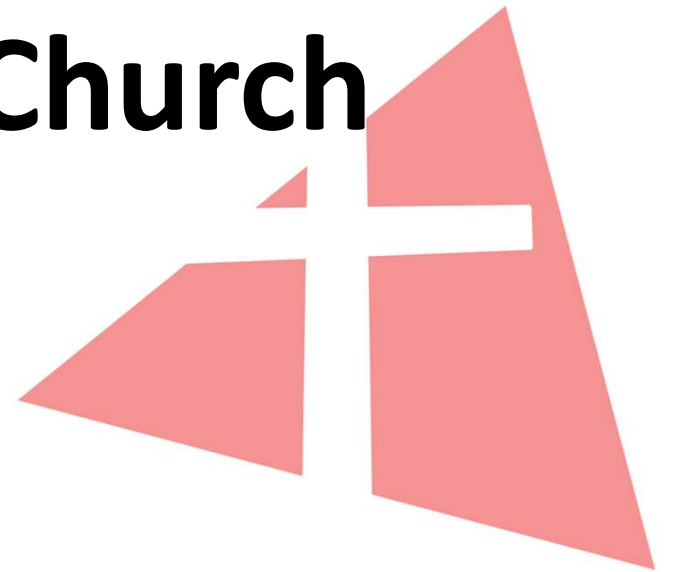


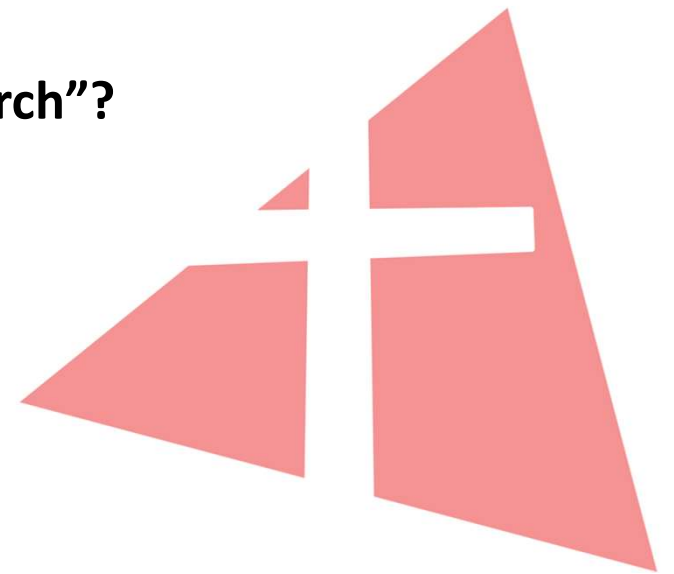
Men, Women and the Church

March 10th 2024



A Big Topic

- **What is Aletheia's opinion on the topic of "Women in the Church"?**



2 General Views

- **Egalitarian vs. Complementarian View**



2 Ways to read the Bible

- **Exegesis vs. Eisegesis**

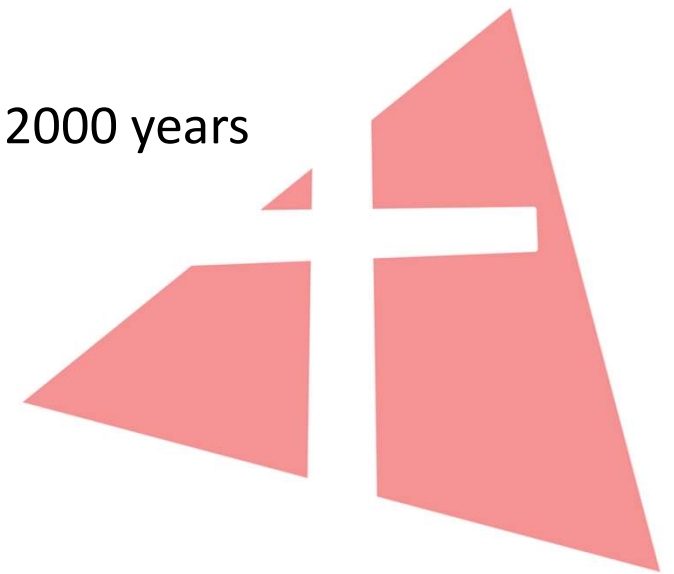


What is REALLY important?

- **Primary Issues**

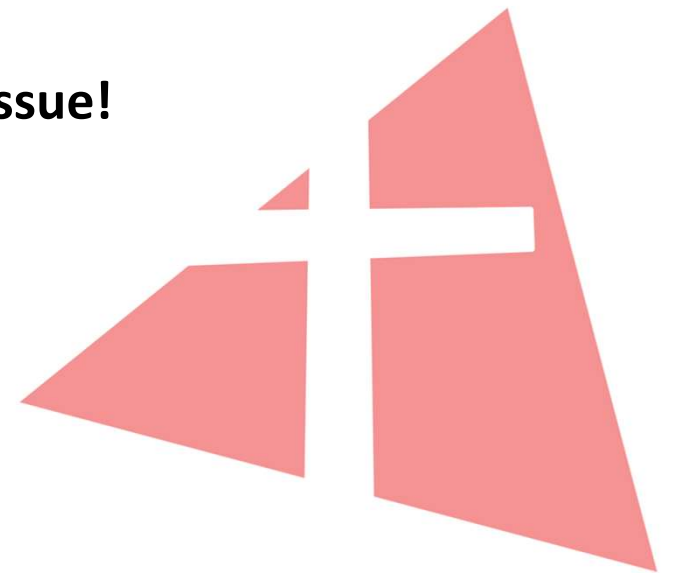
- They are a matter of life and death
- The church has generally agreed on these topics for the last 2000 years

- **Secondary Issues**



What about Men and Women

- **The issue of “Men and Women in the Church” is a secondary issue!**



Biblical Values

- **Unity**

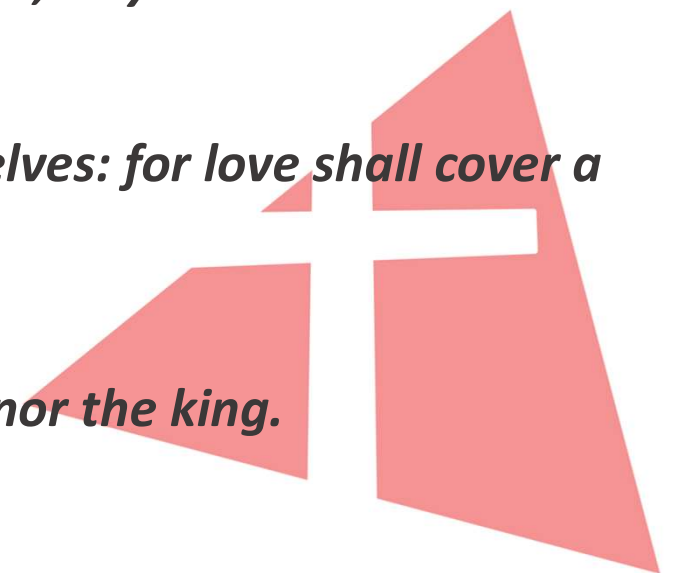
John 17:22-23 And the glory which you gave me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and you in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that you have sent me, and have loved them, as you have loved me.

- **Love**

1 Peter 4:8 And above all things have fervent love among yourselves: for love shall cover a multitude of sins.

- **Honor/Respect**

1 Peter 2:17 Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.



Biblical Values

- **Submission**

Ephesians 5:21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

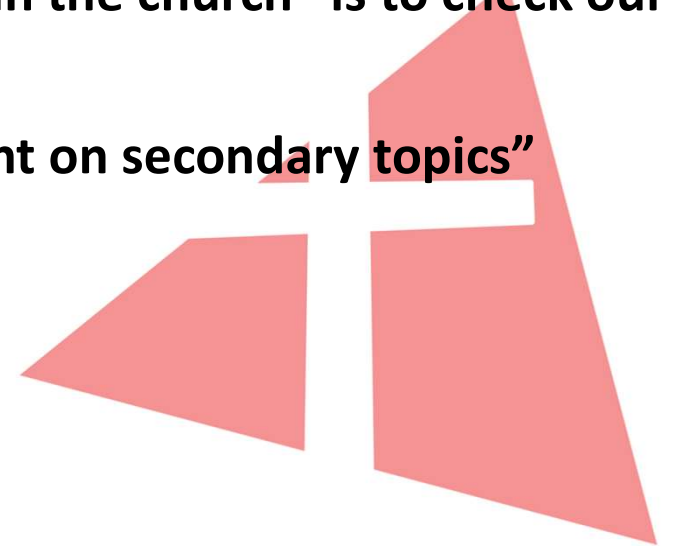
- **Gentleness**

1 Timothy 6:11 But you, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.



First Step

- **The first step to glorify God on the topic of “men and women in the church” is to check our Heart Attitudes**
- **If we have to choose, we have to choose unity over “being right on secondary topics”**



Unity is More Important!

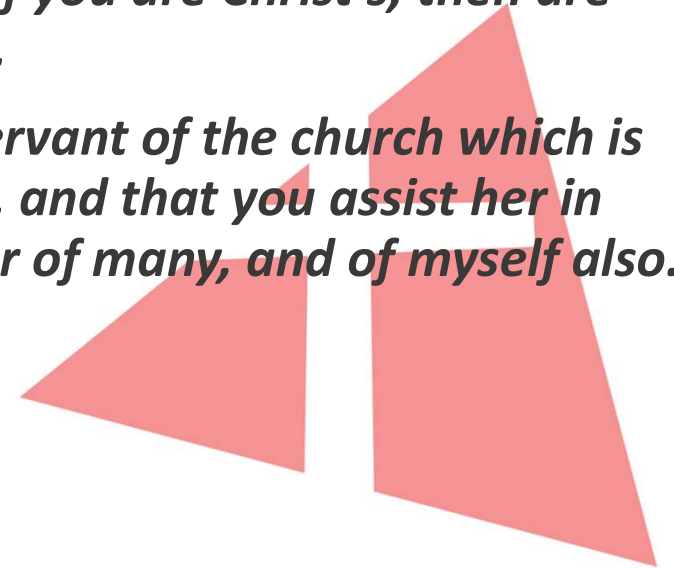
- Nobody can claim that “I have the only right answer”
- I don't have a problem with people who have a different opinion than mine on this topic
- I do have a problem when people destroy the unity within the church over this topic



Verses that seem to support the Egalitarian View

Galatians 3:28-29 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then are you Abraham's descendants, and heirs according to the promise.

Romans 16:1-2 I commend unto you Phebe our sister, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: That you receive her in the Lord, as becomes saints, and that you assist her in whatever business she has need of you: for she has been a helper of many, and of myself also.



Verses that seem to support the Egalitarian View

Ephesians 4:11-13 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

1 Corinthians 11:4-5 Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonors his head. But every woman that prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head: for that is one and the same as if she were shaven.



Verses that seem to support the Complementarian View

- Jesus chose 12 men as His disciples

1 Timothy 3:1-2 This is a true saying, If a man desires the office of a bishop, he desires a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach;



Verses that seem to support the Complementarian View

1 Timothy 2:12 But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have authority over the man, but to be in silence.

1 Corinthians 14:34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be submissive, as also says the law.



What we all do

- **We take one verse as our absolute**
- **We interpret the verses that seem to support “the other opinion” in light of our absolute**



My Absolute

1 Timothy 2:11-13 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve.



My Priority

- **The unity within Aletheia is much more important than trying to force my way on others**



One Thing I don't agree with

- **“Giving women a try”**
 - I tried listening to a woman who was preaching
 - I didn't like it (for whatever reason)
 - That's proof that women shouldn't preach



Next Steps

- **We can discuss this topic further**
- **We only discuss this topic on a church level**
 - Bernd and/or Don has to be present
 - Everybody can join
- **We can share our opinion**
 - Based on Biblical Principles, not on personal opinions
- **But everybody has to give the unity within the church a higher priority than “getting this right”**
 - No “trying to push our opinion on other people”



In Conclusion

- The topic of “Men and Women in the Church” can be very divisive
 - Satan loves to divide us over secondary issues
- It is important to wrestle with this topic
- We can have different opinions
- But the unity within the church has to have higher priority

Ephesians 4:1-3 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation by which you are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

