

February 18, 2024  
Dr. Jay Robertson

Series: "Foundations of Christian Ministry"  
Sermon: "Holy Men and Godly Women Pursuing Gospel Unity"  
Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:8-10  
Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:3

#### Introduction

- A. Big Idea: Holy men and godly women are to pursue unity so the church will be fruitful in accomplishing her God-given mission.
- B. Crawford Baptist Church Mission Statement: We exist to glorify God by making disciples through the gospel, in community, on mission.
- C. Our five prayer goals are designed to help us fulfill the mission statement: (1) gospel unity, (2) hundreds of people saved in Mobile, (3) disciple-making disciples, (4) ten members called into gospel ministry, and (5) debt elimination.
- D. Gospel unity is essential for the church to glorify God and make disciples.
- E. Paul had written the Ephesians earlier in Ephesians 4:1-3.
- F. Memory Verse: "being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3).

#### I. Men, Do Not Be Divisive (2:8)

- A. "Holy hands" symbolize a pure heart. A pure heart is a heart cleansed by God.
- B. "without wrath and dissension"—There was division among the members of the church in Ephesus. Angry words were being spoken. The sins of anger and quarreling are especially prevalent for men.
- C. 3:2. "not pugnacious" (a giver of blows, a striker); "considerate" (forbearing and gracious); and "peaceable" (not a quarrelsome, argumentative person).
- D. Men, do not be divisive.
- E. Men, pursue gospel unity.

#### II. Women, Do Not Be Distracting (2:9-10)

- A. "Likewise" connects verse 9 back to verse 8. The male tendency was wrath and dissension. The female tendency was unhealthy concern for bodily appearance.
- B. Women should adorn themselves with modest clothing.
- C. "Adorn" means to arrange, to put in order, to make ready. Our word cosmetics comes from this word.
- D. "With modesty" means reserve in matters of sex. It describes a woman who is chaste and honorable. It implies that a woman should not dress in a seductive or suggestive manner. It also applies to a woman's demeanor, how she carries herself.
- E. "With self-restraint" suggests temperance, discretion, soundness of judgment, and self-control.
- F. "Not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly clothing"—Wealthy women in the ancient world would wear elaborately braided hair, a sign of extravagant luxury.
- G. Excessive adornment was characteristic not only of the wealthy, but also of prostitutes. Remember the temple of Artemis was in Ephesus. Church members could see the temple prostitutes hanging around outside the temple.
- H. God wants Christian women to take their stand against everything associated with sexual immorality, as well as material luxury.
- I. LET'S BE CLEAR. "What is forbidden here is not having a hair style, or owning jewelry or wearing nice clothes, but using such things immodestly or indecently. God does not want his daughters to be overly concerned about how they look" (Philip Graham Ryken).
- J. "Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears Yahweh, she shall be praised" (Proverbs 31:30).
- K. 2:10. The way to become more attractive is through godliness, not gaudiness. Good works trump decoration for women professing godliness. (1 Timothy 5:10; 1 Peter 3:3-5)

L. Women, do not be distracting.

**Conclusion**

A. Big Idea: Holy men and godly women are to pursue unity so the church will be fruitful in accomplishing her God-given mission.

B. Christian, how are we to respond to divisive men and distracting women? How are you to respond when someone has something against you or you know someone is living in unrepentant sin?

C. Matthew 5:23-24

D. Matthew 18:15-20

1. Private Correction
2. Small Group Clarification
3. Church Admonition
4. Church Excommunication

E. The GOAL of church discipline is always repentance and restoration.

F. Are YOU pursuing unity?

G. With whom do YOU need to speak?

H. The Gospel Definition