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WOMENS LIB. AND THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

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"The Protestant Faith"

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Women's Lib. is one of the features of life today. Many women are reacting vigorously against the position their sex finds itself in in our social structure, which is the result of male egotism if not down right injustice. Men have taken advantage of women's physical weakness and women are combining to set this right. But both the cause and the cure are on the wrong lines. God has made men and women to serve one another and he himself has set the example in the life of Jesus. If male egotism and self-centredness thrust women down this is wrong. But it is a wrong method to try to correct this by demanding rights. It is not only contradictory to the example of Jesus, but it cannot succeed. To obtain your objective by the method of demanding your rights, you have to be strong. When both sexes are thinking about their rights the stronger will get the lot. Look at other civilisations beyond christendom. In all of them, both ancient and contemporary, women are depressed and men lord it over them. If men and women are to live happily together it can only be through following strictly the example of Christ who reflects the way of life that God has created for men and women, for Jesus was God with us, our example to follow. The key of his life is self-forgetfulness and service of others. At no point did he ever assert any rights that he might have had. He came not to be served but to serve, and in this selfish world this led to his death, most unjustly, but it has been the way of triumph and blessing to the whole of humanity. Jesus lived the life of perfect obedience to the will of God in all his relationships both with God and his fellow man. We ought to live this perfect life of obedience but we do not. He lived it on our behalf. He underwent willingly the consequences of that obedience, that is having all his rights trampled on, even the right to life. He did this on our behalf. By resisting every temptation to deviate from what was right, he overcame sin and satan, as we ought to but do not. He identified himself with us and he underwent in his death the eternal consequences of sin, namely, separation from the Holy God. This penalty which all of us deserve,

he experienced for us, though underserving it. In everything he was perfect, perfectly obedient to God, and perfectly fulfilling our obligations and accepting our deservings. And through this obedience he has restored to God's fellowship, on the basis of forgiveness, all who recognize their own shortcomings, and see that he is the truth and that his way of life is right and that he is Lord. God raised him from death because of the perfection of his life. Death had no claim on him. It was only God himself who could live this life for us and Jesus was God with us, giving us the perfect example of how we should react in our unjust environment by serving one another and so serving God. He has become the Saviour of all who recognize him as Lord and who call on him for forgiveness and reconciliation to God. He is the example for how we should react when we find ourselves, whether we are men or women, in situations which are unjust to us. If we accept this fact that he is our perfect example, and are sorry for our self-assertion and our disobedience he becomes our Saviour, restoring us to fellowship through his Spirit now and for eternity, for death has been conquered by goodness and death cannot now ever break this new fellowship that we have with him.

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