

Intro to SBC Issues last week...set stage on various issues *church finances & friendship with world*...jump in tonight on "*women pastors*"
Will begin with preliminary remarks / statements...then make the case for male leadership with nature & scripture.

- ***The Case of Male Leadership*** *It is part of the Created Order in life.* Male leadership is a "Created Order" issue
 - God is a God of order. There is natural order "seder"
- Leadership in: ***Home.....Church.....State....*** is assigned to men by God
 - When women are leading in: *Home/Church/State...* It means that something is wrong & broken & out of order. God is a God of order. There is a design/order to life
 - Sometimes a woman's leadership is necessary because of circumstance
 - If a man shirks his responsibility and leaves his wife and kids...she has to lead
 - ...but that is a broken home...something is out of order. The "broken" ~~normative/natural~~
 - If men refuse to lead....that vacuum is filled by women....but it is broken/unnatural
 - When men abdicate the throne women will sit there.
 - Men should not abdicate and women should not usurp.
 - When Deborah arises...it is an indictment against the men
 - The wife of Jael wins the battle....not Barak the General...this is shameful senerio
 - Years ago I heard (on radio) a woman preach a great sermon to a state legislature
 - Awesome message but I asked, "*Wasn't there a man?*" "*holding out for a hero*"
 - 5 middle schools girls led last week – a sad commentary on society when women lead
 - Battle of the sexes is part of the curse
 - Gen. 3:16
 - Male leadership was established before sin...but the fight over male leadership is from the Fall and is the result of sin
 - Men should not abdicate and women should not usurp....both are sins
- Natural revelation - Men dominate history & society....and men can be domineering
 - Men are made that way – men are made to lead, protect, provide.....made to pastor
 - God made men with a male body, a male soul & a male spirit that equip them for the task God assigned to them. Women are made with a female body/soul /spirit that equip them to glorify God in the way He has called women.
 - Part of a pastors job is "*manly*"to protect and provide. Pastoring is men's work
 - Overseerer (bishop) on the lookout for danger (wolves)
 - **PROTECT** against bad doctrine/deceit. rebuke/correct
 - **PROVIDE** truth to equip
 - Women tend to be more nurturing and nice and will generally want to avoid hard truth that offends...generally more hesitant to hurt feelings
 - My wife and I parent differently (I make a terrible mother- she is a terrible father)
 - Being a pastor is a calling. Women are not called to be a pastor just as men are not called to be a mother
 - Women can be overly empathetic...that is a detriment to a pastoral role
 - Pastors are to be courageous men
 - Priesthood – came from men who took up arms against their own brothers. Their zeal for the Lord exceeded family ties – killed 3000 Ex. 32:26-29 Deut. 33:8-11
 - Joke – "*A man eating lion would starve to death at a pastor's conference.*"

- Our society tries to make “*men without chests*” (C.S. Lewis) pg. 438
 - Effort to feminize men.....church....home....state

➤ Special Revelation

- Male headship is out of step in our world but right in step with the Word of God
- OT priesthood - there is no such thing as a woman priest - (oxymoron)
- Isaiah 3:12 - When women and children rule it is a sign of judgment. (Queen Athaliah)
 - When women lead it is a sign that something is wrong in society
- Very few women prophets...when men don't lead the vacuum of leadership is filled
 - Huldah - 2 Kings 22:14 - corrupt time... Bible lost.
- 1 Tim. 2:11-14
 - Part of the created order. Male leadership is not based on culture but creation
 - Adam was formed first. - Adam given God's word before Eve created
 - Adam names his wife (a wife takes her husband's name - shows authority/responsibility)
 - Adam was to instruct her (pastor) about God's requirement - forbidden fruit
 - Sin sprang from an inversion of that order
 - Eve leads after being deceived. (women more easily deceived...by nature weaker)
 - Adam didn't protect her from *the snake* he was to have dominion over
 - Adam listened and followed his wife (inverted order...out of order)
 - Adam is held responsible because he is the head of his wife
- 1 Cor. 11:3 Headship
 - The order of headship comes from the GodHead - equal but order of authority/hierarchy
 - We are to reflect that image in our Creator
- 1 Cor. 14:33-38
 - This is the Lord's command....not just archaic culture but Christ's rule
- Are we ashamed of Christ's words? His words are very clear
 - Mark 8:38
- Qualification for an Elder/Pastor/Bishop (1 Tim. 3 & Titus 1 - "if any man"... "husband of one wife")
 - Flow of 1 Tim. 2-3 Men pray...Women modest & not teach...requirements for Elder (man), Deacon & Deaconess (woman)...how church is ordered - 1 Tim 3:15

➤ Another step in the wrong direction for the SBC if we don't stop it.

- Once you leave the biblical foundation....unstable
- If you take an eraser to one part of scripture then eventually other parts of scripture are discarded as well...where do you stop? Jehoiakim's pen knife - Jer. 36
- Methodist debate of homosexual members/leaders/pastors (2019 ? - in paper ?)
 - "it's against the Bible" (argued one)
 - (reply) "so are women pastors but we crossed that bridge a long time ago"
- Other denominations have traveled this road
 - Churches with women pastors are liberal (Charismatic exception - they have own problems)
 - Famous book - "*Christianity & Liberalism*"these are two different things -
- Friendship with the world = enemy of God James 4:4
 - The world is attacking "the Created Order" basics like- male/female...family - front line fight
 - We must fight where the battle is raging the hottest