



# 1 Corinthians

## CHAOS, CULTURE, COMMUNITY, AND COMMUNION

### 1 Corinthians 11

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#### BIG PICTURE

In 1 Corinthians 11-14, Paul is concerned with the worship life of the church in Corinth. There was some level of both chaos and confusion with regards to cultural considerations, communal vitality, and the practice of the *charismata* (spiritual gifts) when the Corinthians came together to worship.

#### THE NEW TESTAMENT AND WOMEN

- Acts 2:14-21 - Pentecost was the fulfillment of the prophecy given to Joel (Joel 2:28-32) concerning the "last days"
- Men and Women received the Holy Spirit
- Men and Women received the sign of the New Covenant - Baptism
- Acts 9:36 - Dorcas served the church at Lydda
- Acts 16:14-15 - Lydia was a businesswoman convert to Christ
- Acts 18:24-28 - Both Priscilla and Aquila corrected the theolog of Apollos
- Acts 21:9 - Philip had 4 daughters who were prophets
- Romans 16:7 - Paul mentions Junia as "outstanding" among the apostles
- Romans 16:12 - Paul mentions 3 women, Tryphena, Tryphosa, and Persis as women who worked hard in the Lord
- Philippians 4:2-3 - Paul refers to Euodia and Syntyche who have contended at his side
- Colossians 4:15 - Paul greets Nymph and the church that meets in her home
- Romans 16:1 - Paul commends Phoebe, a deacon in the church in Cencreae
- John 4; Matthew 15:21-28; John 11:21-27: Jesus broke with rabbinic tradition and had significant conversations with women
- Luke 8:1-3 - Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and other women traveled with Jesus and financially supported His ministry
- Mary Magdalene, Mary, Salome, and Joanna were the first witnesses of the empty tomb of Jesus

### 1 CORINTHIANS 11:2-16

- Cultural Considerations - Shame/Honor culture, patriarchal setting, house churches
- Acknowledgment of different roles
- Acceptance of interdependent relationships
- Awareness of public witness

### 1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-34

- The value and meaning of The Lord's Supper
- The unity of the church vs. the divisive social stratifications