

HELPS GIFT

This gift is difficult to find due to the twofold nature of the gift. It applies both to male and female and their functions are completely different in each perspective area. The male approaches the gift from the initiator standpoint and the female approaches the gift from the responding standpoint. Therefore, there are doctrines in the Word of God that apply to the woman and not to the man due to the makeup of the soul. These different doctrines need to be understood, but first the gift itself needs to be understood.

Helps

1. Greek words for “help” show this gift in the Scripture.
 - A. BOETHEO is the basic Greek word for help. It means to furnish aid. Believers are to aid one another (Hebrews 13:6, Psalm 17:3) and to seek God’s help in time of need (Hebrews 4:16). This is general usage of the word.
 - B. BOAO, means to cry out for help, Mark 15:34; Luke 9:38; 18:38; Isaiah 58:9
 - C. ANTILEMPSIS, in the New Testament only is the development of the spiritual gift of Helps, 1 Corinthians 12:28, aid, assist, (mas/fem noun). In the Old Testament in Psalm 118; 119; 17:3; 18:2.
 - E. ANTILAMBANO, come to the aid of, help, Luke 1:54; Isaiah 41:8f, Acts 20:35; 2 Chronicles 28:15.
Devote self to, take part in, Isaiah 26:3; 1 Timothy 6:2.
Perceive, notice, enjoy, benefit by, 1 Timothy 6:2.
2. BOAO in context:
 - A. Matthew 27:46, the Lord Jesus Christ cried out for help, comfort.
 - B. Luke 9:38, someone requests help and needs spiritual type of help.
3. BOETHIA, timely help, Hebrews 4:16.
This passage tells the believer he will receive grace and mercy for “timely help.” This is the way the helps gift operates with the other gifts. On the male side it reflects the grace and mercy of the Father in aiding other believers and on the female side it reflects the grace and mercy of the female priesthood towards the husband.

Psalm 19:1-2, “The Lord hears the helps prayer and sends the answer so that it can operate on a divine scale. Divine ability. Psalm 20:2.

Acts 27:17, helps is the idea of strengthening a weak area. A ship it needs extra support or help. In the Christian way of life it takes this gift operating on both sides to give balance in the Church age.

4. BOETHOS, helpful, Hebrews 13:6. The Lord is the pattern for the helps gift. As we look to Him for aid and assistance there are times when the helps gift is used to give us aid and assistance through human beings by the Divine ability that the Lord gives them.

Psalm 118:6-7, 13, The Lord helps the believer in need. He is the source of power for the helps gift. The Lord gives grace and help in many forms, sometimes directly through inner comfort and sometimes through the Word from someone giving divine viewpoint—HELPS.

5. BOETHEO, to furnish aid, help.

Acts 21:28, the demand for attention or help.

Matthew 15:25, woman seeking help.

Mark 9:22, the principle of compassion is attached with the helps gift.

Acts 16:9, the gift of apostle reflects the helps gift in helping other believers in trouble.

Joshua 10:6, the great general Joshua gave male help to another group that asked for it. This gives us light that the helps gift gives aid in an area where there is a deficiency and some type of aid is needed.

Hebrews 2:18, The Lord Jesus Christ suffered when tempted so He now helps us when we are tempted for He understands how we are tempted.

Revelation 12:16, the earth helped Israel in the end of the Tribulation to aid her in escape from Satan.

Job 4:20, without this gift operating then the believer often dries up, becomes discouraged and blows away.

Mark 9:24, “help my unbelief” – gospel.

2 Corinthians 6:1-2, the helps gift will enable the believer to get back on his feet and use the doctrine he knows so that he can be delivered from the mess he has gotten himself into. Grace can be received in vain and then abused. Helps can point out the grace provision and make it real through showing the individual the facts of God’s grace and faithfulness.

Isaiah 49:8, the Lord helps believer in trouble whether they deserve it or not.

6. ANITLEMPSIS- the spiritual gift of helps, 1 Corinthians 12:28

A. In the papyri it meant to help.

B. Kittel’s Theological Dictionary, Vol. 1, page 375: “It is not an office since there is a list of offices here. It means ‘help’ and it is the gift or capacity of being differentiated from those that precede the fact that it does not have a miraculous character and thus leads on to those that follow.” In other words, it aids the other gifts as the person that has the gift is filled with the Holy Spirit.

C. A. T. Robertson’s Word Pictures, Vol. IV, page 174, says that “helps,” ANITLEMPSIS comes from ANTILAMBANOMAI and it means to lay hold of.

D. ANITLEMPSIS means originally grasping or appropriation.

Isaiah 26:3, to keep to.

Micah 6:6, to enter into allegiance (marriage) with, yet the idea of help is predominate in the Scriptures; 14 times in relation to a neighbor and 20 times in relation to God in the Psalms.

Exodus 18:22 and Numbers 11:17, to share a task with someone.

Psalms 88:22, Romans 8:26 vocation, to help someone in their work.

Isaiah 41:9, divine help (Luke 1:54).

1 Timothy 6:2, concern for the right relationship to another believer.

Acts 20:35, regard for the weak in using your helps gift. (counseling)

- E. A. T. Robertson, A Grammar of Greek New Testament in the Light of Historical Research: ANTI has several meanings, “in front of, to face, to carry your part of the load, against, instead of, substitution idea, because, in return for, back, in his turn”. In the locative it means in front of, or face to face; has the idea of a man carrying a long and another man comes up and picks up the other end to “help” him and thus they are face to face. This gift can only operate with someone you are willing to face and cooperate with. It can only aid you if you let it.

In the New Testament it is used with 22 times with verbs, nouns and pronouns.

Acts 27:15 carries the idea of ophthalmos as the boat faced the wind.

Luke 10:31f, The priest and Levite passed along side of the road facing the wounded traveler.

Luke 24:17, Two disciples casting words in each other’s face. A vivid picture of conversation. This gift has to have conversation in order to operate.

Romans 8:26, SUN ANTI LAMBANO, The Holy Spirit lays hold of our weakness along with us (SUN) and carries His part of the burden facing us (ANTI) as if two men were carrying a (p. 573) “log one at each end”.

Hostile, ANTI, John 19:12, ANTILEGO, rivalry. 1 John 2:18; Acts 7:51
Luke 21:15 and Matthew 5:25.

Grace answers grace idea – ANTI, because of.

Ephesians 5:31, “Because of this reason....”

Genesis 2:24, same thing

Luke 14:14, because of blessing they cannot recompense thee

LEMPSIS—receiving, Philippians 4:15, shows the aspect of the receiving in the gift.

Genesis 1:18-20

1. In this passage the woman is referred to as a “help suitable for the man,

BOETHOS.

2. Since this is the first time the word is mentioned it must be taken in its context as to what it means. The context law demands that it refer to the woman and that she is called “helper.” (Law of Context, p. 17, same Hermeneutics volume.) The context principle states “That principle by which God gives light upon a subject through either near or remote passages bearing upon the same theme.”

The key to the meaning of any word in a passage is the context surrounding that word.

Law of first mention. Principle of Biblical Hermeneutics, Hartill, page 70.

“That principle by which God indicates in the first mention of a subject the truth with which that subject stands connected in the mind of God.”

This law has never failed in interpreting the Scriptures. “The first occurrence of a word expression, or utterance is the key to its subsequent meaning or it will be a guide to ascertaining the essential truth connected with it.”

3. The word BOETHOS means helpful, aid, to furnish aid in many passages. The Hebrew is EZER and has the same meaning, helpmeet. The woman is a helpmeet to the man, her right man. There is no other passage in the Word of God that talks about the woman having any other spiritual gift.

Some women operate in their helps gift in other areas but they do not have that gift. There has to be an understanding of the gift and how it operates.

4. Helps can reflect any of the other gifts when the woman is single but once she finds her right man then she will reflect his gift only. Pastor-teacher wife aids his gift by reflecting his gift. She is the glory of the man and this is how she operates. No woman can have another gift, such as counselor or exhortation and her husband another gift. Why?
5. Each gift has authority delegated to it from time to time in the Church and outside the Church.

The spiritual gift operates in the vocational world and since the woman is not to seek a career over the life in the home she once again cannot have any other gift apart from the helps gift. Her helps gift reflects the gift of her husband. If he has an exhortation gift then her helps gift will operate in exhortation.

The helps gift is the most diversified gift there is. It can reflect many areas and has the same power from God that any other gift manifests. The difference is that the woman is a responder and needs a special gift so that she can respond and operate within the local church.

Her soul is not geared for an initiation gift. The gifts are aggressive and from time to time are used to straighten out trouble and affairs that come up. The woman neither has the authority nor the OKAY from God to straighten out anything in the local church. That is the job of men and they are the ones that have the Divine ability to do this with their spiritual gifts.

1 Corinthians 14:34-40, the women were denied the spiritual gift of tongues. They did not have the authority to speak in tongues nor could they control their emotional patterns in such a powerful gift in the early church.

6. Romans 16:3, the Aquila and Priscilla team, man and woman traveling together with their spiritual gifts operating. She was under his authority (1 Timothy 2:9-11; 1 Corinthians 11:8-9) both as her husband and as he had the spiritual gift of whatever. She reflected his gift and operated within the bounds of the gift.

1 Corinthians 16:19, they had a church in their house.

2 Timothy 4:19, Paul salutes them as a team. This is what the husband and wife are... a team. They are not two people in the same house with different functions in life and with different destinies. They are a team and they compliment each other. He initiates, she responds. If he claimed to have the gift of evangelism and she claimed to have the gift of Pastor-teacher or counselor or whatever, then she would from time to time have to exert authority over him because of the aggressive nature of the Pastor-Teacher spiritual gift.

7. Responsibilities of the helps gift: Husband lover, children lover, offers balance, setting the climate of the home, household manager, producer of divine good, pleasing the husband, inner beauty, weaker vessel, human good, teacher of children, household responsibilities, hazards of the helps gifts, helps in undeserved suffering and sufficient grace, womb curse. Titus 2:1-5; 1 Peter 1-3; Proverbs 31; 2 Timothy 1:5, 3:14-17; 1 Timothy 5:11-14; 2:21; Luke 10:38-42; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Genesis 2:16-19.
8. The first thing this doctrine does when the woman finally starts to look at it is RELAX and stop competing with the man. She does have a chance to be rewarded in her role as a helpmeet, and to be INDEPENDENT in feeding her soul apart from her husband.

If the husband is negative to Bible doctrine then she can still be fulfilled. She relaxes in God's grace and enjoys her feminine role like Sarah did in 1 Peter 3.

9. By taking the Scriptures where the word "Helps" appears in and making application to the feminine gift (possibly masculine also) of helps we can see many areas of flexibility in this gift.
 - A. Genesis 2:18-20, she is the only one that can fulfill a man.
 - B. Joshua 10:6, there will be times when the woman operating in her gift of helps will save the man's hide, finances, etc.
 - C. Proverbs 31 is a picture of a woman in the helps area... Beautiful!
 - D. Psalm 118:6-7, a man with his right woman in helps area can take on anything for she is a stability to him.
 - E. Romans 8:26, the Holy Spirit helps our infirmities (physical weaknesses). The woman filled with the Holy Spirit operates in this area also (the house nurse).
 - F. 2 Corinthians 1:11, helps is operative in prayer, 1 Peter 3:7.
 - G. 2 Corinthians 1:24, Communicator of Word of God are helpers of flock. The helps gift helps the man daily and should not be criticized for it.
 - H. John 8, 2 Corinthians 8:23, fellow helper.