
Words of Truth

The Power Of The Influence Of A Woman

By: Brian A. Yeager

From the very start of the creation of mankind, the influence of a woman has been a highlight in human history. When you read about the sins of Adam and Eve, you are reading about the power a woman has in the life of her husband (Genesis 3:1-24). Sometimes Eve is excused, but that is not the conclusion the Lord reached. The Lord said this: *"I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety"* (1 Timothy 2:9-15).

Women have the ability to turn men into a piece of bread (Proverbs 6:26). Women also have the ability to do good for men and even cause their husbands to be praised by others (Proverbs 31:10-31). Some men would argue that a woman would not and could not influence them. Those men are ignorant. It is a fact, and we shall see more of it, that women are and have long been a major influence in this world. Some for good. Some for evil. The question for all women is not regarding their ability to influence, but rather what will they do with that power to influence?

For Good Or For Evil

Prior to Ahab, a very evil king in the history of Israel, humbling himself notice what the prophet Elijah said to him: *"And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord. Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and made Israel to sin. And of Jezebel also spake the Lord, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat. But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work*

wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the Lord cast out before the children of Israel” (I Kings 21:20-26). Ladies, will you use your influence to “stir up” evil like Jezebel did?

The Scriptures reveal the power of women for good too. Esther was a woman taken into the palace of a heathen king. She used her influence to expose evil and save her people from being killed (Esther 5:1-9:32). Of the women in the Scriptures that are often discussed, two women are rarely brought to light. Consider the mother and grandmother of Timothy the evangelist. We learn that Timothy knew the Scriptures from his youth (II Timothy 3:15). How? Notice: *“When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also”* (II Timothy 1:5). Therefore, when you look at all the good that Timothy did as an evangelist, you have to look back at where it all started. It was not Paul, but rather his mother and grandmother that began his instruction. So, ladies, will you use your influence to help save others as did Esther, Eunice, and Lois? Do you even realize how powerful you are?

The Power Of A Woman

So many Christian women focus on the fact that they are to be submissive. That is good and right (I Corinthians 11:3-15, Ephesians 5:22-33, I Peter 3:1-7, etc.). Yet, that does not mean a woman’s influence is gone. Women, whether good or evil, are capable of many things. The wisest man on earth, prior to Christ, was turned away from God by the influence of his wives (I Kings 11:1-8). A woman’s words can be so influential that she can be likened to a deep pit that others can fall into (Proverbs 22:14). A woman can have a heart set on trapping so much that she can literally take a man (Ecclesiastes 7:26). King Herod was led to behead John, whom he feared and respected, through the influence of two women (Mark 6:14-28).

Ladies, you can be a crown to your husbands or you can make him ashamed so much that you become rottenness to his bones (Proverbs 12:4). You can be so contentious that you are like a continual dripping (Proverbs 19:13). You can be so bad of an influence that a man would be better off hiding on the roof or running into the wilderness (Proverbs 21:9; 19). You can destroy your house (Proverbs 14:1). On the other hand, you can be a good guide for your home (I Timothy 5:14) and even teach others how to be a godly woman (Titus 2:3-5). Even outside of marriage, a godly woman can be a great influence and effective servant amongst the saints (Romans 16:1-2).

Conclusion

You ladies need to think about how powerful you really are and whether or not you want to be an Esther or a Jezebel. Realize also, you’ll answer for that choice (John 5:28-29)!
