***Hello Valley Heights Ladies!***  Reviewing our October 8th Bible Study!

“Attitudes of a Transformed Heart”

Chapter Two – Religious Man (Woman) “Most High”

Ladies, we as women need to be seeking to call attention to the **WORTH** and **GLORY** of God! ***‘God’s*** ***heart’*** is revealed to us in the pages of scripture! **HE** chooses, **HE** calls, **HE** draws, **HE** saves, **HE** convicts of sin, **HE** grants repentance, **HE** declares who is righteous(apart from anything we have done), **HE** sanctifies... **HE** is Holy, **HE** is Wise, **HE** is Just, **HE** is Judge, **HE** is Gracious, **HE** is Compassionate, **HE** is Merciful, **HE** displayed before humankind an ***ATTITUTE of SELFLESS HUMILITY***…**HE** served, **HE** sacrificed …Revelation 5:12,13..***”WORTHY IS THE LAMB that was slain…”***

Martha Peace states that “Man Most High” (we’ll call in this review, “Woman Most High”) is an unbiblical view of mankind that is **MAN-CENTERED** (‘Religious Woman’) and **MAN-ESTEEMING** (‘Psychologized Woman’) instead of ***GOD-CENTERED*** and **GOD-ESTEEMING**. “Woman Most High” takes her quest for personal worth or goodness too far. *She “thinks more highly of herself that she ought to* *think.” (Romans 12:3)* She seeks to find worth and glory for *herself* beyond what the scriptures allows.

Martha says, this view of man, “results, nonetheless, in a ***FALSE GOSPEL*** and a wrong view of how Christians grow.”

In a nutshell, this chapter contrasts ***‘Religious Woman’s Heart’*** and how she thinks, feels and decides and ***‘God’s Heart’*** and how He thinks, feels and decides. Let’s bring this into our everyday thinking:

***‘Religious Woman’s Heart’***: is proud, arrogant, self-righteous and deceived

-she is ***“ME-centered”;*** life revolves around how everything affects her

-her Bible study is all about ***“ME”,*** her prayers are all about ***“ME”,*** her worship is all about ***“ME”,*** her “multiplied sacrifices” are all about ***“ME”*** …Isaiah 1:11-15 (hypocritical worship)

-she is ***proud***, ***conceited*** and ***selfish*** at the core of her being; looking out for her own personal interests

-she’s ***very opinionated*** and***manipulates*** to get what she wants and thinks is “right”

-she thinks she’s a submissive woman but ***she manipulates*** *her ‘religious’ passions* to get what she wants; *she is enticed by her own lusts*!

-she ***has unbiblical beliefs about God*** because she ***has been influenced*** *by the world’s wisdom and logic*

-she is **so *self-confident*** that she makes spiritual decisions based on her own standard of reasoning

-she is ***very undiscerning***; content and committed to do whatever it takes to hold onto her ‘view’

-she has learned very well how to  ***compromise***, ***rationalize*** and ***convince herself*** that something is harmless when it’s deadly and destructive Proverbs 14:12, Proverbs 16:18

-she can be ***very passionate about God***, the church and even His Word, but because ***she is self-deceived*** and ***been deceived*** she convincingly *draws others in and convinces them of her ‘religious’ opinions*

-she’s ***convinced herself*** in her own mind what is acceptable to God

-she *gives herself the benefit of the doubt* as to her ability to please God and be acceptable to Him

-she gathers around herself other ‘religious’ women that will defend and protect her ‘religious’ decisions

-she **will do anything blatant or subtle to keep and *protect her ‘god’***

**-she *knows her Bible very well*** and has been *exposed to a lot of truth*; but when her ‘god’ is threatened she either ***responds in fear or fury***

-she can be so very sweet-but *her heart ultimately is ‘desperately sick’* because she is ***trusting in herself*** and in her own abilities and righteousness to reason

-she ***thinks she is wise*** and ***discerning***, but in actuality *she has deceived herself and others*

***-she does not submit to the Lordship of Christ…***

***‘Religious Woman’ is deceived, self-righteous and proud***. She *elevates herself* and *dethrones God* and *“destroys”* the Gospel. Because of her high view of herself, she has a low view of God.

Martha says, Man ‘Woman’ is (to use a Southern expression) ***“a Mess!”*** We are proud, lovers of ourselves, and more sinful that we can even imagine. If you do not believe that you are sinful, think about the price your sin cost God -- the very life of His beloved Son, “…knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefather, ***but with precious blood***, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. 1 Peter 1:18:19”

“The only way we can ever be right with God is by His ***GRACE and MERCY*** to us since it is not within religious ‘woman’s’ ability to earn God’s favour. The focus **MUST** be on what God has done, not on what ***we think we deserve***. We are here to serve and glorify **GOD**, *NOT ourselves*.”

Ladies, we are hopelessly lost without the Lord Jesus Christ intimately invading our hearts, souls and minds! ***We were dead, but HE made us alive!*** (Eph.2:1-3) *We were blind, but HE gave us sight*!(Col.1:13) We as women need to be seeking to call attention to the **WORTH** and **GLORY of GOD**! How about you? Have you been influenced by the world’s wisdom and logic? Have you been influenced and are you continuing to be influenced by the religious systems and teachings of the evangelical ‘church’ you were from or those around you? Are you discerning? Are you really able to distinguish truth from error?

Oh ladies, does it offend you when the Bible says in 1 Timothy 2 that “And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.” ***We as women can be easily deceived!*** Let’s not be ashamed of this! *WE need to humbly chew on this awhile!* Let’s ask our Lord to bring down and demolish the walls we have erected up around us; *walls of pride*; self-protection, *walls of arrogance*; self-confidence, *walls of self-righteousness* and *walls of self-deception* as if we think as women we cannot be easily deceived. Praise be to God for our spiritual leaders! And for His transforming Grace, Holy Spirit and Holy scriptures that will complete the work He has started!

**A**ttitude adjustment? About God? About yourself?

**I**dentify the sinful attitudes that need to be repented of and ***“put off”*** and learn the God-glorifying attitudes that need to be replaced and *“put-on!”*

**M**ake time to keep *memorizing* and *meditating* on God’s Word (Philippians 2:3-5) and ask God to show you if you have been influenced to think about yourself in an unbiblical religious way. And ask God to produce in you Christ’s ***ATTITUDE of SELFLESS HUMILITY***!

“In the next chapter, we’ll see how psychologized ‘woman’ thinks and how her wrong thinking also needs to be ***“transformed by the renewing of ‘her’ mind.” Romans 12:2”***

Graciously saved from being ‘Religious Woman “Most High”’ not many years ago,

Christyn

Our next Bible Study will be Tuesday, October 22 at the Roseboom home! 9:15 a.m for coffee! 9:15 for Study! Let’s continue to pray for an opportunity this week to display Christ’s kind of love, grace, kindness and mercy!