

WHY WE MUST TESTIFY

A basic definition of a testimony is to declare or acknowledge under oath. When we stand on the altar of God and testify we are showing a personal experience with God. It is a declaration of what God has done for us that will encourage others to continue in the faith, (**Ps 145:10-12**). In fact, it is just as important for the testifier to speak, as it is for those to bear witness to it, (**1Tim 6:12; 1 Tim 4:16**). Since a testimony is so important to our salvation, the Lord has given specific instructions to what must be included in it, (**1 Cor 14:26; Col 3:16**). Each component is different but are integral parts that work together forming a perfect offering to God and to the church. These parts are; doctrine, revelation, song/psalm, interpretation, tongue.

Doctrine: A simple basic principal that is fundamental to our belief for edification of the church.

Revelation: This is anything that was hidden or unknown and suddenly revealed for the edification of the church.

Interpretation: The explanation of doctrine, scripture, or revelation for the edification of the church.

Song/Psalm: This is our sincere praise of God for the edification of the church.

Should women testify in the church? A testimony is our offering unto God; therefore all of God's children including men, women and children must bring their offering unto the Lord. When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, Eve lost her equality with Adam. When God created Eve by taking a rib from Adam's side she became woman and they were made one flesh, (Gen 2:23-24). During the days of Israel, women had great influence and leadership, such as Miriam who helped lead the children of Israel with Moses and Aaron out of Egypt, (Micah 6:4). And Deborah, a judge and prophetess who rode into battle with Barak helped Israel to win, (Judges 4:1-9). During the days of Paul, who went to the Gentiles to bring them the gospel, the women did not speak while the churches were being established. In Paul's writings he addressed problems specific to each of the churches. The church of the Corinthians had a problem with disorder during their services that he addressed. Everyone wanted to speak with other tongues at the same time. Also, the temple of Aphrodite (Venus) was in Corinth with thousands of temple prostitutes. The women were affected with some of these beliefs, being unlearned and ignorant of the truth, but having influence over men. Paul silenced them in the church, instructing them to be taught at home by their husbands. However in the lasts days, God will do a new thing in the earth, a woman shall compass a man, (Jeremiah 31:22). They will regain their equality with man as in the beginning. Therefore all of God's children must come before the altar of God and bring their offering to be accepted by him.