

AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY  
OF THE NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING ABOUT WOMEN

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Women's liberation confronts all Christians with significant problems. The statements of the apostle Paul are frequently cited as a typical example of the male-chauvinist attitude. Paul is thought to be the source of the suppression of women in the Church and in society over the past two thousand years. This bibliography is presented to provide a means of access to the best literature treating the Bible and women. It is an attempt to sift through the flood of materials to find the few works that show signs of serious scholarship and significant thought on this important subject.

Every annotated bibliography is limited by considerations of space and availability of the material under considerations. The principles other than availability limiting this paper are the following: (1) With rare exceptions foreign works are not included. Those few included provide important sources of European bibliography on this subject. (2) Dictionary articles and commentaries on important passages are omitted because they are readily available and logical starting places for the material of this bibliography. (3) Books, articles, and dissertations are included because they make a unique contribution to this field. The contribution may be a high level of scholarship shown in explaining a problem. The contribution may be a unique but worthwhile interpretation. The contribution may be a clear exposition of a particular position. (4) The author attempted to select books whose orientation was more biblical than theological. Needless to say, these criteria are highly subjective and many others may differ with the author's conclusion about what should be included or excluded.

"Books"

von Allmen, Jean-Jacques. *The Pauline Teachings on Marriage*. London: Morehouse, 1963. A semi-popular Catholic survey of the teachings of Paul on marriage worth studying for the over-all coverage.

Allworthy, Thomas Bateson. *Women in the Apostolic Church*. Cambridge: W. Heffer and Sons, 1917. A critical study of the New Testament evidence of the prominence of women in early Christianity. This is a worthwhile survey.

Baltensweiler, Heinrich. *Die Ehe im Neuen Testament*. Zurich: Zwingli Verlag, 1967. One of the finest exegetical studies of the title with an excellent German bibliography.

- Barth, Karl. *Church Dogmatics*, III-4, trans. G. T. Thomson. Edinburgh: Clark, 1936. This book is included more because of the stature of the author than because of its help as an exegetical study. It contains good insight into scripture without explicitly interacting with it.
- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Creation and Temptation*, trans. J. C. Fletcher. London: SCM Press, 1966. This is also included because of the stature of the author. The devotional-commentary nature of this work limits its value.
- Burrows, Millar. *The Basis of Israelite Marriage*. New Haven: American Oriental Society, 1938. A thorough study of the question of Israelite marriage by purchase in the Old Testament and surrounding cultures.
- Cross, E. B. *The Hebrew Family: A study in historical sociology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1927. A semi-popular study of Old Testament family life included because of the method of approaching the subject.
- Danielou, Jean. *The Ministry of Women in the Early Church*. London: Faith Press, 1961. This highly valuable (and difficult to obtain) study of thirty pages covers the New Testament period and the early church fathers. Few studies are more valuable than this one.
- Donaldson, James. *Woman: Her Position and Influence in Ancient Greece and Rome and Among the Early Christians*. London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1907. A moderately valuable book whose title describes the contents.
- Dwight, S. E. *The Hebrew Wife: The Law of Marriage Examined in Relation to the Lawfulness of Polygamy and to the Extent of the Law of Incest*. New York: Leavitt, Lord and Co., 1836. Do not allow the title to frighten you off! This book is thorough and valuable considering the tools available to the author at that time.
- Epstein, Louis M. *Marriage Laws in the Bible and Talmud*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1942. This book contains more on the Talmud than on the Bible and is not careful about time distinctions between the periods represented by both, but it still contains much that is worthwhile.
- ..... *Sex Laws and Customs in Judaism*. New York: KTAV Pub. House, 1968. This book has the same faults as its predecessor and the same values.
- Grelot, Pierre. *Man and Wife in Scripture*, trans., R. Brennan. New York: Herder and Herder, 1964. This is a fairly good treatment of the subject on a popular level from the Catholic perspective.
- Isaksson, A. *Marriage and Ministry in the New Temple*, trans. Neil Tomkinson and Jean Gray. Lund: C. W. K. Gleerup, 1965. An excellent exegetical study of the divorce passages in Matthew and of I Corinthians 11:2-16. It contains valuable material in support of a questionable thesis that all the New Testament teaching on marriage can be understood as based on Jesus teaching on the requirements of the priesthood for the New Temple.

- Kahler, Else. *Die Frau in den Paulinischen Briefen*. Frankfurt: Gotthelf-Verlag, 1960. If one wants to treat subordination in the apostle Paul and the Pauline corpus this book is invaluable. It is the best work available on Paul and women.
- Ketter, Peter. *Christ and Womankind*, trans., Isabel McHugh. London: Burns, Oates and Washbourne, Ltd., 1935. The title covers the contents of this popular presentation. The author combines the skills of a scholar in providing background material for the New Testament position on women with the verbosity of a frustrated preacher. It is unbeatable for material on this topic, but he smothers the reader with homiletical excesses.
- Lacey, W. K. *The Family in Classical Greece*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1968. A fine study of the family in classical Greece, useful for comparative purposes with the late Old Testament and the Grecian influences on Roman culture in the New Testament period.
- Loewe, Raphael. *The Position of Women in Judaism*. London: S.P.C.K., 1966. A moderately valuable study of women in Judaism defending the thesis that Jews treated women somewhat better than is commonly thought.
- McDonald, Elizabeth Mary. *The Position of Women as Reflected in Semitic Codes of Law*. The title explains the contents. Although a doctoral dissertation, the study is only moderately valuable.
- Mace, David. *Hebrew Marriage*. New York: Philosophical Library, 1953. This attempt by a prominent sociologist to apply the methods of his discipline to the study of the Old Testament is only moderately successful.
- Mielziner, Moses. *The Jewish Law of Marriage and Divorce in Ancient and Modern Times*. Cincinnati: Bloch Pub. and Printing Co., 1884. This book provides excellent total coverage of the title, although it often lacks the depth one might desire.
- Parrinder, E. G. *The Bible and Polygamy*. London: S.P.C.K., 1958. Although this book is written on the popular level it is a fairly good treatment of a subject receiving very little attention.
- Phipps, William E. *Was Jesus Married?* New York: Harper and Row, 1970. Along with an impossible argument for Jesus' marriage because men usually marry is presented some good material for the general subject of marriage.
- Piper, Otto A. *The Biblical View of Sex and Marriage*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1960. This book is mis-titled, for there is little direct interaction with scripture, but the author presents the liberal protestant viewpoint with some clarity.
- Prohl, Russel. *Woman in the Church*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1957. An excellent exegetical study of the subject of women in the New Testament that has a tendency to use black and white when shades of grey are necessary.
- Ryrie, Charles Caldwell. *The Place of Women in the Church*. New York:

- Macmillan, 1958. A work that leaves one wondering why the author did not spend more time doing research so he could have presented a worthwhile study of this subject. Moderately valuable.
- Sampley, J. Paul. *And the Two Shall Become One Flesh*. Cambridge: University Press, 1971. It is a shame that all studies of this subject do not reveal the high level of scholarship revealed in this work. The best study of Ephesians 5:21-33 available.
- Schillebeeckx, E. *Marriage: Human Reality and Saving Mystery*, trans., N. D. Smith. New York: Sheed and Ward, 1965. Considering the stature of the author this work's exegetical study is a disappointment. It is both spotty and frequently superficial.
- van Selms, A., *Marriage and Family Life in Ugaritic Literature*. London, 1954. This is an excellent study of the subject of the title, although the data with which the author can study the family in Ugaritic literature is severely limited.
- Smith, Ryder. *Bible Doctrine of Womanhood in Its Historical Evolution*. London: Faith Press, 1923. This valuable popular work argues that there is a progressive liberalization revealed in the attitude toward women between Genesis and Revelation.
- Stendahl, Krister. *The Bible and the Role of Women*, trans., Emilie T. Sander. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1966. This book combines a study of the new hermeneutic with a particular reference to Galatians 3:28. The book is absolutely essential to any study of women in the New Testament.
- Thielicke, Helmut, *The Ethics of Sex*, trans., J. W. Doberstein. New York: Harper and Row, Pub., 1964. This book contains excellent theological ethics supported by occasionally valuable exposition.
- Vos, Clarence J. *Woman in Old Testament Worship*. Delft: Judels and Brinkman, 1968. This work ranks next to Sampley for its treatment of the subject of the title. This is a diamond next to coal in comparison with other works on the topic.
- Zerbst, Fritz. *The Office of Woman in the Church*, trans. Albert G. Merckens. St. Louis: Concordia Pub. House, 1955. This study in practical theology contains some fine exegesis and is one of the best studies available. There is also an excellent European bibliography.

#### "PERIODICAL ARTICLES"

- Bartling, W. J., "Sexuality, Marriage, and Divorce in I Cor. 6:12-7:16," *Concordia Theological Monthly* XXXIX (June, 1968), 355-66. Basically following Stendahl, this author suggests that the New Testament does not contain sufficient data for a complete theology of marriage and divorce.
- Baumgarten, J. M. "On the Testimony of Women in IQSa," *Journal of Biblical Literature* LXXVI (December 1957), 266-9. This article argues that women could not participate in the judicial process as witnesses in Qumran.

- Bedale, Stephan. "The Meaning of *kephale* in the Pauline Epistles," *The Journal of Theological Studies* ns V (October 1954), 211-5. *Kephale* denotes not a relationship of overlordship but a relationship with the being of another person based on the order of creation. Highly valuable.
- Blackman, A. M. "On the Position of Women in the Ancient Egyptian Hierarchy," *Journal of Egyptian Archeology* VII (1921), 8-30. The author amasses a great deal of evidence to refute Herodotus' statement that "no woman exercises priestly office. . . but men in all cases." The article is good for the contrasting picture it presents with the Old Testament.
- Bland, Thomas A. "Toward a Theology of Marriage," *Review and Expositor* LXI (Spring, 1964), 6-13. This article is one of the best surveys of the general topic.
- Boucher, Madeleine. "Some Unexplored Parallels to I Cor. 11:11-2 and Gal. 3:28, the New Testament on the Role of Women," *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* XXXI (Jan., 1969), 50-60. This article compares various rabbinic views with Paul and suggests that some posit male-female equality while some posit male-female subordination. A good corrective to the common opinion that the Jews saw little value to women.
- Brueggemann, W. A. "Of the Same Flesh and Bone: Gen. 2:23a," *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* XXXII (Oct., 1970), 532-42. The author argues that flesh is weakness and bone power and that together they refer to covenant loyalty in all the extremes of life. In spite of the questionable conclusions the article is worth examining.
- Burrows, Miller. "The Ancient Oriental Background of Hebrew Levirate Marriage," *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* LXXVII (1940), 2-15. This is an excellent article on the subject of the title containing valuable bibliographic references.
- Cadbury, H. J. "A Qumran Parallel to Paul," *Harvard Theological Review* LI (Jan., 1958), 1-2. IQSa contains a passage where defective persons are excluded from the community because of the presence of angels. This is possibly background for I Cor. 11:10.
- Caird, G. B. "Paul and Women's Liberty," *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library* LIV (Spring, 1972), 268-82. The tension between the apparently contradictory statements of Paul regarding women should be relieved by deciding for the statement closest to the center of his thought. Valuable, but the thesis can lead to misunderstanding.
- Coiner, H. G. "Those Divorce and Remarriage Passages," *Concordia Theological Monthly* XXXIX (June, 1968), 367-84. The author argues that no legalistic stance should be taken as a result of these passages. Although the stance is pastoral, there is evidence of extensive reading in scholarly works.
- Crosmer, A. J. "Marriage: A Type of God's Relationship to His People," *Concordia Theological Monthly* XXVII (May, 1956), 370-82. This is a survey of this important aspect of scripture which finds little treatment elsewhere.

- Fitzmyer, J. A. "A Feature of Qumran Angelology and the Angels of I Cor. 11:10," *New Testament Studies* IV (Jan., 1957), 48-58. This study takes eleven pages to discuss the problem Cadbury covers in two, but it also contains other material of worth for understanding I Cor. 11:10.
- Ford, J. M. "Levirate Marriage in St. Paul," *New Testament Studies* X (April, 1964), 361-5. I Cor. 11:25-40 is best interpreted as referring to once married widows or widowers contemplating levirate marriage. Unconvincing.
- .... "The Meaning of Virgin," *New Testament Studies* XII (March, 1966), 293-9. "Virgin" does not necessarily refer to an unmarried woman. Valuable in its own right, but unconvincing as supporting her thesis in the first article.
- .... "Paul the Philogamist: I Cor. 7 in Early Patristic Exegesis," *New Testament Studies* XI (July, 1965), 326-48. The title reveals the contents of the article. It is an attempt to show that consecrated virginity was not common. It is valuable for what it may prove false.
- Giblin, C. H. "I Cor. 7—A Negative Theology of Marriage," *Bible Today* VII (March, 1969), 2839-55. Paul's negative approach results from the climate at Corinth and even then the negation is not as strong as is often thought because Paul argues simply that celibacy is an ideal. Eliminate the special pleading and the article will vanish.
- Greeven, H. "Ehe nach dem Neuen Testament," *New Testament Studies* XV (July, 1969), 365-88. A good general survey which suggests that there is not enough data to cover all areas of marriage.
- Hommel, N. J. "Let Women Be Silent in the Church," *Calvin Theological Journal* IV (April, 1969), 5-22. This article is an excellent exegetical study of I Tim. 2:11-12 with extensive reference to other New Testament teaching about women. The article is highly significant for the unusual thesis it proposes for the injunctions to silence.
- Hooker, Morna. "Authority on Her Head: An Examination of I Cor. 11:10," *New Testament Studies* X (July, 1964), 410-6. The veil of I Cor. 11:10 gives women power to move about with freedom in society. Interesting.
- Jebb, S. "Suggested Interpretation of I Tim. 2:15," *Expository Times* LXXXI (April, 1970), 221-2. Woman may be saved from falling into the sin of lording it over her husband through the child-bearing function. Wow! If that is not the male-chauvinist attitude perfectly exemplified.
- Jeremiah, Joachim. *Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus*. Philadelphia; Fortress Press, 1969, appendix I. This appendix to Jeremias' well-known work provides the best treatment of the position of women in the Judaism of New Testament times.
- Macht, David I. "A Scientific Appreciation of Lev. 12:1-5," *Journal of Biblical Literature* LII (Dec., 1933), 253-60. A medical study gives a possible justification for the different periods of purification required following the birth of a male or female. It is interesting, but little more.
- Mason, A. "The Ministries of Women in the NT," *The Ministry of Women*. London: S.P.C.K., 1919. A valuable survey of the role women played in the church of the New Testament.

- Neuhausler, E. "Das Geheimnis Ist Gross," *Bibel und Leben* IV (March, 1963), 155-67. This study of Eph. 5:22-29 argues that the relationship of Christ and the Church provides a foundation principle for marriage.
- Orr, W. F. "Paul's Treatment of Marriage in I Cor. 7," *Perspective* (Pittsburg) VIII (Sept., 1967), 5-22. A careful exegesis without the assistance of commentaries produces some interesting conclusions. The article is well worth reading.
- Paterson, J. "Divorce and Desertion in the Old Testament," *Journal of Biblical Literature* LI (March, 1932), 161-70. This is a good comparison of the Old Testament with other Ancient Near Eastern law codes available at the time.
- Rex, H. H. "Attempt to Understand I Cor. 7," *Reformed Theological Review* XIV (June, 1955), 41-51. This article treats the passage in the light of celibacy as a gift and provides a possible key to understanding much of the first half of this chapter.
- Roberts, J. W. "The Veils in I Cor. 11:2-16," *Restoration Quarterly* III (1959), 183-98. The author argues that the veils are a social custom of the time having no relevance for today. The method of his argument is convincing and makes the article worth reading.
- Seboldt, R. H. A. "Spiritual Marriage in the Early Church," *Concordia Theological Monthly* XXX (Feb., 1959), 103-15, (March, 1959), 176-89. The author argues for the widespread practice of spiritual marriage as a means of understanding I Cor. 7:36-8. Ford makes this a piece for antiquarian interest.
- Swain, L. "Paul on Celibacy," *Clergy Review* LI (Oct., 1966), 785-91. The author details Paul's reasons for celibacy in I Cor. 7 and argues for their inclusion in a proper understanding of marriage. This is an important addition to marriage studies based on scripture.

#### "THESES"

- Cerling, Charles Edward, Jr. "A Wife's Submission in Marriage." Unpublished M.A. thesis, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 1968. This thesis is an exegetical study of Eph. 5:22-33 with special attention being given to the problems of submission and equality in marriage.
- Smith, Ebbie C. "The One-flesh Concept of Marriage: A Biblical Study." Unpublished Th.D. dissertation, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1961. This thesis follows Derrick Sherwin Bailey's study of the same topic quite closely, but has greater bibliographic value.
- Woodruff, Marguerite. "Underlying Factors Contributing to Paul's Teaching Concerning Women." Unpublished Th.D. dissertation, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1949. This thesis is mis-titled. It should be a comparison of Paul's teaching with Roman, Greek, and Jewish customs. If used with that purpose in mind the work is valuable.

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