For this could have been sold for a great deal and been given to poor people. (**Matthew 26:9**)
 - Aware of this, Jesus said to them; Why do you try to make trouble for the **woman**? For she did a fine deed toward me. (**Matthew 26:10**)
 - For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. (**Matthew 26:11**)
 - For when this **woman** put this perfumed oil upon my body, she did it for the preparation of me for burial. (**Matthew 26:12**)
 - Truly I say to you, wherever this Good News is preached in all the world, what this **woman** did shall also be told as a remembrance of her. (**Matthew 26:13**)
 - Accordingly Jesus, six days before the Passover, arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus was whom Jesus had raised up from the dead. (**John 12:1**)
 - Therefore they spread an evening meal for him there, and Martha was ministering, but Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with him. (**John 12:2**)
 - Mary, therefore, took a pound of perfumed oil, genuine nard, very costly, and she greased the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house became filled with the scent of the perfumed oil. (**John 12:3**)
 - But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, who was about to betray him, said. (**John 12:4**)
 - Why was it this perfumed oil was not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor people? (**John 12:5**)
 - He said this, though, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief and had the money box and

used to carry off the monies put in it. (**John 12:6**)

- Therefore Jesus said; Let her alone, that she may keep this observance in view of the day of my burial. (**John 12:7**)
- For you have the poor always with you, but me you will not have always. (**John 12:8**)
- **Women were among those to whom Jesus especially appeared on the day of his resurrection, and women were among those to whom he appeared later.**
- After the Sabbath, when it was growing light on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to view the grave. (**Matthew 28:1**)
- And, notice! A great earthquake had taken place, for Yehowah's angel had descended from heaven and approached and rolled away the stone, and was sitting on it. (**Matthew 28:2**)
- His outward appearance was as lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. (**Matthew 28:3**)
- Yes, for fear of him the watchmen trembled and became as dead men. (**Matthew 28:4**)
- But the angel in answer said to the women; Do not you be fearful, for I know you are looking for Jesus who was impaled. (**Matthew 28:5**)
- He is not here, for he was raised up, as he said. Come, see the place where he was lying. (**Matthew 28:6**)
- And go quickly and tell his disciples that he was raised up from the dead, and, look! He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see him. Look! I have told you. (**Matthew 28:7**)
- So, quickly leaving the memorial tomb, with fear and great joy, they ran to report to his disciples. (**Matthew 28:8**)
- And, look! Jesus met them and said; Good day! They approached and caught him by his feet and did obeisance to him. (**Matthew 28:9**)

- **Then Jesus said to them; Have no fear! Go, report to my brothers, that they may go off into Galilee, and there they will see me. (Matthew 28:10)**
- **On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the memorial tomb early, while there was still darkness, and she beheld the stone already taken away from the memorial tomb. (John 20:1)**
- **Therefore she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple, for whom Jesus had affection, and she said to them; They have taken away the Lord out of the memorial tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him. (John 20:2)**
- **Then Peter and the other disciple went out and started for the memorial tomb. (John 20:3)**
- **Yes, the two together began to run, but the other disciple ran ahead of Peter with greater speed and reached the memorial tomb first. (John 20:4)**
- **And, stooping forward, he beheld the bandages lying, yet he did not go in. (John 20:5)**
- **Then Simon Peter also came following him, and he entered into the memorial tomb. And he viewed the bandages lying. (John 20:6)**
- **Also the cloth that had been upon his head not lying with the bandages but separately rolled up in one place. (John 20:7)**
- **At that time, therefore, the other disciple who had reached the memorial tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed. (John 20:8)**
- **For they did not yet discern the scripture that he must rise from the dead. (John 20:9)**
- **And so the disciples went back to their homes. (John 20:10)**
- **Mary, however, kept standing outside near the memorial tomb, weeping. Then, while she was weeping, she stooped forward to look into the memorial tomb. (John 20:11)**

- And she viewed two angels in white sitting one at the head and one at the feet where the body of Jesus had been lying. (**John 20:12**)
- And they said to her; **Woman**, why are you weeping? She said to them; They have taken my Lord away, and I do not know where they have laid him. (**John 20:13**)
- After saying these things, she turned back and viewed Jesus standing, but she did not discern it was Jesus. (**John 20:14**)
- Jesus said to her; **Woman**, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for? She, imagining it was the gardener, said to him; Sir, if you have carried him off, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away. (**John 20:15**)
- Jesus said to her; **Mary!** Upon turning around, she said to him, in Hebrew; **Rabboni!** Which means Teacher! (**John 20:16**)
- Jesus said to her; Stop clinging to me. For I have not yet ascended to the Father. But be on your way to my brothers and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father and to my God and your God. (**John 20:17**)
- Mary Magdalene came and brought the news to the disciples; I have seen the Lord! And that he said these things to her. (**John 20:18**)

•• **Figurative Use**

- In several instances women are used symbolically to represent congregations or organizations of people. They also are employed to symbolize cities. Christ's glorified congregation is spoken of as his **bride**, also called, **the holy city, New Jerusalem**.
- He that has the **bride** is the bridegroom. However, the friend of the bridegroom, when he stands and hears him, has a great deal of joy on account of the voice of the bridegroom. Therefore this joy of mine has been made full. (**John 3:29**)
- I saw also the **holy city, New Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God and **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband**. (**Revelation 21:2**)

- **And there came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls which were full of the seven last plagues, and he spoke with me and said; Come here, I will show you the bride, the Lambs wife. (Revelation 21:9)**
- **Let us rejoice and be overjoyed, and let us give him the glory, because the marriage of the Lamb has arrived and his wife has prepared herself. (Revelation 19:7)**
- **Because a husband is head of his wife as the Christ also is head of the congregation, he being a savior of this body. (Ephesians 5:23)**
- **In fact, as the congregation is in subjection to the Christ, so let wives also be to their husbands in everything. (Ephesians 5:24)**
- **Husbands, continue loving your wives, just as the Christ also loved the congregation and delivered up himself for it. (Ephesians 5:25)**
- **That he might sanctify it, cleansing it with the bath of water by means of the word. (Ephesians 5:26)**
- **That he might present the congregation to himself in its splendor, not having a spot or a wrinkle or any of such things, but that it should be holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:27)**
- **At this Jesus said to them; The friends of the bridegroom have no reason to mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, do they? But days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast. (Matthew 9:15)**
- **But days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day. (Mark 2:20)**
- **Jesus said to them; You cannot make the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? (Luke 5:34)**
- **Yet days will come when the bridegroom will indeed be taken away from them, then they will fast in those days. (Luke 5:35)**

- Yehowah spoke to the congregation or nation of Israel as his **woman**, he being as a **husbandly owner** to her by reason of the Law covenant relationship between them.
- In restoration prophecies he speaks to Israel in this way, sometimes directing his words to Jerusalem, the governing city of the nation. The sons and daughters.
- Do not be afraid, for I am with you. From the sunrising I shall bring your seed, and from the sunset I shall collect you together. (**Isaiah 43:5**)
- I shall say to the north, Give up! And to the south; Do not keep back. Bring my sons from far off, and my daughters from the extremity of the earth. (**Isaiah 43:6**)
- Everyone that is called by my name and that I have created for my own glory, that I have formed, yes, that I have made. (**Isaiah 43:7**)
- Of this **woman** were the members of the nation of Israel.
- Rouse yourself, rouse yourself, rise up, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk at the hand of Yehowah his cup of rage. The goblet, the cup causing reeling, you have drunk, you have drained out. (**Isaiah 51:17**)
- There was none of all the sons that she brought to birth conducting her, and there was none of all the sons that she brought up taking hold of her hand. (**Isaiah 51:18**)
- Those two things were befalling you. Who will sympathize with you? Despoiling and breakdown, and hunger and sword! Who will comfort you? (**Isaiah 51:19**)
- Your own sons have swooned away. They have lain down at the head of all the streets like the wild sheep in the net, as those who are full of the rage of Yehowah, the rebuke of your God. (**Isaiah 51:20**)
- Therefore listen to this, please, O **woman** afflicted and drunk, but not with wine. (**Isaiah 51:21**)
- This is what your Lord, Yehowah, even your God, who contends

- for his people, has said; Look! I will take away from your hand the cup causing reeling. The goblet, my cup of rage, you will not repeat the drinking of it anymore. (**Isaiah 51:22**)
- And I will put it in the hand of the ones irritating you, who have said to your soul; Bow down that we may cross over, so that you used to make your back just like the earth, and like the street for those crossing over. (**Isaiah 51:23**)
 - Wake up, wake up, put on your strength, O Zion! Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city! For no more will there come again into you the uncircumcised and unclean one. (**Isaiah 52:1**)
 - Shake yourself free from the dust, rise up, take a seat, O Jerusalem. Loosen for yourself the bands on your neck, O captive daughter of Zion. (**Isaiah 52:2**)
 - Cry out joyfully, you barren **woman** that did not give birth! Become cheerful with a joyful outcry and cry shrilly, you that had no childbirth pains, for the sons of the desolated one are more numerous than the sons of the woman with a husbandly owner, Yehowah has said. (**Isaiah 54:1**)
 - For your Grand Maker is your husbandly owner, Yehowah of armies being his name, and the Holy One of Israel is your Repurchaser. The God of the whole earth he will be called. (**Isaiah 54:5**)
 - For Yehowah called you as if you were a wife left entirely and hurt in spirit, and as a wife of the time of youth who was then rejected, your God has said. (**Isaiah 54:6**)
 - O **woman** afflicted, tempest-tossed, uncomforted, here I am laying with hard mortar your stones, and I will lay your foundation with sapphires. (**Isaiah 54:11**)
 - And I will make your battlements of rubies, and your gates of fiery glowing stones, and all your boundaries of delightful stones. (**Isaiah 54:12**)
 - And all your sons will be persons taught by Yehowah, and the peace of your sons will be abundant. (**Isaiah 54:13**)

- Rejoice with Jerusalem and be joyful with her, all you lovers of her. Exult greatly with her, all you keeping yourselves in mourning over her. (**Isaiah 66:10**)
- For the reason that you will suck and certainly get satisfaction from the breast of full consolation by her, for the reason that you will sip and experience exquisite delight from the teat of her glory. (**Isaiah 66:11**)
- For this is what Yehowah has said; Here I am extending to her peace just like a river and the glory of nations just like a flooding torrent, and you will certainly suck. Upon the flank you will be carried, and upon the knees you will be fondled. (**Isaiah 66:12**)
- Return, O you renegade sons, is the utterance of Yehowah. For I myself have become the husbandly owner of you people, and I will take you, one out of a city and two out of a family, and I will bring you to Zion. (**Jeremiah 3:14**)
- Look! There are days coming, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I will conclude with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah a New Covenant. (**Jeremiah 31:31**)
- Not one like the covenant that I concluded with their forefathers in the day of my taking hold of their hand to bring them forth out of the land of Egypt, which covenant of mine they themselves broke, although I myself had husbandly ownership of them, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 31:32**)
- In many instances other nations or cities are referred to as feminine or as women. A few are, Moab.
- The towns will actually be captured, and her own strong places will certainly be seized. And the heart of the mighty men of Moab must become in that day like the heart of a wife having childbirth distress. (**Jeremiah 48:41**)
- **Egypt**
- Go up to Gilead and get some balsam, O virgin daughter of Egypt. In vain you have multiplied the means of healing. There is no mending for you. (**Jeremiah 46:11**)
- **Rabbah of Ammon**

- Therefore, look! There are days coming, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I will cause the alarm signal of war to be heard even against Rabbah of the sons of Ammon, and she will certainly become a mound of a desolate waste, and her dependent towns themselves will be set aflame in the very fire. And Israel will actually take possession of those in possession of him, Yehowah has said. ([Jeremiah 49:2](#))
- Babylon**
- O **woman** residing on abounding waters, abundant in treasures, your end has come, the measure of your profit making. ([Jeremiah 51:13](#))
- Symbolic Babylon the Great.**
- And one of the seven angels that had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying; Come, I will show you the judgment upon the great harlot who sits on many waters. ([Revelation 17:1](#))
- With whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, whereas those who inhabit the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication. ([Revelation 17:2](#))
- And he carried me away in the power of the spirit into a wilderness. And I caught sight of a **woman** sitting upon a scarlet-colored wild beast that was full of blasphemous names and that had seven heads and ten horns. ([Revelation 17:3](#))
- And the **woman** was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and was adorned with gold and precious stone and pearls and had in her hand a golden cup that was full of disgusting things and the unclean things of her fornication. ([Revelation 17:4](#))
- And upon her forehead was written a name, a mystery. Babylon the Great, the mother of the harlots and of the disgusting things of the earth. ([Revelation 17:5](#))
- And I saw that the **woman** was drunk with the blood of the holy ones and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. Well, on catching sight of her I wondered with great wonderment. ([Revelation 17:6](#))

See Also BABYLON THE GREAT
See Also DAUGHTER

· **The Woman Of Genesis 3-15**

- **At the time that he sentenced humankind's parents, Adam and Eve, God gave the promise of a seed that would be brought forth by the **woman**, and who would crush the serpents head.**
- **And I shall put enmity between you and the **woman** and between **your seed and her seed**. **He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel.** (**Genesis 3:15**)**
- **Here was a **sacred secret** that God purposed to reveal in his due time.**
- **The sacred secret that was hidden from the past systems of things and from the past generations. But now it has been made manifest to his holy ones,**
- **The sacred secret that was hidden from the past systems of things and from the past generations. But now it has been made manifest to his holy ones.** (**Colossians 1:26**)
- **Some factors in the circumstances existing at the time of the prophetic promise provide clues as to the **woman's** identity. Since her seed was to crush the serpents head, he would have to be more than a human seed, for the Scriptures show that it was not to a literal snake on the ground that God's words were aimed.**
- **The **serpent** is shown at;**
- **So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth, he was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him.** (**Revelation 12:9**)
- **To be Satan the Devil, a spirit person. Consequently, the **woman** of the prophecy could **not be a human woman**, such as Mary the mother of Jesus. The apostle sheds light on the matter at (**Galatians 4:21-31**)**

See Also SEED

- In this passage the apostle speaks of Abraham's free wife and of his concubine Hagar and says that Hagar corresponds to the literal city of Jerusalem under the Law covenant, her children being the citizens of the Jewish nation.

- Abraham's wife Sarah, Paul says, corresponds to the Jerusalem above, who is the spiritual mother of Paul and his spirit-begotten associates.

- This heavenly **mother** would not be the **mother** of Christ, who is the oldest among his spiritual brothers, from whom all the angelic congregation spring from God as their Father.

- Because by means of him **all other things were created in the heavens and upon the earth**, the things visible and **the things invisible**, no matter whether they are thrones or lordships or governments or authorities. **All other things have been created through him and for him.** (Colossians 1:16)

- Also, he is **before all other things** and by means of him all other things were made to exist. (Colossians 1:17)

- And he is the **head of the body, the congregation**. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that he might become the one who is first in all things. (Colossians 1:18)

- For both he who is sanctifying and those who are being sanctified all stem from one, and for this cause he is not ashamed to call them, brothers. (Hebrews 2:11)

- As he says; I will declare your name to my brothers, in the middle of the congregation I will praise you with song. (Hebrews 2:12)

See Also FREE WOMAN

- It would follow logically and in harmony with the Scriptures that the **woman** of;

- And I shall put enmity between you and the **woman** and between your seed and her seed. **He** will bruise you in the head and you will bruise **him** in the heel. (Genesis 3:15)

- This woman is also referred to in this scripture as **Him**, so at some time the woman becomes a man. The identification of the woman is therefore the one whom Satan struck on the heel, Jesus Christ.
- But I want you to know that the head of every man is the Christ, in turn the head of a **woman** is the man, in turn the **head of the Christ is God.** (1 Corinthians 11:3)
- This clearly identifies Yehowah God as the head or husbandly owner of Christ his son. Jesus as the one through whom all created thing came into existence fits well as the sole one who could be described as God's **woman**. In heaven this spiritual woman is Jesus Christ but on earth Jesus Christ came as a man. This indeed has been a sacred secre for many years.
- Would be a spiritual **woman**. And corresponding to the fact that the **bride**, or **wife**, of Christ is not an individual woman, but a composite one, made of many spiritual members.
- And there came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls which were full of the seven last plagues, and he spoke with me and said; Come here, I will show you the bride, the Lambs wife. (Revelation 21:9)
- The **woman** who brings forth God's spiritual sons, God's wife, prophetically foretold in the words of Isaiah and Jeremiah as cited in the foregoing, would be made up of many spiritual persons. It would be a composite body of persons, an organization, a heavenly one.
- This **woman** is described in John's vision, in (Revelation Chapter 12) She is shown as bringing forth a son, a ruler who is to **shepherd all the nations with an iron rod.**
- Saying; I, even I, have installed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain. (Psalms 2:6)
- Let me refer to the decree of Yehowah, he has said to men; You are my son. I, today, I have become your father. (Psalms 2:7)
- Ask of me, that I may give nations as your inheritance and the ends of the earth as your own possession. (Psalms 2:8)
- You will break them with an iron scepter, as though a potter's

- vessel you will dash them to pieces. (**Psalms 2:9**)
- The utterance of Yehowah to my Lord is; Sit at my right hand until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet. (**Psalms 110:1**)
 - The rod of your strength Yehowah will send out of Zion, saying; Go subduing in the midst of your enemies. (**Psalms 110:2**)
 - This vision was given to John long after Jesus human birth and also after his anointing as God's Messiah. Since it obviously has to do with the same person, it must have reference, not to Jesus human birth, but to some other event, namely, **his being installed in Kingdom power**. So the birth of God's Messianic Kingdom was here pictured. The **woman** comes into a new role of **being the Male Child** who is now given rulership of all creation.
 - Satan is shown later as persecuting the **woman** and making war with the remaining ones of her seed.
 - Now when the dragon saw that it was hurled down to the earth, it persecuted the **woman** that gave birth to the male child. (**Revelation 12:13**)
 - And the dragon grew wrathful at the **woman**, and went off to wage war with the remaining ones of her seed, who observe the commandments of God and have the work of bearing witness to Jesus. (**Revelation 12:17**)
 - The **woman** is spiritual, and Satan by this time being hurled down to the earth.
 - And war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels battled with the dragon, and the dragon and its angels battled (**Revelation 12:7**)
 - But it did not prevail, neither was a place found for them any longer in heaven. (**Revelation 12:8**)
 - So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth, he was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him. (**Revelation 12:9**)

- The woman is also on earth during this time and this is where Satan it and so her persecutes her.

•• Other Uses

- In foretelling famine conditions to come upon Israel if they disobeyed and broke his covenant, God said; Ten **women** will then actually bake your bread in but one oven and give back your bread by weight.

- The famine would be so great that ten **women** would need only one oven, whereas they would each use one in normal times.

- When I have broken for you the rods around which ring-shaped loaves are suspended, ten **women** will then actually bake your bread in but one oven and give back your bread by weight, and you must eat but you will not be satisfied. ([Leviticus 26:26](#))

- After warning Israel of the calamities that would come upon her for unfaithfulness, Yehowah said, through Isaiah the prophet:

- And seven women will actually grab hold of one man in that day, saying; We shall eat our own bread and wear our own mantles, only may we be called by your name to take away our reproach. ([Isaiah 4:1](#))

- In the preceding two verses,

- By the sword your own men will fall, and your mightiness by war. ([Isaiah 3:25](#))

- And her entrances will have to mourn and express sorrow, and she will certainly be cleaned out. She will sit down on the very earth. ([Isaiah 3:26](#))

- God had pointed out that Israel's men would fall by war. So he was telling Israel of the inroads such conditions would make on the manpower of the nation, creating such a shortage that several women would attach themselves to one man.

- They would be glad to take his name and have some male attentions, even if they had to share him with other women. They would accept polygamy or concubinage to have some little part in a

man's life. Thereby some of the reproach of widowhood or of the unmarried state, and childlessness, would be removed.

- In a prophecy comforting Israel, Yehowah said,
- How long will you turn this way and that, O unfaithful daughter? For Yehowah has created a new thing in the earth; A mere female will press around an able-bodied man. (**Jeremiah 31:22**)
- Up until then Israel, with whom God was in the relationship of marriage by reason of the Law covenant, was turning this way and that in unfaithfulness. Now Yehowah invites the **virgin of Israel** to set up road marks and signposts to guide her back and to fix her heart upon the highway that leads back.
- Set up road marks for yourself. Place signposts for yourself. Fix your heart upon the highway, the way that you will have to go. Come back, O virgin of Israel. Come back to these cities of yours. (**Jeremiah 31:21**)
- Yehowah will put his spirit in her so that she will be most eager to come back. Thus, as a **wife** would press around her husband in order to get back into good relations with him, so Israel would press around Yehowah God in order to get back into good relations with him as her husband.

•• **The Desire Of Women**

- Of the king of the north, Daniel's prophecy says:
- And to the God of his fathers he will give no consideration, and to the **desire of women** and to every other god he will give no consideration, but over everyone he will magnify himself. (**Daniel 11:37**)
- But to the god of fortresses, in his position he will give glory, and to a god that his fathers did not know he will give glory by means of gold and by means of silver and by means of precious stone and by means of desirable things. (**Daniel 11:38**)
- **Women** here may represent **the weaker nations, those based upon religion in the time of the end, who become handmaids of the king of the north, as weaker vessels.** They have their gods that they

desire and worship, but the king of the north disregards them and pays homage to a god of militarism.

· The Symbolic Locusts

- In the vision of the symbolic **locusts** at;
- And the fifth angel blew his trumpet. And I saw a star that had fallen from heaven to the earth, and the key of the pit of the abyss was given him. (**Revelation 9:1**)
- And he opened the pit of the abyss, and smoke ascended out of the pit as the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun was darkened, also the air, by the smoke of the pit. (**Revelation 9:2**)
- And out of the smoke locusts came forth upon the earth, and authority was given them, the same authority as the scorpions of the earth have. (**Revelation 9:3**)
- And they were told to harm no vegetation of the earth nor any green thing nor any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. (**Revelation 9:4**)
- And it was granted the locusts, not to kill them, but that these should be tormented five months, and the torment upon them was as torment by a scorpion when it strikes a man. (**Revelation 9:5**)
- And in those days the men will seek death but will by no means find it, and they will desire to die but death keeps fleeing from them. (**Revelation 9:6**)
- And the likenesses of the locusts resembled horses prepared for battle, and upon their heads were what seemed to be crowns like gold, and their faces were as mens faces. (**Revelation 9:7**)
- But they had hair as women's hair. And their teeth were as those of lions. (**Revelation 9:8**)
- And they had breastplates like iron breastplates. And the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running into battle. (**Revelation 9:9**)
- Also, they have tails and stings like scorpions, and in their tails is

- their authority to hurt the men five months. (**Revelation 9:10**)
- They have over them a king, the angel of the abyss. In Hebrew his name is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon. (**Revelation 9:11**)

See Also ABADDON

•• 144,000 Not Defiled With Women

- And I saw, and, look! The Lamb standing upon the Mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand having his name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads. (**Revelation 14:1**)
- And I heard a sound out of heaven as the sound of many waters and as the sound of loud thunder, and the sound that I heard was as of singers who accompany themselves on the harp playing on their harps. (**Revelation 14:2**)
- And they are singing as if a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders, and no one was able to master that song but the hundred and forty-four thousand, who have been bought from the earth. (**Revelation 14:3**)
- These are the ones that did **not defile themselves with women**, in fact, they are virgins. These are the ones that keep following the Lamb no matter where he goes. These were bought from among mankind as firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. (**Revelation 14:4**)
- The 144,000 described as standing with the Lamb on Mount Zion are said to have been bought from the earth. These are the ones that **did not defile themselves with women**, in fact, they are virgins. These are shown as having a more intimate relationship with the Lamb than any others do, being the only ones to master the **new song**.
- And I saw, and, look! The Lamb standing upon the Mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand having his name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads. (**Revelation 14:1**)
- And I heard a sound out of heaven as the sound of many waters and as the sound of loud thunder, and the sound that I heard was

- as of singers who accompany themselves on the harp playing on their harps. ([Revelation 14:2](#))
- **And they are singing as if a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders, and no one was able to master that song but the hundred and forty-four thousand, who have been bought from the earth. ([Revelation 14:3](#))**
 - **These are the ones that did not defile themselves with women, in fact, they are virgins. These are the ones that keep following the Lamb no matter where he goes. These were bought from among mankind as firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. ([Revelation 14:4](#))**
 - **This would indicate that they make up the **bride** of the Lamb.**
 - **And there came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls which were full of the seven last plagues, and he spoke with me and said; Come here, I will show you the bride, the Lambs wife. ([Revelation 21:9](#))**
 - **They are spiritual persons, as revealed by the fact that they stand on the heavenly Mount Zion with the Lamb. Therefore their not **defiling themselves with women** and their being **virgins** would not mean that none of these 144,000 persons had ever been married, for the Scriptures do not forbid persons on earth who are to be joint heirs with Christ to marry. It means that they worship no other men but follow their exemplar only.**
 - **The overseer should therefore be irreprehensible, a husband of one wife, moderate in habits, sound in mind, orderly, hospitable, qualified to teach. ([1 Timothy 3:2](#))**
 - **However, the inspired utterance says definitely that in later periods of time some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to misleading inspired utterances and teachings of demons. ([1 Timothy 4:1](#))**
 - **Forbidding to marry, commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be partaken of with thanksgiving by those who have faith and accurately know the truth. ([1 Timothy 4:3](#))**

- Neither would it imply that all the 144,000 were men, for there is neither male nor female as far as the spiritual relationship of Christ's joint heirs is concerned.
- There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor freeman, **there is neither male nor female**, for you are all one person in union with Christ Jesus. (**Galatians 3:28**)
- The **women** therefore must be **symbolic women**, doubtless religious organizations such as Babylon the Great and her **daughters**, false religious organizations, the joining of and participation in which would prevent one from being spotless.
- And upon her forehead was written a name, a mystery. Babylon the Great, the **mother of the harlots** and of the disgusting things of the earth. (**Revelation 17:5**)
- This symbolic description harmonizes with the requirement in the Law that the High Priest of Israel take only a **virgin** for his **wife**, for Jesus Christ is Yehowah's great High Priest.
- And as for the High Priest of his brothers upon whose head the anointing oil would be poured and whose hand was filled with power to wear the garments, he should not let his head go ungroomed, and he should not tear his garments. (**Leviticus 21:10**)
- As for a widow or a divorced **woman** and one violated, a prostitute, none of these may he take, but he should take a virgin from his people as a wife. (**Leviticus 21:14**)
- For I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy, for I personally promised you in marriage to one husband that I might present you as a chaste virgin to the Christ. (**2 Corinthians 11:2**)
- For such a High Priest as this was suitable for us, loyal, guileless, undefiled, separated from the sinners, and become higher than the heavens. (**Hebrews 7:26**)
- With reference to Jesus addressing Mary as **woman**.

See Also MARY No. 1 (Respected, Loved by Jesus)