



SHEROES & CHAMPIONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

The Maidservants of God vs. The Maidservants Of Satan

Women's Discipleship Group

Terri McFaddin Series #2 Lesson #1

Scripture Focus:

And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy (Acts 2:18).

Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her master much profit by fortune-telling (Acts 16:16).

Key Words:

Maidservant: (Gk.) Douvla – A woman slave that does the bidding of her master.

Slave Girl: (Gk.) Paidivskhn – A servant girl that does the bidding of her master.

OPENING STATEMENT:

Acts 1:14 tells us that on the day of Pentecost both men and women were filled with the Holy Spirit. Women were endowed with the full spectrum of spiritual gifts and were used mightily in establishing the early church. Mary, the mother of Jesus, was the only woman that was mentioned by name. But once again, we find the reference that “the women” were present in the *upper room* when the Holy Spirit baptized with fire. In the Old Testament, the prophet Joel wrote that the Lord would pour out his spirit and his sons and daughters would prophesy and his menservants and maidservants would prophesy (Joel 2:28). In Acts 2:17-18 Peter saw the experience in the *upper room* as the beginning of the fulfillment of Joel's prophesy. The Lord poured out his Spirit and sent forth sons, daughters, maidservants and menservants to prophesy. To prophesy means to preach and to speak by revelation from the Lord of things to come in the future.

Many women were filled with the Spirit of God and did great works, but Satan also empowered women with demonic spirits in the attempt to hinder the spread of the Gospel. In Acts 16:16, a slave girl, under the pretense of being devoted to their ministry, began to follow behind Paul and Silas as they ministered in the city. The Bible tells us that this diva had the spirit of divi-nation. She served her masters and brought them much gain, just as the godly women served the Lord and brought much gain to the Body of Christ. It is unfortunate that the maidservants of Satan are often in the church following leaders around and pretending to love God. When Paul recognized that the girl that followed him was possessed by demons he cast the devils out of her and set her free.

The godly maidservants must remember 3 things if they desire to remain effective servants of the Lord.

1. Accept the fact that women are equally empowered and gifted to serve God.
2. Know that Lord has called you to be co-laborers not competitors of menservants.
3. Like the Apostle Paul, do not be deceived by maidservants of demonic diva-nation who sometimes follow behind church leaders.

OBSERVATIONS:

Besides Mary (Acts 1:14), who are some of the women that might have been present in the *upper room* on the Day of Pentecost? (Search the Book of Acts)

INTERPRETATION:

What is meant by the following in Acts 2:17-18: “*your sons and daughters shall prophesy*” and “*on my menservants and on my maidservants I will pour out my spirit*”?

According to Acts 1:8, what did Jesus say would happen when the Holy Spirit came?

How did Paul know that the woman following him in Acts 16:16 was demon possessed?

