

All of those who have been members of this Legislature in previous Parliaments know that I have very strong convictions in reference to this subject. I am free to say to you that these convictions as to whether this measure is right or wrong, have been formed from a careful study of the teachings of the Bible which bear upon it. I accept these teachings as of divine origin, and they cannot, therefore, change from age to age. Human progress has never yet reached the ideal depicted by that Book, and its principles are just as applicable now as at any period in the world's history. There is no word in it from beginning to end about women's suffrage, nor indeed about suffrage of any kind, but there is a great deal in it about the relationship of man and woman which determines their respective spheres in the world for all time.

If we go back to the account of creation, we shall find that man being created, the various animal creations which had been brought into existence were brought before him in order that he might name them. But among them all there did not appear any that could be utilized as his associate—after they have all passed before him he is still left alone and has no companion. Then the statement is made that "It is not good for man to be alone; we will make an helpmeet for him." And in after ages, when the apostles made reference to this statement they used these words: "Man was made and then the woman; the man was not made for the woman, but the woman for the man."

The point I want to emphasize in this regard is that woman was formed to be an associate, a companion, a helper of man, and not to usurp authority or control over him. They are two persons, yet they are spoken of as one—of the same flesh, one the complement of the other. The same rule applies in their formation as in the animal creation everywhere. Man's appearance indicates force, authority, decision, self-assertion, while that of a woman shows exactly the opposite, and indicates instead, trust dependence, grace and beauty. In other words, man was made in such a form when compared to woman as stamps him with the attributes of authority, government and control.