

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

SERMON NOTES

Week 1 May 1, 2022

“Women in Scripture”

I Timothy 2:11-12; II Chronicles 34:3-4a;
Romans 16:3-7, 12; Galatians 3:27-28



I. Women and the Bible

- A. All the books of the Bible were written by _____.
- B. Many Christian churches today still do not _____ women.

II. Huldah’s Story

- A. King Manasseh did what was _____ in the sight of the Lord.
- B. The priest Hilkiah found the book of the _____ while preparing the Temple for renovations.
- C. Five people from the royal court take the scroll of the law to the prophetess _____.

III. Women in the New Testament and Beyond

- A. _____ plays a pivotal role in God’s saving work.
- B. Many women named in Romans chapter 16 played a _____ role in the early church.
- C. John Wesley sent lay people out, including _____, to preach the Gospel.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *May 2-7, 2022*

INTRODUCTION

The Bible was written in times of a patriarchal society. Women have hidden roles, but they have much to teach us and played a vital role in the early church. So what does this teach us about today's church?

Monday: Genesis 1:26-28; 2:18-23

The twin stories in Genesis 1-2 came from a patriarchal Hebrew culture. However, they do not show women created as inferior to men. The word 'helper' occurs twenty-one times in the Old Testament and on fifteen of those occasions it refers to God helping man in one way or another—a fact which casts doubt on the common suggestion that woman as man's helper was in some way subordinate and inferior. What key message(s) do you find in Genesis 1:27? What does this tell you about yourself and your worth?

Tuesday: Judges 4:1-24, 5:1-13, 19-21

Deborah was a female prophet who led Israel during the time of Judges. What steps did Deborah take, working under God's direction, to lead the often-disunited tribes of Israel? What challenges or obstacles do you think she might have faced to her leadership? The text implies that Deborah foresaw (and agreed with) Jael's actions. Do you believe God would want similar actions today?

Wednesday: 2 Chronicles 34:1-33

God had been so ignored in Israel's life that it's almost as though the temple workers realized: "oops—we've mislaid God's law." Good king Josiah, eager to do what God wanted, promptly sought wisdom from the female prophet Huldah. Taking her God-given words as a guide, he vigorously led the people to renew their devotion to the covenant with God. Are there any women who helped you grow in your faith?

Thursday: Romans 16:1-16

There are too many women's names here to cover them all in detail (we'll focus on Priscilla tomorrow.) Here's one we might miss in English: the feminine name Junia (v.7) is said to be "outstanding among the apostles." What does "outstanding" tell you about the vital role women, as well as men, played in sharing the gospel?

Friday: Acts 18:1-4, 18-19, 24-27

After time with Paul, Priscilla and Aquila became teachers and leaders in the early church. They played a major role in Apollos' growing understanding of faith in Jesus, and helped him become a key Christian preacher. Priscilla and Aquila took the lead in teaching and leading him to a more mature grasp of the faith. Who has taught you important aspects of the Christian faith that have made you stronger and more mature?

MOVING FORWARD

In the history of Christianity and our denomination we have seen many women stand up for justice, compassion, and the proclaiming of the word. Were it not for the women leading the way over the years the church would not be all that it is today. We need men who are going to lead the way in the 21st century. But, we can't do it without the women. So let's be that kind of church that treasures its Jeremiahs and its Huldahs. *Rise up O women of God.*

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) men, B) ordain. IIA) evil, B) law, C) Huldah. IIIA) Mary, B) key, C) women.