

Liberated

Liberated
Spirit, Soul, and Body

CAROL L. TILLERY

The logo for Redemption Press features a stylized black wave with a single leaf-like shape rising from its center.

REDEMPTION
PRESS

© 2006 by Carol L. Tillery. All rights reserved.
2nd Printing 2015.

Published by Redemption Press, PO Box 427, Enumclaw,
WA 98022.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any way by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording or otherwise—without the prior permission of the copyright holder, except as provided by USA copyright law.

Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by the International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. The “NIV” and “New International Version” trademarks are registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by International Bible Society.

Scripture references marked KJV are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

Scripture references marked (AB) are taken from the Amplified Bible or marked (KJ) from the King James Bible.

Scripture references marked NASB are taken from the New American Standard Bible, © 1960, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

ISBN 13: 978-1-63232-906-6

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 2005908594

Table of Contents

Foreword.....	vii
Acknowledgements.....	xiii
Chapter 1: What Is A Covering?	15
Chapter 2: The Joy of Submission	25
Chapter 3: Authority of Meekness.....	39
Chapter 4: Rights—World’s or God’s	47
Chapter 5: Wisdom is Joy	55
Chapter 6: Staying Liberated	63
Chapter 7: Free at Last!	73

Foreword

In recent years the Women's Liberation Movement has taken on much prominence both in the Christian community and in the secular community. There have been many articles both for and against. The question that is before each woman is what and how to choose, and upon what will each of us base that choice. This decision is a personal one between you and God, because God gave each of us a free will that we may make a conscious decision. Let's look at what is being said by the Equal Rights Amendment and its advocates.

The Equal Rights Amendment is not something new, but was first introduced to Congress in 1923 by Alice Paul through the efforts of the National Women's Party. The goal of this party was to work for total equality for women. The most prominent group in this current movement is called the National Organization for Women (NOW). In coalition with other women's

liberation groups, they claim to work for strict enforcement of laws and regulations that promote women's equality. Most of these groups call for better childcare facilities that would free mothers to work outside the home. Some groups are demanding that abortion be legalized without restrictions so that every woman can decide for herself whether or not to bear a child. Many women's groups insist that the abbreviation "Ms" rather than "Miss" or "Mrs." should be used before women's names. They believe there is no reason to the different titles for married and unmarried women.

Some women's groups think that women will achieve equality only through basic changes in society. These groups say men should help with housework and child care to free women for outside work. They believe such sharing of tasks would result in relationships between men and women based on mutual interests, respect, and affection, rather than on men's economic and physical dominance.

By secular standards this is what they believe and fight for, but it is not God's standards or His best for women or men. In researching the Equal Rights Amendment two obvious shortcomings arise. The first is that women are focusing on the personalities of the leaders and their goals rather than on the actual amendment and its goals. The Equal Rights Amendment has haunted the nation since 1923 and there is still confusion about its necessity. Secondly, and of more importance to the Christian community, is that it completely neglects God and His plan for women. It fails to recognize the rights and privileges granted to women in God's Word,

the Bible, which are already embodied in this nation's constitution.

It can be said that an amendment for equal rights is a new articulation of previously stated rights under which we are being governed.

An Equal Rights Amendment is superfluous. What is needed for women is the wherewithal to develop their self-esteem according to God's Word. Women must learn how to embrace the privileges granted them since the time of Eve. Thus far women have only entertained these privileges but never fully understood or exercised them and therefore have been totally frustrated by their own inadequacies.

God wants the best for His daughters. In today's society, where deception and blindness prevail, Satan engulfs women but God brings forth the light according to His Word, and based on His Word we, as God's daughters, can make the right choice that leads to being liberated in spirit, soul and body.

God liberated women long before the ERA ever was conceived and it is by knowing what His Word, the Bible, has to say that we can make the right choices that face us today. It is also how we can be the most influential witness to women in all walks of life around us.

I remember when I would try to make a point of something I wanted to really get across to my kids, they would, nine times out of ten, turn me off but it is when I could make a statement of what I believe without saying a word that I make an impression and could change lives. This is also when you are asked to explain your philosophy of life.

If you take all of the Movement and examine the lives of the women in authority over it, you will find it is like the apple offered to Eve. It is only another deceptive trick of Satan to rob you of your rights in Christ Jesus and to put you in the bondage of Satan.

One of the things I see lacking in the ERA Movement is love, except for the love of self-gain, which is not of God. Whenever I have read or seen anything about the ERA Movement, it is an attempt to make the woman dissatisfied with her position in the home, or if she works, her job. Jesus did not set you free and liberate you for His ego or self-gain, but because He loves you and He desires nothing more of you than for you to love Him. As you submit to that love you will find the nature of God being developed more and more in you. As that nature is developed you will walk more and more in authority and victory of Christ.

I have found in my own life that when I came into the Truth of Freedom through Christ that I had a peace the world was crying for; I had all the benefits that women in the world wanted, but I didn't have the entangled frustrations.

Webster defines "free" as "enjoying personal liberty; not enslaved." That is what a daughter of God enjoys *and* is.

One of the biggest traps Satan hands you about the ERA Movement is, "This is for the good of Womanhood. All the women I know are for it and if I don't follow suit they will think something is wrong with me." Believe me, there are many women today who wish someone would stand up and say, "The Movement is wrong; they

don't have our interest at heart!" You would be surprised at how many women you know would not follow the ERA Movement if you would state to them the Truth of God's Word, the Bible.

It is time that we as women unite in Christ and stop letting Satan rob, deceive and use us for his work, but use the Truth of the Bible with the authority and power it carried to really set women free, free to walk in the prosperity that God has for us. When the Bible says, "***And my God will liberally supply (fill to the full) your every need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus***" (*Philippians 4:19* AB), that's what it means. Every need, spiritual, mental, physical, financial and any other need you may have. God can *and* will supply your needs as you stand on His Word and look to Him, not man, to supply your every need.

As God's daughters we are not citizens of this world, but we are in Christ and only sojourners here until Jesus comes for us to take us home. When Jesus said in *verse 36 of John 8*, "***So, if the Son liberates you, makes you free men, then you are really and unquestionably free.***" (AB) That's exactly what He meant. I have been made free, liberated by Christ Jesus; I am no longer a citizen of this world and in bondage to sin. This applies to any woman who has asked Christ into her heart as Savior. Do not put yourself into bondage by being deceived into mixing the things of this world with the Truth of the Bible. God has set you free. He has given you the Manual for staying free. He gave you the example of Christ and unnumbered promises to supply your needs while here on earth. He has given

you authority and power over Satan. In short, He has not left you lacking for anything so do not be deceived into following the ERA Movement. It cannot give God's daughter anything but enslavement to this world and rob her of her rights as God's daughter.

The decision is yours; will you join me in total freedom?

“As a point of understanding, I refer to the Bible throughout my text as “The Word”. There is no difference between the meaning;

The Word is The Bible.

The Word of God.”

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank everyone who has encouraged me and helped me with the writing of this book:

My husband, LeRoy, who has stood by me, encouraged and corrected me. Who has been my strong and mighty man of God more times than he knows.

My daughter, Beverly McIntire, who first encouraged me to write my thoughts and feelings and the leadings God was giving me.

Diane Hurley, who spent many nights burning the late night oil in correcting spelling and grammar.

Gayle Busby and Mary Adams, whose knowledge of computers has made this book a reality. A very special heartfelt thanks to them and their computers.

Last but not least, I acknowledge my mother, Doris Foster, whose examples, love and encouragement have brought me to this point in my life.

I dedicate this book to her and each person who has had a part in helping me bring forth this book.

CHAPTER ONE

What Is A Covering?

The Bible, God's Word, has many things to say about a woman's covering. God is very protective of His daughters and provides His covering in many ways so that all of His daughters may be covered.

When thinking of God's covering we can sometimes be deceived by "religious training" to believe that only a woman who is married can be covered and then, only through her husband. Those who are not married or no longer married, due to death or divorce, must "do" for themselves. This, my dear sisters, is a lie from the father of lies!

God, in His grace and love for you, has provided you, His daughter, regardless of age or marital status, a covering. Webster's dictionary says a covering is "something laid or lying over a thing to close, conceal, or protect it." After reading this definition the Holy Spirit made me aware of the meaning of several scriptures: *Psalm*

32:1, “Blessed, happy, fortunate (to be envied) is he who has forgiveness of his transgression continually exercised upon him, whose sin is covered.” (AB) Then from *Romans 4:7-8*, **“Blessed and happy and to be envied are those whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered up and completely buried. Blessed and happy and to be envied is the person of whose sin the Lord will take no account nor reckon it against him.”** (AB)

To begin with you must realize that you are God’s daughter, through salvation which brought you under His covering by confessing your sin and your need for Him. Then by asking Jesus into your life you were forgiven and made new through the blood of Christ, and immediately God put His covering over you. The Word *does not say* that after God thought you had suffered long enough from feelings of guilt, He will come and forgive you. The Word *does say* that your sins are covered up; they are completely forgiven and forgotten by God.

It was hard for me to enter into that covering that God had for me because I had been taught by “religious people” that God was way up in Heaven and was going to punish me if I even so much as looked like I was going to do something wrong. I could not relate to God as I could to my earthly dad. Believe me, Satan used that to no end to rob me and beat me over the head, until I saw in the Word that God sticks closer than a brother which God is love and that Jesus is my brother, which made God my “Dad”! When that took root in my heart, it opened up a whole new relationship. Now the Bible had new meaning because it was my “Daddy” talking

to me. It was like the scripture says in *Romans 8:15-17*, ***“For (the Spirit which) you have now received (is) not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption—the Spirit producing sonship—in (the bliss of) which we cry, Abba! (that is) Father! The Spirit Himself (thus) testifies together with our own spirit, (assuring us) that we are children of God. And if we are (His) children, then we are (His) heirs also: Heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, sharing His inheritance with Him; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory.”*** (AB)

In the book of Ruth, God shows His covering for those who are not married. This is a beautiful account of how God loves and cares for His daughter, regardless of age or circumstance. First you must realize that Jesus is your Kinsman; He is the One able to redeem you for He paid the price on Calvary for you and that very moment became your covering.

When you come, as Ruth did in *Ruth 3:9* to Boaz, and lay yourself at God’s feet and say, ***“I am...your maidservant. Spread your wing (of protection) over your maidservant, for you are next of kin.”*** (AB) God will do far more for you than Boaz could ever think of doing for Ruth. Because you are God’s daughter and not a maidservant in His eyes, God puts a covering of love over you that protects, supplies and multiplies your inheritance in Him here and now. And you will find freedom that you could never find from all this world has to offer!

Ruth had a need; God made provision for that need in great abundance. When you are His daughter and under His covering, God will make provision for your every need and desire. The Word says, ***“Casting the whole of your care, all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all, on Him; for He cares for you affectionately, and cares about you watchfully.”*** *I Peter 5:7* (AB). When you release your cares to God, as Ruth did to Boaz, allow God to do something about them, regardless of the time element.

Naomi told Ruth in *Ruth 3:18*, to ***“sit still until you learn how the matter turns out.”*** This is where Satan steps in and tries to rob me of that covering. I start thinking, “If I do this or that,” or “If I go here or there, it would surely help matters.”

I step out from under the covering God put over me and into the warfare of Satan. God gave me a will. He will not override my will with His because He loves me. God wants to protect me. He wants to take care of every area of my life—but He can only do this if I allow it.

Let’s say I have prayed for a promotion at work. The Word says in *Philippians 4:6*, ***“Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything by prayer and petition (definite requests) with thanksgiving continue to make your wants known to God.”*** (AB) Now that I have turned this matter over to God I must allow Him to work *all* things out for my good and His glory. I cannot take matters into my own hands and start plotting how I can get that promotion. Remember Ruth, that because she was patient and obedient the outcome was far more

than she had ever expected. It was through the blood line of her and her husband, Boaz, that Jesus the Savior was finally born.

The Bible has several things to say about God's covering for married women. You are first of all covered by the blood of Jesus. As His daughter you are redeemed from the curse of the law of sin.

You have an added benefit from the headship of your husband. (Women who are not married receive their headship from the Holy Spirit.) God refers to your husband as the head. In *Ephesians 5:23* it states, "***For the husband is head of the wife as Christ is the Head of the church, Himself the Savior of (His) body.***" (AB)

God in all His love for us has provided a covering for us that many women today are trying to destroy through the Woman's ERA Movement. Because God loves us and knew we were going to have a need for that protection, He gave the husband the same authority in marriage as Jesus has in the church.

It was not Adam who was deceived in the garden, but Eve; it was not Abraham who doubted God's Word for an inheritance, but Sarah. In every instance in the Bible when women have listened to self or to Satan they have come out from under their covering and caused problems not only for themselves but as in the case of Eve, for all of Mankind.

Many times God has directed me to go to my husband for counsel, prayer, or just because I needed a sounding board, but for many years Satan robbed me of my husband's covering by deceiving me into believing I was more "spiritual" than he. "Why go to him with

my problems or needs? He's not in the position where God wants him so I'll just solve this myself," or "I will seek a spiritual person." I could not understand why I always ended up having a lot of problems, not only with the situation, but also with my husband, not to mention all the stress I was under. Then one day as I read a verse in *Ephesians 5*, I saw what I had done. I had been so busy being "spiritual" that I had rebelled against God's Word, the Bible. The *24th verse* really put me in my place. "***As the church is subject to Christ, so let wives also be subject in everything to their husbands.***" (AB) It was then that I saw I was to be subject to my husband in *everything* because God looked at him as He did at Christ's position as head of the church.

Do you know that your husband has to answer to God for your actions as his wife? We see this in Genesis. Adam had to answer for Eve's disobedience to God. This principle is carried out all through the scriptures. In the *23rd verse of Ephesians 5*, it makes this very clear by stating, "***For the husband is head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, Himself the Savior of (His) body.***" (AB)

It is not up to us to enforce God's Word, only to obey it. God will enforce it when we obey it. I started going to my husband about things that not only concerned the family, but myself as well. This wasn't easy because the world doesn't teach this. I made mistakes and still do, but God is always there to pick me up and bail me out. I soon found peace and strength in going to my husband and I also found he had a much deeper wisdom, not only of things pertaining to God, but for

handling the daily routine of life. I now understand the protection that God was talking about in Ruth.

It is very easy to be robbed of that covering by thinking, “My husband won’t understand; he’ll just yell at me,” or “I know more than he does; how could he help me?” Lady, you just opened yourself up to not only mental attack, but to emotional and spiritual warfare as well, which amounts to more stress than we can handle.

I have learned that when I go to my husband and receive his consent, blessing or counsel, Satan doesn’t have a leg to stand on and when he does try to attack me, I go back to the Bible and tell my “Daddy.” Because I am being obedient to His Word, He can enforce His Word, the Bible, and handle the situation. And I have news for you, my “Daddy” has never been defeated!

Take the example of Sarah and Abraham. Sarah was a very beautiful woman. She was not only Abraham’s wife, but also his half sister. They were entering a foreign country and because of Sarah’s beauty, Abraham was afraid he would be killed and Sarah taken, so he told her to say that she was his sister. This she did and was taken to the king’s palace and was told to be prepared to become one of the king’s wives. God interceded and saved Sarah from a very bad situation. The point is, Sarah was obedient to Abraham, and therefore she was under his covering which released God to protect her. This also shows that our husbands are not gods but are men who need wives to back them in prayer for wisdom in meeting the demands that are put on them daily.

God said we are to be a helpmate to our husbands. This is illustrated in **Genesis 2:22** when God took the

rib or part of Adam's side to make woman. He didn't mean for us to be over man or beneath man, but standing by his side. We are to lift up our husbands and submit to our husband's position as the last portion of *Ephesians 5:23* states, "**...and let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband, that she notices him, regards him, honors him, praises him and loves and admires him exceedingly.**" (AB) In turn we will be blessed and covered by God as was the woman in *Proverbs 31:28-29*, "**Her children rise up and call her blessed, happy, fortunate and to be envied; and her husband boasts of and praises her, saying 'Many daughters have done virtuously, nobly and well (with the strength of character that is steadfast in goodness) but you excel them all.'**" (AB)

Finally we have as God's daughters the covering of the church. This covering protects any daughter of God regardless of age or marital status. In *Psalms 5:11* the Bible states, "**But let all those who take refuge and put their trust in You rejoice; let them ever sing and shout for joy, because You make a covering over them and defend them...**"

The church is the Body of Christ. God's covering is over His Body. God gave authority and power for the operation of His Body. When you ask an elder or one in a position of authority in the church to pray, agree, counsel or stand with you, he is acting on the authority and power of God *and* there is a covering placed over you. This was made possible through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. We were restored to our rightful place as

God's daughters and are entitled to His covering through His Body, the Church.

Don't allow Satan to rob you of this protection with thoughts like, "They'll laugh at me," or "My problem isn't really that important, I can maybe work this out myself," or "What will they think of me?" Doesn't God say in *I Peter 5:7*, "***Casting the whole of your care, all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all, on Him; for He cares for you affectionately, and cares about you watchfully.***" (AB) Those in a position of authority in your church are acting on behalf of Christ. When you seek that refuge, God will honor His Word and you will find *that* peace that passes all understanding. God *takes* your care and *gives* you His covering. Now that sounds like a pretty good trade to me! No wonder the Psalmist said in *Psalms 5:11*, "***...let them ever sing and shout for joy.***" That's something to shout and be joyful about! That's one freedom offered to every one of God's daughters that no Women's Lib movement could ever come close to.

