

BAPTIST WOMAN

Volume 2, Issue 2

November 2010

BWE BAPTIST WOMEN FOR EQUALITY

Apology Demanded from Council on Biblical Manhood

July 24, 2010, a group of men and women met and demanded an apology from the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood (CMBW) for their teaching that is harmful to women. **Shirley Taylor, founder of bWe Baptist Women for Equality**, presented the list of concerns and demands that was Fed-exed to the President of CMBW and to the Chairman of the Board.

The statement began with these words: "At a time in our church history that the main focus should be on winning lost souls and spreading the gospel to a hurting world, we fear for the future because the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical

Womanhood has placed a greater priority on women's submissive role rather than on the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Listed were these concerns:

We are concerned that men are being taught that they are god-like in their relationship to women within the church and home. As the mothers, wives, and daughters of these men, it is our concern that this doctrine is setting them up for failure as Christian fathers, husbands and sons;

we are concerned about the sin that evangelical church leaders commit when they deny the love of Christ fully to women simply because they were born female;



Shirley Taylor

we are concerned about the damage this causes to families when husbands and fathers are told that they have Headship over their wives and daughters;

read List of concerns page 2

What Will You be Called?

You may be hearing some words describing views about women. One is Egalitarian and the other is Complementarian. Those who believe that women are created to be equal in the home and in the church are called Egalitarian. Those who believe that every

woman is created to be eternally lower than her husband in the home and in the church, are called Complementarians. Complementarians preach that women are equal - *but*. In this publication, and on our website and on our blog, we show you

that women are created equal. There are no buts. Equal means equal. You will be called something. Your church promotes one or the other of these labels. The choice is yours.

What will you be called?

For your free downloads:

for your Free Downloads

www.bWebaptist.com

and blog

www.bwebaptistwomenforequality.wordpress.com

also download newsletter *Baptist Woman*

Free for you:

- Free download of book "Does God *Really* Prefer Men?" by Leslie and Gary Johnson
- Free download of booklet "Dethroning Male Headship - because it doesn't have a leg to stand on" by Shirley Taylor
- Free subscription to "Five Smooth Stones" newsletter at FreeCWC.com

List of concerns, continued

we are concerned about wife abuse, girlfriend abuse, and abuse to female children that takes place in many homes where evangelical men are taught that they have earthly and spiritual authority over women;

we are concerned that the children who attend churches that subscribe to the principles of The Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood will grow up not knowing the full redemptive power of the blood of Jesus for both men and women;

we are concerned for the mental and emotional development of girls and boys who attend churches that teach males have superiority over females;

we are concerned that men who are taught that they have Male Headship over a home and church do not feel that they are accountable for abusive attitudes and actions towards women;

we are concerned about the mistranslation of the scriptures by complementary translation commit-

tees and by the false teachings propagated by the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood;

we are concerned that pastors who teach and preach male domination/female subordination cannot relate in a loving, Christ-like manner to female members of their congregations because they have already judged them and found them lacking;

we are concerned that the issue of wifely submission, promoted so

heavily by the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood, is more about power and control than about love or obeying the Word of God.

Read the news story
printed in the
Associated Baptist
Press
bWeBaptist.com

Because of these concerns we demand:

We demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood acknowledge the harm that has been done to the church body by The Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood, confess it as sin, and denounce it;

we demand that denominational leaders and all churches and seminaries which have adopted The Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood do the same;

we demand a public apology from the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood, and from all heads of seminaries and Bible colleges that have adopted The Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Biblical

Womanhood, for the inestimable damage this statement has done to all Christians whose lives have been influenced by it;

we demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood begin to promote the Biblical design of functional equality for all Christians, both men and women;

we demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood begin to speak out against pastors who continue to demean women and oppress Christians by the use of The Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood;

we demand that the

Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood chastise pastors who claim that abuse of women is acceptable and justified because the wife is not submitting to the husband;

we demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood make known to every boy and every girl who attend an evangelical church, that God is their head, and that authority over another human being can come only from God;

we demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood teach men that they share equally in the burden of society's ills, and that all that is wrong with society today cannot be blamed on women;

we demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood do everything in their power to teach seminarians to show the love of Christ to both men and women;

we demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood teach pastors to be loving towards those Christian men and women who disagree with The Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood;

and, finally, for the sake of all Christians, men and women, we demand that the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood, make a public apology for the misuse of Holy Scripture as it relates to women, and cease to publish or promote The Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood.

Freedom for Christian Women Coalition

July 24, 2010, a group of men and women met at the Seneca Falls 2 Christian Women's Rights Convention and formed a new group called Freedom for Christian Women Coalition.

The founders of this group are **Shirley Taylor, founder of bWe Baptist Women for Equality**, and Jocelyn Andersen, author of *Woman! Submit* and *Woman this is WAR! Gender, Slavery and the*

Evangelical Caste System.

Their first action was to read and demand an Apology from the Council on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood for their treatment that denigrates women. See story on front page.

Recognizing that the Complementarians claim that women are equal-but, the group adopted as their logo "Equal Means

Equal. No Equal-but's."

Advocating functional equality in the church and in the home, this is a loosely affiliated network of individuals who wish to promote equality for all Believers.

Find out more at www.FreeCWC.com.

Be sure to sign up for the free newsletter "Five Smooth Stones."



Caution—Explosive content

A few weeks ago I was at the post office, packaging up some of my booklets "Dethroning Male Headship – because it doesn't have a leg to stand on" to send to Jocelyn Andersen (co-founder with me of Freedom for Christian Women Coalition www.FreeCWC.com .

I spent some time taping

down the box and then helped another woman as she taped her box. It is a small post office and there were about 5 women customers, and the male clerk.

When I proudly took my box up to the clerk for the postage, he went through his spiel "does this contain any liquid, any glass,

or anything potentially explosive?"

"Yes!" I said.

"It is a box of books promoting women's equality in the churches, and there will be some people who might explode when they read it."

There will be some people who might explode when they read it

If one is not equal—none are

Last week, a beautiful young woman sat in the plane seat beside me as we flew to Newark. As she put her carry-on bag on the floor, I got a glimpse of a book and thought I recognized the cover as being a Christian book .

So I was kind of prepared for what she said. She told me she was going on to Pennsylvania to a Christian Gospel retreat.

She is the pianist at her church.

I let that digest a little bit, and then told her that I have a ministry too, that I work very hard at.

We talked about equality for Baptist women. I explained that the church by-laws are the *Cold Heart of the Church* because it sets forth the standard that women cannot be a deacon. I

told her that the pastor didn't have to preach on it – it is written down for everybody to see.

During the course of our conversation, she said that she felt equal in her church. She is on the ministry team and felt that she was treated equally.

I asked her if her church has any female deacons. She said 'no.' I asked her if she knew why.

"The by-laws?" she said.

Yes. Those infamous by-laws that tell women that they just don't quite measure up to the men in the church.

I told her that unless every woman in her church was equal, then she was not equal.

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www.bWebaptist.com

Shirley Taylor is a former 14 1/2 year employee of Baptist General Convention of Texas. This publication is not endorsed by the Baptist General Convention of Texas (now Texas Baptists).

How you can help

If you would like to be a part of bWe Baptist Women for Equality—empowering men and women to speak out for equality for Baptist women, an endeavor to bring Southern Baptists into the 21st Century, please contact me by email. bWe Baptist Women for Equality is not an organization. Only you can bring about the change in your church. It starts with the church By-laws where it is interpreted that women are scripturally unqualified to be deacons. Each Southern Baptist church writes its own By-laws and makes its own decisions. I ask you to join me in helping our daughters and granddaughters find the freedom Jesus has promised them. Change is never easy. But it will be right.

I want to be able to walk into my church
and not feel that my church holds it against me
that I am a woman.

Join the conversation with comments on my blog

www.bwebaptistwomenforequality.wordpress.com



Equal—no but!

See what others are saying about equality for Christian women.

Join us on my blog and read the comments and post your own comments.

You'll develop a real friendship with the men and women who are willing to speak out. People who know the Bible and are not afraid to challenge those who do not allow women equality in the church and home.

You'll learn more about the Holy Scriptures through the interaction with these Christians.

New content is posted on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Mara had this to say after a particularly active day of responding to a reader:

"I'm going to be mostly away from my computer for the next 2-4 days.

On the outside chance that Daniel takes me up on the challenge I issued and responds (sincerely doubt it, but, hey, he could surprise us all) I'm going to have to bow out and let you all, and whosoever else following this thread, answer him and talk about what he found.

I can trust you three especially since you all have a far better grasp on the Bible languages than I do.

Thanks gang,

From Mara, who wishes work wouldn't get in the way of the fun stuff, like debating with misguided comps on Shirley's blog."