

# THE BOOK OF 1 TIMOTHY

**Respecting Distinctions  
Between Men &  
Women In The Church**  
(1 Timothy 2:8-15)

# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women



- Introduction / Greeting (1:1-7)
  - ▶ Jesus Christ OUR Hope (1:1,2)
  - ▶ The value & necessary commitment to the doctrine of Christ (1:3-7)
- The Lawful Use of the Law (1:5-11)
  - ▶ God's Law produces love, a good conscience, sincere faith, cause division & strife (5-7)
  - ▶ The Law is good, but it must be used correctly (8-11)
- Paul : A Pattern (1:12-17)
  - ▶ If Paul can be saved ANYONE can be saved!



# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women



- It appears that this section extends to chapter 3:15, which is talking about how a person is to behave in God's household, (i.e., the church).
- ▶ The reference to kings and rulers may refer to an old controversy among Jews about prayers in public worship for heathen rulers.
- ▶ What is written in 2:9-12 seems to fit a public circumstance better than a private devotion.
- ▶ Though the public assembly of worship is primarily in view, the principles have application elsewhere as well.



# 1 Timothy 2:8–15 (NKJV)

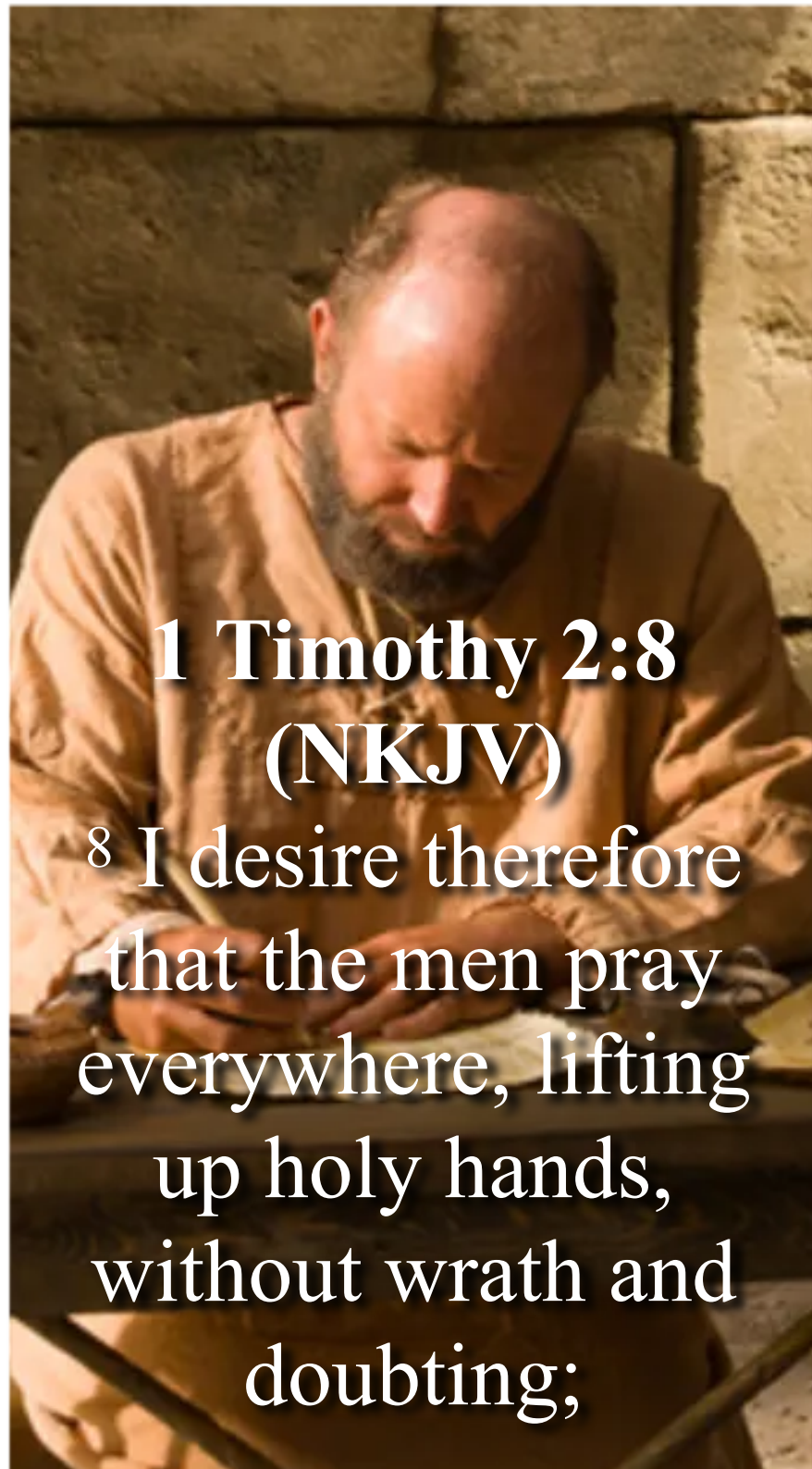
<sup>8</sup> I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; <sup>9</sup> in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, <sup>10</sup> but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works. <sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.

# 1 Timothy 2:8–15 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. <sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve. <sup>14</sup> And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. <sup>15</sup> Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.



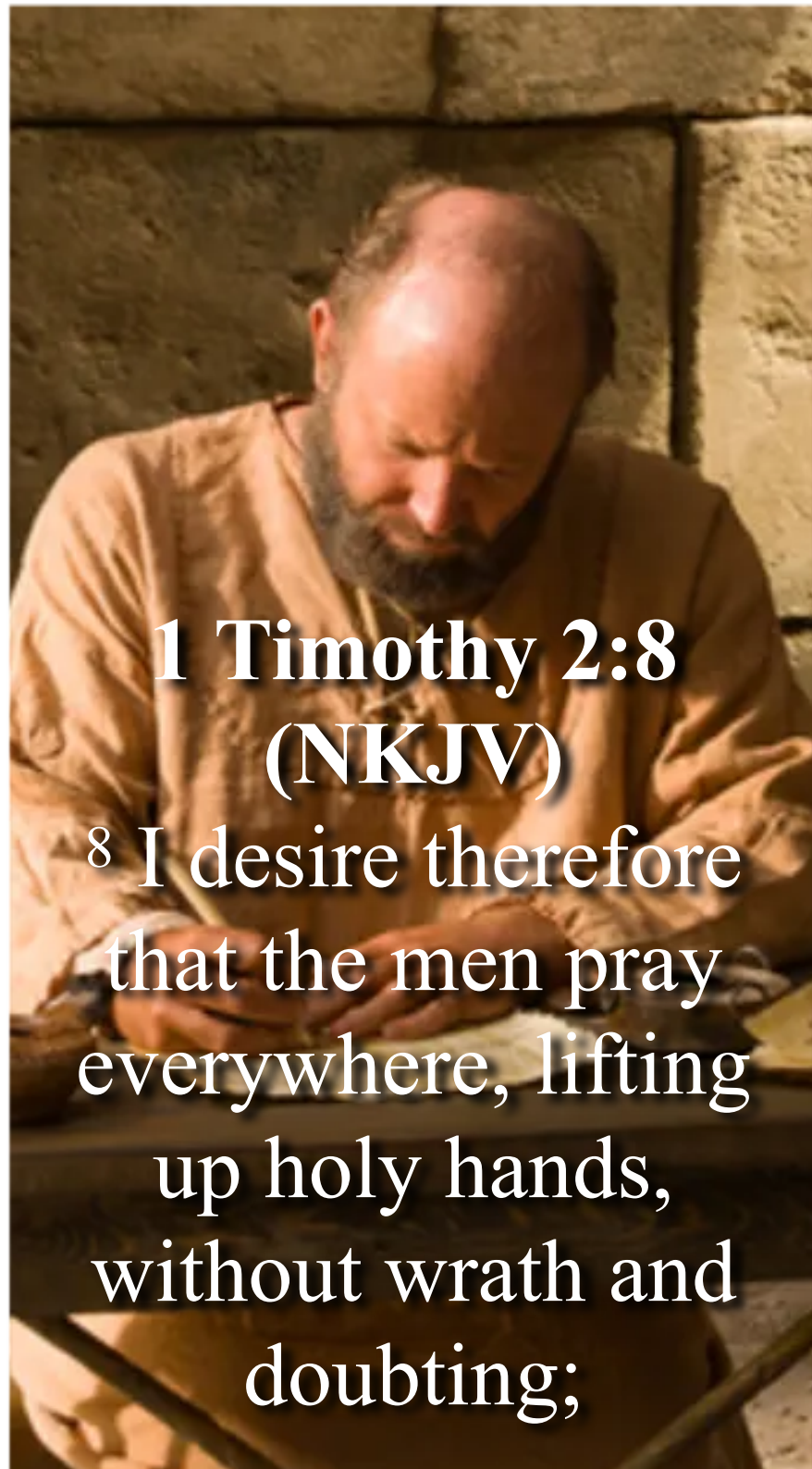
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- **“I desire”**: The word will (boulomai), desire (NKJV; ASV), in this verse differs from the word will (thelō) in v. 4. The word in verse 8 is stronger and should be understood as a command or order rather than an appeal from emotion. (see *Willis, Truth commentary*, pg. 70)
- **“Therefore”** : After setting forth reasons for praying for all men (vv. 3-7), Paul here resumes with the subject of prayer formerly introduced (v. 1).



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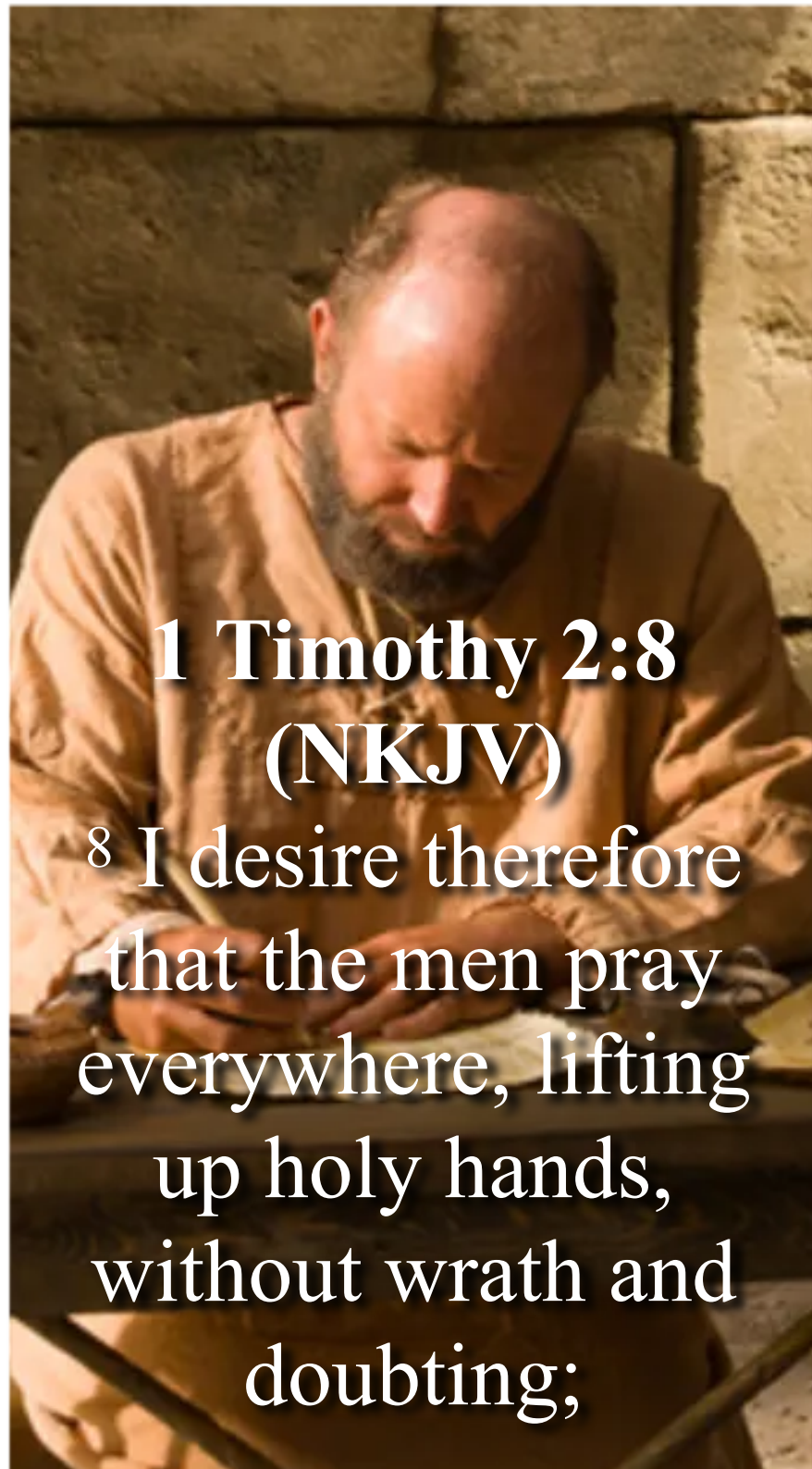
**1 Timothy 2:8  
(NKJV)**

**<sup>8</sup> I desire therefore  
that the men pray  
everywhere, lifting  
up holy hands,  
without wrath and  
doubting;**

- **“that the men pray”**: the term “men” (anēr) refers to males in contrast with women, not the generic term (anthrōpos) humanity, men & women.
- **“everywhere”** : contradicts the notion that prayers offered in temples were more acceptable to God than prayers offered anywhere else. The early church met in all sorts of places, thus we have the statement “in every place”. This would include, wherever Christians meet.



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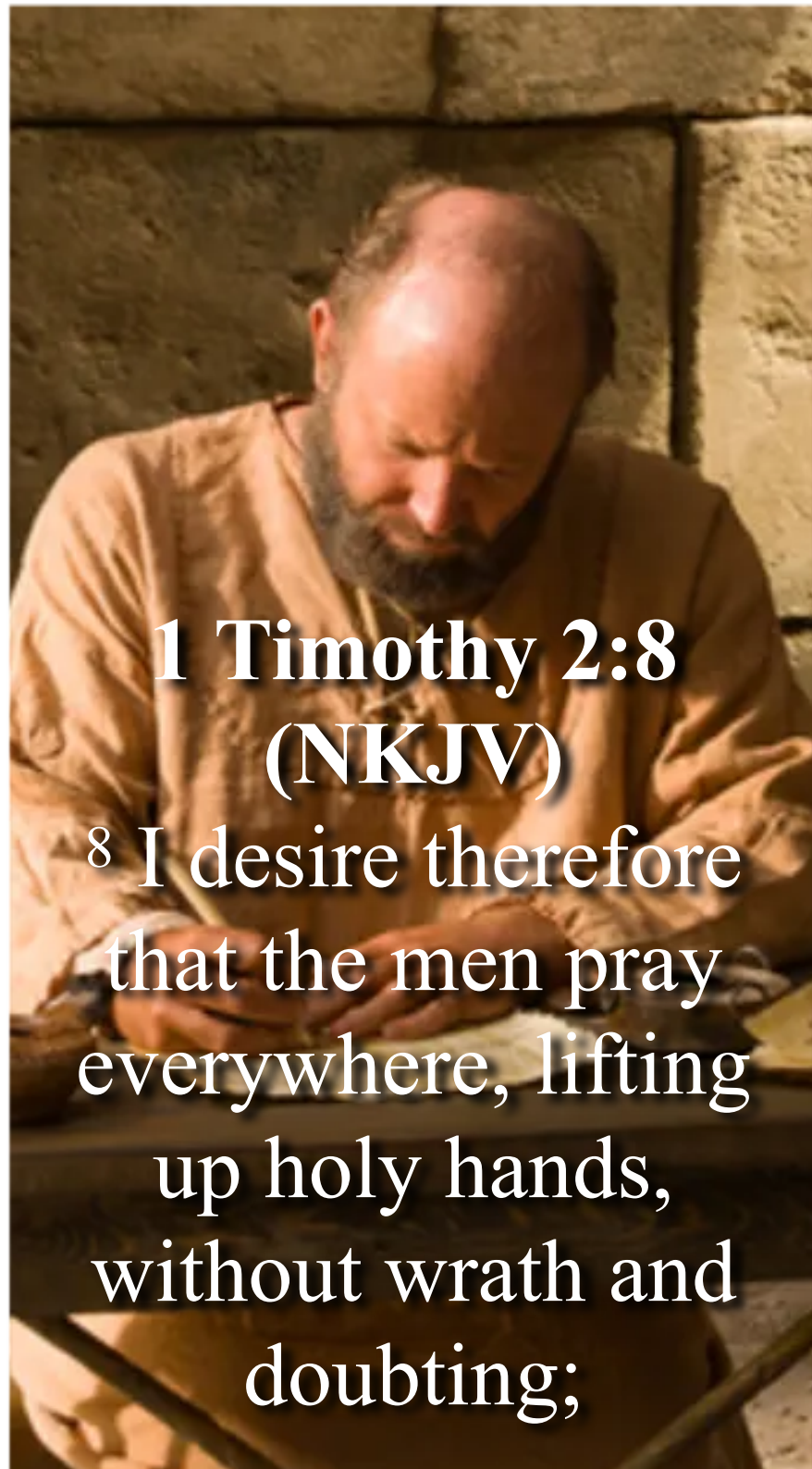


■ **“lifting up holy hands”**: This was a common posture in prayer (Nehemiah 8:6; 1 Kings 8:22; 2 Chronicles 6:12), yet was not the only posture in prayer, (kneeling: Psalm 95:6; Daniel 6:10; Luke 22:41; Acts 9:40; prostration: Matthew 26:39; 17:6).

► Men leading such prayers need to be men living pure lives, that is, having hands undefiled by sin. (Psalm 24:4; 28:2; James 4:8; Isaiah 1:15).



# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women



**1 Timothy 2:8  
(NKJV)**

**<sup>8</sup> I desire therefore  
that the men pray  
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- **“without wrath ...”**: prayers should be offered without any expression of anger towards men, or God (Mt. 5:44-48; Ro. 12:12-21; Jam. 1:19). Wrath” would include the unwillingness to forgive those who repent (Matthew 18:21-35; Matthew 6:14-15; Ephesians 4:31-32).
- **“without ... doubting”**: “Prayer, according to our writer is to be without the element of skeptical criticism, whether of God’s character and dealings, or of the character and behaviour of those for whom prayer is offered.” — Vincent (cf. James 1:6-8)



# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is seated and writing on a scroll with a quill. The background is a textured, stone-like wall.

## 1 Timothy 2:9 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> in like manner also,  
that the women  
adorn themselves in  
modest apparel, with  
propriety and  
moderation, not with  
braided hair or gold  
or pearls or costly  
clothing,

- **“in like manner also”**: As the men were to follow the instructions given to them regarding leading in prayer, the women likewise are to follow carefully the instructions about to be given to them” (Dewelt p. 53).
- **“that the women adorn themselves”** : apparel must be assembled with thought of being proper, congruous with, fitting to, and consistent with what she is, a child of God (cf. vs. 10)
- **“in modest apparel”**: Denotes reverence, respect, and a sense of shame. “This is that modesty which is ‘fast’ or rooted in the character” (Vine p. 17).



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- **“with propriety”**: “the feeling of respectful timidity in the presence of superiors, ...” (Vincent)
- **“and moderation”** : (self-control ESV) “sobriety (sōphrosunē) “soundness of mind, self-control, sobriety. The word speaks of the entire command of the passions & desires, a self-control which holds the reins over these” (Wuest).
- **“not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing”**: (cf. 1 Pe. 3:3) It is NOT wrong for Christian women to wear jewelry or wear nice things, but outward adornment is NOT to be emphasized or worn to stand out and draw attention.



# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women



**1 Timothy 2:10  
(NKJV)**

**<sup>10</sup> but, which is  
proper for women  
professing godliness,  
with good works.**

- **“but, which is proper for women professing godliness”**: appropriate, fitting, seemly — “The word godliness, contrary to the opinion of some, does not mean godlikeness, but rather “denotes that piety which, characterized by a Godward attitude, does that which is well-pleasing to Him” (Vine).
- **“with good works”** : “Rather than depending on what she herself simply puts on the outside, the ultimate adornment is a life of good works (loving service) which she puts on” (Reese p. 66)



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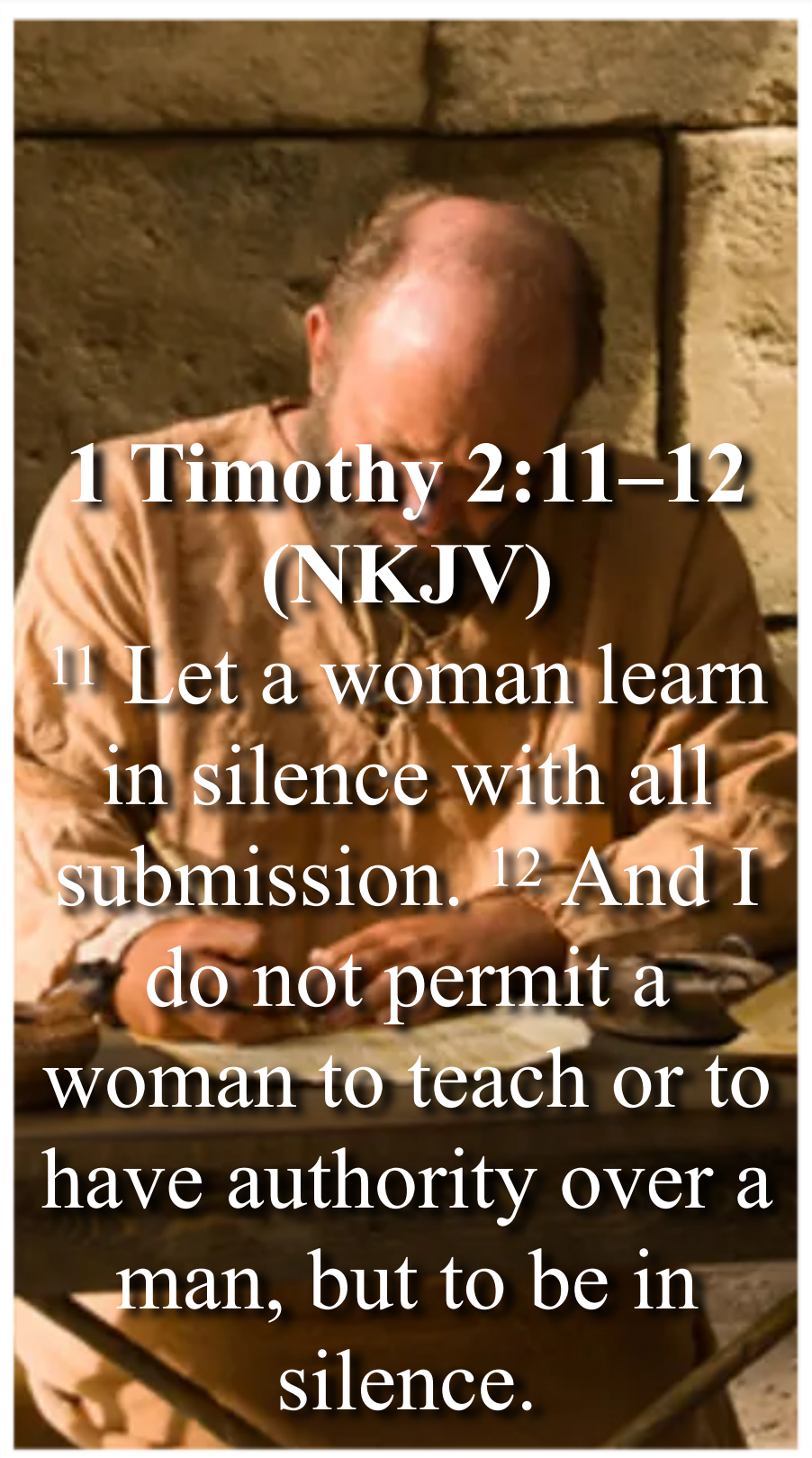
## 1 Timothy 2:11–12 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. <sup>12</sup> And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

- **“Let a woman learn in silence”**: The word here does not refer to a complete absence of speaking, but to an attitude, a spirit, and a disposition. This same word is used in 1 Timothy 2:2 to describe a quiet and tranquil life, see also 2 Thess. 3:12. Women are not to be in positions of public teaching. (vs. 12; 1 Cor. 14:34-38)
- **“with all submission”** : “She is not teaching, but she is learning. She is to respect and honor God’s order of authority among His people (1 Cor. 14:34) — This distinction is in role & function, not in value or intelligence.



# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women



## 1 Timothy 2:11–12 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. <sup>12</sup> And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

- Some have tried to argue that a woman can preach as long as the men of the congregation give her permission, yet God has already overruled the men of the congregation in the above verse, “I do not permit”.
- Others have argued that a woman can preach as long as she does not exercise authority over the men. The problem with this view is that preaching and teaching are inherently authoritative acts (Acts 13:1; Ephesians 4:11). The preacher or teacher is assuming a role that has authority (Titus 2:15).



# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women

■ The reason for this instruction is **NOT** merely cultural or non-applicable today :

- ▶ While Adam sinned (Romans 5:12), Adam was not deceived by what the serpent said. When Adam sinned, he did it deliberately, knowing full well what he was doing.
- ▶ Adam forsook his role, and Eve assumed the role of leader and head. Both violated their positions, and the world has never been the same since.

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is seated and writing in a book with a quill. He is looking down at the book. The background is a stone wall.

**1 Timothy 2:13–14**  
**(NKJV)**

<sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve. <sup>14</sup> And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.



# Respecting Distinctive Roles of Men & Women



**1 Timothy 2:15  
(NKJV)**

**15 Nevertheless she  
will be saved in  
childbearing if they  
continue in faith,  
love, and holiness,  
with self-control.**

## ■ The woman's role is necessary and valuable :

- ▶ God, in bringing to pass the great scheme of redemption used woman and the act of childbearing as a means to bring salvation to mankind (cf. Gen. 3:15).
- ▶ “Child bearing” stands for woman's appointed role. Not that she must have children, but that her salvation, (Acts 16:14,15), depends upon her acceptance and continuance within the role God has placed her (5:13).
- ▶ She must remain faithful (5:10)







# THE BOOK OF 1 TIMOTHY

## **Respecting Distinctions Between Men & Women In The Church** (1 Timothy 2:8-15)

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# 1 Corinthians 14:34–38 (NKJV)

<sup>34</sup> Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but *they are* to be submissive, as the law also says. <sup>35</sup> And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church. <sup>36</sup> Or did the word of God come *originally* from you? Or *was it* you only that it reached? <sup>37</sup> If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. <sup>38</sup> But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant.