

**MAN AND WOMAN**

A SYMPOSIUM

A correspondent in Grand Island sends a query that brings up a question long debated. A number of persons have been asked to answer it, and their replies with the query are given below.

Does not the Bible teach that God created woman subject to and subordinate to man and is it not a dangerous presumption in her to claim to be his equal? Bible Student.

The Bible does not teach that God created woman to be subordinate or subject to man. It does teach that in the beginning the animal designated as man was of both sexes. It was male and female and possessed the power of procreation and reproduction. It is recorded in the first chapter of Genesis that God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."

When the Creator gave to the creature the command, "be fruitful and multiply" woman as a separate being had not appeared and unless man, as thus created, possessed the power of reproduction the command was idle. Evidently the Creator was satisfied with the man he had created, for it is recorded:

"And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good." It was man, thus created, who was placed in the garden of Eden. The companion of man whom Adam assumed to call woman was never forbidden to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil unless she was created at the same time and as a part of the man and received the command at the time it was originally given. It was after it was forbidden to eat of this tree that woman appeared as a separate and distinct being. It is not recorded in the Bible that woman was created to be subordinate or subject to man but on the contrary she was made to be his helpmeet, his assistant or companion and it was not until after both had partaken of the forbidden fruit that God said to woman, her husband should rule over her. This was the judgment or a part of the judgment pronounced against her because of disobedience of orders given before she was created as a distinct being. If woman was created with and as a part of man then she was not his subordinate. If she was created as his companion or helpmeet then she was not created to be subject to him. It is not in the Bible recorded that when God created woman as a separate being he saw his work and said it was good; such a declaration was unnecessary; the work showed for itself.

The Bible says the world was made in six days and that there was a garden of Eden and that Eve was made from Adam's rib and that woman's curse should be to be subject to man; but to the Nineteenth Century the Bible teaches none of these things, and the last no more than the first. The inherent inferiority of woman has always been a conception of man's and not of God's. Christ nowhere says anything about woman's subjection. Throughout His ministry He makes no distinction between the salvation of men and of women. Bishop Newman says He gave to a woman the key note of His whole philosophy when He said to the woman taken in adultery "Neither do I condemn thee. Go, and sin no more."

Paul, who is always quoted as authority on wives and husbands, expressly disclaims authority from God on this subject, saying he speaks from his judgment and not from God. And even Paul, after saying that man is for the glory of God and woman for the glory of man, says "Nevertheless, neither is the man without the woman neither the woman without the man in the Lord."

Rational rules of interpretation make all the difference in the world. If the Bible teaches anything on the subject, which I doubt, it teaches the absolute parity of men and women as "children of God." As for "dangerous presumption"—Bosh! T. E. WING.

The Bible most certainly does not teach that God created woman to be subordinate and subject to man. His purpose is clearly stated in Genesis 2-11-18. And the Lord God said "it is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him an help-meet for him." A help-meet, is her rightful sphere. And though placed under limitations by the curse in the garden, in so far as she is able to prove her powers as help-meet, just so far is she able to fulfill the Creator's design. If woman were intended merely to administer to the physical comfort of man, why should she be given an intellect so closely allied to his own? A creature of instincts or inferior mental endowments could well fill the place of subordinate. Mental ability in woman proves a divine purpose to make her a help-meet in a higher sense. She is man's mental counterpart—His equal—in that she is able to supply that which he lacks. Here are two sources of thought, equal under the same discipline and yet essentially different. Each the complement of the other. The growing recognition of this equality and of its possibilities can but result in a complete and higher union of man and woman. A union in which woman may show herself a help-meet indeed, and thus more nearly approach the Creator's beneficent plan.

My impression has always been that the Bible teaches the subordination of woman to man. Upon reading it with especial reference to its treatment of the woman question I find that the Israelitish nomads, the Egyptians and the Jerusalem Jews treated her and wrote of her as a companion. The Egyptian deities were male and female. But Isis was most prayed to and talked about.

In the New Testament St. Paul teaches the subjection of women. He admits that he does not know much about the subject and does not speak from inspiration, but from his own personal opinion. St. Paul had a great command of language and he wished his opinion on all important subjects of the day to go on record. He says, speaking of marriage, "But I speak this by permission and not by commandment." And "Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord; yet I give my judgment as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful." St. Paul says that woman should be subject to man because she was created after man. The Lord began by creating the simplest forms of life and proceeded to the most complex by successive stages. If he reversed his procedure when he made man and created the highest type first it is Paul's place to prove it. The seventh chapter

of Corinthians suggested Tolstoi's Kreutzer Sonata, which itself is a mixture, as the chapter is, of truth and error, good reasoning and prejudice with not a line of inspiration in it. Enough of Paul. He stands for the silence and humility of women in the New Testament. Christ liked gentle soft-voiced women like Mary, Martha's sister, and he said so, but he was wise enough not to attempt to settle the woman question. The text of the Old Testament is conflicting. When I read of Deborah and the ideal woman in the last chapter of Proverbs I conclude the question should be changed to read: Does not the Bible teach that God created man subject to and subordinate to woman, etc. etc. The Bible contradicts itself if you take it by texts. Take it altogether, "Bible Student," and you are all right. The last part of the question, viz. "Is it not dangerous presumption for her to claim to be his equal," is too vague to try to answer. "Dangerous" to man or to woman or to society? Dangerous how? If she claims to be his equal will man hit her or will she run against the furniture and bruise herself?

MARY B. BRYAN.

**MRS. DEMOREST.**

HAIR DRESSING-  
MASSAGE

THE SANITARIUM  
14th and M

HAIR GOODS  
MANICURING  
PRICES REASON-  
ABLE

Hair Work LINCOLN NEBRASKA

**TRUNKS, VALISES,**

... for summer tourists and others.

ELEGANT LINE OF POCKET  
BOOKS—CARD CASES  
and LEATHER NOVELTIES.

Repairing a Specialty.

Old Trunks in Exchange for New Ones.

LINCOLN TRUNK FACTORY. 1217 O STREET. C. A. WIRICK, PROP

**T. J Thorpe & Co.,**

GENERAL BICYCLE REPAIRERS

in a branches.

Repairing done as Neat and Complete as from the Factories at hard time prices

All kinds of Bicycle Sundries. 320 S. 11TH ST.  
Machinist and General Repair Work. LINCOLN.

**THERE'S NO USE SWELTERING**

Over a hot stove cooking picnic lunches. Deviled and other canned ham. Canned salmon, German and American cheese, domestic or imported sardines. Bottled pickles, a few lemons, some sugar, two or three loaves of bread, butter, and there you are, all ready to go. We keep them and put them up for parties better than you can put them up yourself. Every thing we keep is first class too. No "cheap" stuff and yet we sell it cheap.

**VEITH & RESS, Grocers.**  
909 O STREET.

ever it may be in the Bible, whether it was originally decreed that woman should be subordinate to man, whether the man should rule over the woman, it is evident that the prophecy in Jeremiah has been fulfilled. The new woman whom the Lord hath created has compassed man, and there can be no presumption in claiming to be able to do what she has already done.

W. MORTON SMITH

The Bible undoubtedly teaches that woman should be subservient to man, but does it say that she was, is, or ever will be? It began with Eve who wheedled Adam into eating more fruit than was good for him. Then there was Rebekah who put gloves on Jacob and deceived poor Isaac into willing his property to the wrong son. Later Rachel made poor Jacob herd sheep for her 14 years and then made him sublimely miserable after he got her. Then Sampson's wife gave away her husband's secrets which she had tortured out of him, and made her husband lose his bet. Afterwards Delilah, worked him for all he was worth and didn't even leave him his hair. David was the life long servant of every woman who looked at him, and Solomon his son, that writer of erotic poetry, was certainly no better. The Egyptian princess even made him quit his elaborate temple and worship strange gods. Jezebel ruled with a rod of iron three generations of the kings of Israel, Esther made Ahasuerus swing Haaman on a gallows fifty cubits high and give up his idea of race persecution. These are only a few of the hundred Biblical instances in which the women who were undoubtedly created subservient turned the tables. In theory the Jews maintained the superiority of man but in practice it did not always follow. Woman may be man's inferior but she makes him pay for it.

WILLA CATHER

You can't be overcharged on "Shogo" flour. Its good at any price.

Canon City coal at the Whitebreast Coal and Lime Co.

SARAH B. HARRIS.

The Bible says, Gen. 2:22 "And the rib which the Lord God had taken from man, he made a woman, and brought her unto the man." In the third chapter of Genesis, sixteenth verse it is said, "And thy desire shall be thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." These verses probably form the basis of the assumption that the Bible declares woman to be man's inferior. But the Bible is contradictory. In nearly every dispute each disputant can prove that he is right by a reference to the Bible. In Jeremiah 31:22 it is said: "For the Lord hath created a new thing in the earth. A woman shall compass a man." In Corinthians we find that the "head of the woman is the man." In Corinthians it is also said: "But the woman is the glory of the man." St. Paul teaches that it is a "shame for woman to speak in the church." How-