

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The text is centered on a white background within this design.

Covenant City Church Women's Ministry Meeting

Saturday, August 19th, 2017

Presenter: Dr. Valerie Kerr

LAYING THE FOUNDATION

Isaiah 55:9

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

Romans 12:2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

James 4:4

Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

John 14:30

I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler (prince: KJV) of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.

Proverbs 14:12; 16:25

There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

1 John 5:3

For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

CONSENSUS

- ▶ Two cultures working in opposition to each other

- ▶ KINGDOM OF GOD ↔ God rules

- ▶ Kingdom of this world ↔ Satan rules

- ▶ Constitution

- ▶ - a set of rules that outline the accepted behaviour, the norms, principles, values to which the kingdom's citizens will adhere.

- ▶ Kingdom of God's culture is a counter-culture to the world's culture.

Counter-Culture

▶ EXAMPLES

- ▶ Forgive your enemies
- ▶ The greatest must become the least
- ▶ The first shall be last and the last first
- ▶ Overcome evil with good
- ▶ Turn the other cheek
- ▶ The foolish things of the world put to shame the wise
- ▶ Weak things put to shame things which are mighty

AVOID WORLDLY WISDOM

▶ 1 Cor. 3:18-20

Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, “He catches the wise in their own craftiness”; and again, “The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.”

▶ N.B. LINKS BACK TO “There is a way that seems right to a man.....”

**CARNAL
NATURE**



**NEW
MAN**



TRANSFORMATION

Ephesians 5:26-27

That He (Christ Jesus) might sanctify and cleanse her (the church) with washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

(Inserts mine)

Problem Statement (MALADY/HEALTH ISSUE)

MAN UP:WOMAN UP

▶ 2017 CCC THEME

- ▶ Repairing the Breach in the Family & Our Nation

▶ A MAJOR BREACH (MOST CRITICAL??)

- ▶ Breakdown in the relationship between male and female

▶ Most critical in the context of the family

▶ FAMILY

- ▶ Moulds us

- ▶ Prepare us to operate in the world

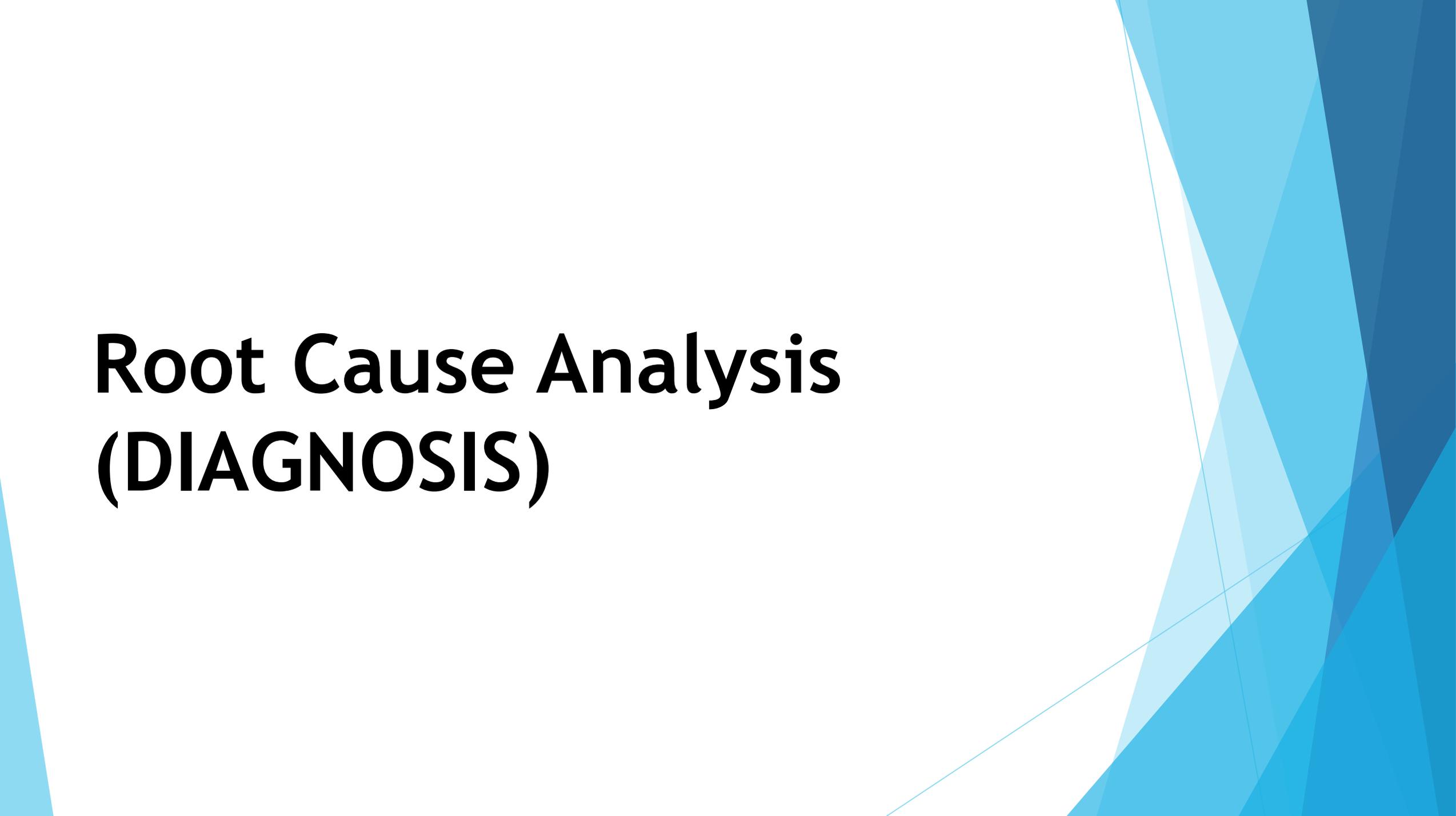
- ▶ Fashions our perspectives, attitudes, values, principles

- ▶ Training camp

Purpose (HEALTH OUTCOME)

- 1. To bring recognition that there is a problem;**
- 2. To convict us of our contribution to the problem;**
- 3. To create a sense of urgency that there is a need for change; and**
- 4. To pave the way toward transformation.**

Root Cause Analysis (DIAGNOSIS)

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a modern, dynamic aesthetic.

▶ **Family History:**

- ▶ War of the sexes from the time of Adam and Eve.
- ▶ Man immediately blamed the woman.

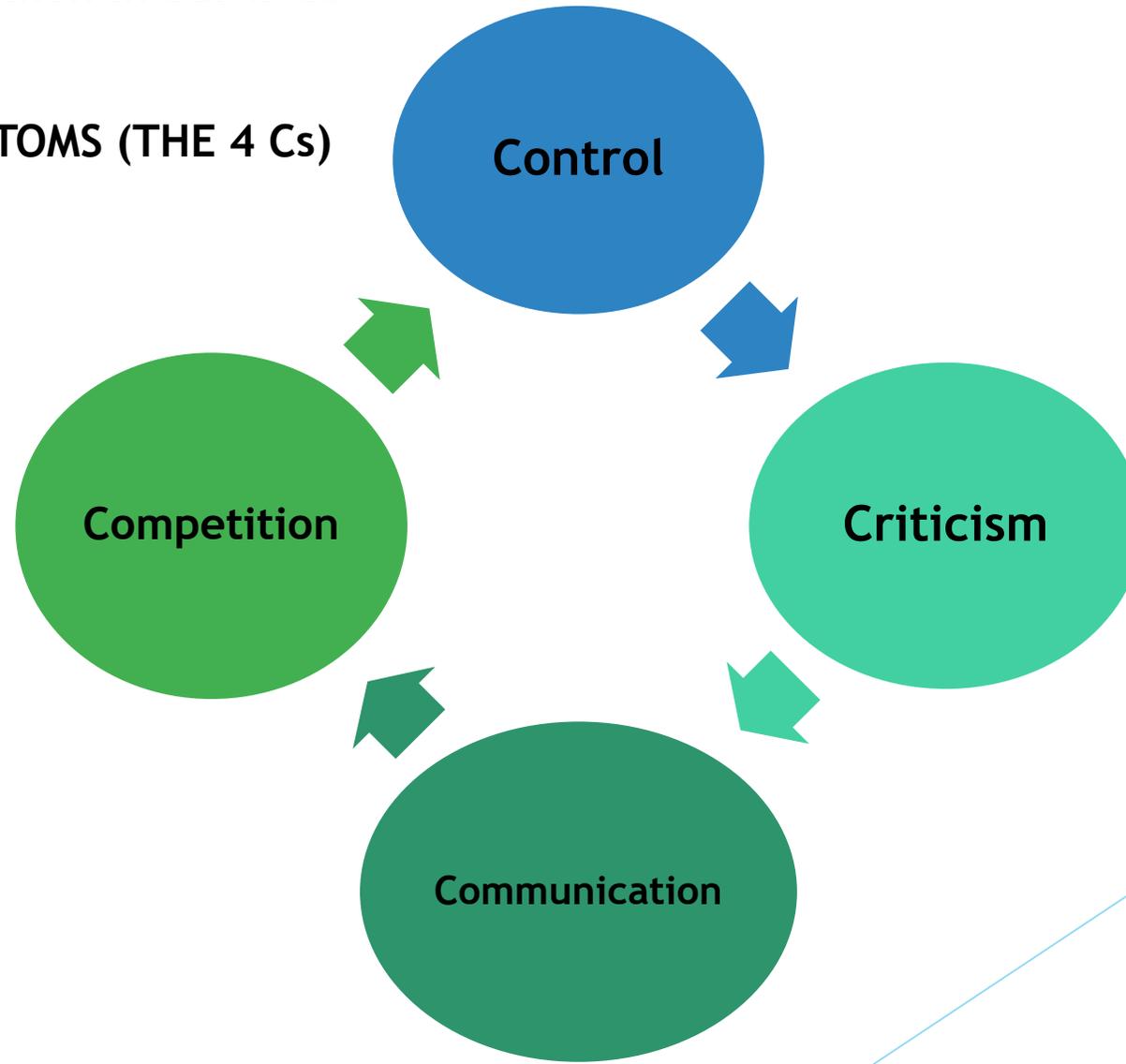
▶ **Biological Predisposition:**

- ▶ Men and women wired differently.
- ▶ Men are visionaries - see the big picture.
- ▶ Women are nurturers and administrators - deal with the details.
- ▶ This brings us into continual conflict if we allow our natural human tendencies to have dominion.

▶ Signs & Symptoms:

▶ Indicators that there is a health issue that needs to be addressed in our interaction with the men in our lives

▶ 4 KEY SIGNS & SYMPTOMS (THE 4 Cs)



1. CONTROL

- ▶ We have all been wired with leadership potential

Genesis 1:28

Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” (emphasis mine)

- ▶ **DOMINION**

- ▶ Prevail against
- ▶ Reign and rule over
- ▶ Subjugate

1. CONTROL

- ▶ Leadership as God intended it
(amongst humans)

Matthew 23:11

But he who is the greatest among you shall be your servant.

1. CONTROL

- ▶ God gave woman to man to be a “helper comparable to him” (Gen. 2:18, NKJV)
- ▶ WHO NEEDS HELP?
- ▶ Someone who is not all-sufficient
- ▶ Has some deficiency
- ▶ Does not have all the answers
- ▶ WHO CAN GIVE HELP?
- ▶ Someone who is able to provide what another person needs

1. CONTROL

▶ CONCLUSION

▶ Women have something that men need

▶ Gifts from God

▶ To be used responsibly

1. CONTROL

▶ 2 IRRESPONSIBLE APPROACHES

▶ Exert independence

▶ Manipulate

Not mutually exclusive

2. CRITICISM

- ▶ **GIFT FROM GOD - An eye for detail**
- ▶ **GIFT PERVERTED - A critical spirit**
- ▶ **A weapon of mass destruction**
- ▶ **Insecurity**

2. CRITICISM

- ▶ *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit. (Prov. 18:21)*
- ▶ *A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit. (Prov. 15:4)*

2. CRITICISM

- ▶ *A continual dripping on a very rainy day And a contentious woman are alike; (Prov. 27:15)*
- ▶ *It is better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.” (Prov. 25:24)*

3. COMMUNICATION

- ▶ **Constructive criticism but said with the wrong attitude & motive**
- ▶ **Not communicating our feelings**
- ▶ **Devaluing image, disparaging remarks**
- ▶ **Silent treatment**

4. COMPETITION

- ▶ God advocates for collaboration**
- ▶ A spirit of unity (Ps. 133:1)**
- ▶ Competition breeds conflict, infighting, win-lose rather than win-win**

WHY THE 4 Cs??

- ▶ **Need for love, care, security and to be valued**
- ▶ **Unrealistic expectations of our men**
- ▶ **Vulnerability, unloved, undervalued**
- ▶ **4 Cs are our defense mechanism**

EFFECT OF THE 4 Cs??

- ▶ **Vicious cycle**
- ▶ **The very attributes we want to see in our men is hindered because of the hostile environment**
- ▶ **Men - fear, intimidation, anxiety, incapacity (silent dread)**

EFFECT OF THE 4 Cs??

- ▶ ***For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, And what I dreaded has happened to me. (Job 3:25)***

God's Prescription (REMEDY/TREATMENT

God's Divine Order

- ▶ ***But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man; and the head of Christ is God. (1 Cor. 11:3)***

GOD

```
graph TD; GOD[GOD] --- Christ[Christ]; GOD --- Man[Man]; GOD --- Woman[Woman];
```

Christ

Man

Woman

But woman is the glory of man. For man is not from woman, but woman from man. Nor was man created for the woman, but woman from the man.....Nevertheless, neither is man independent of woman, nor woman independent of man, in the Lord. For as woman came from man, even so man also comes through woman; but all things are from God. (1 Cor. 11:7b-9, 11-12)

*Wives, submit to your own husbands, **as to the Lord**. For the husband is head of the wife, as Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. (Eph. 5:22-29)*

*Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so **love his own wife** as himself, and let the wife see that she **respects her husband**. (Eph. 5:33) (emphasis mine)*

*Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some **do not obey the word**, they, **without a word**, may be **won by the conduct** of their wives, when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. Do not let your adornment be merely outward – arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel – rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who **trusted in God** also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the **weaker vessel**, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered. (1 Pet. 3:1-7)*

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Gal. 3:26-28)

*Obey those who rule over you, and be
submissive, for they watch out for your
souls, **as those who must give
account.** Let them do so with joy and
not with grief, for that would be
unprofitable for you. (Heb. 13:17)
(emphasis mine)*

Proverbs 31 Woman

- ▶ Had skills, abilities, creativity, influence, exercised initiative
- ▶ Recognized that all of this was given to her by God
- ▶ All given not for her benefit but for the benefit of those God required her to care for
- ▶ Her husband could safely trust in her
- ▶ Her support/help cause him to be known in the gates and to occupy a position of authority
- ▶ Supporting him was good for the whole family and the nation.
- ▶ **MEEKNESS** - power under control

Applying the Remedy

- ▶ **God honours obedience to His Word**
- ▶ **Have to read His Word and allow it to transform us**
- ▶ **The Word inside of us empowers the Holy Spirit to work with us to strengthen us with might in the inner man.**
- ▶ **Word not always easy to digest**
- ▶ **If we love Him we will keep His commandments (John 14:15)**
- ▶ **There is great reward in following God's prescribed way**

▶ *For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You! (Psa 84:11-12)*

▶ Put God to the test

▶ Malachi 3:10-11 - “Prove Me”

▶ God is true to His Word

▶ He watches over His Word to perform it.

▶ He is ever faithful, ever loving, ever gracious and ever merciful