NOTES: ON Jesus’ view of womanhood:

* Gospels: not historians, didn’t record word for word, did not eliminate cultural biases
* Variety of sources, written and oral, over a period of time and in response to certain communities
* Any time a woman is mentioned in the Bible: has extreme significance, if she is named, it is even more so
* Jesus concept of womanhood:

1. Worth of every human as a child of one Father
2. Gave womanhood dignity, saw equality
3. Healed woman, forgave womanhood
4. Only requirement was receptivity
5. Jesus willing to set aside customs, traditions, religious taboos
6. Woman had dominion, is not dominated
7. Unity: male and female as a single unit, bride and bridegroom

* Almost every time Jesus broke new ground in his ministry, a woman was cast in a primary role.
* Did not come through the Gospels through their 1st century male viewpoint
* He taught women the Gospel: they were disciples
* Taught Scriptures and religious truths
* Judaism: considered obscene to teach women the Scriptures
* Jesus deliberately breaks away from custom
* Women: disciples: followed him, traveled with his group, ministered to Him: married and unmarried
* Luke 8:1 with him went the twelve as well as certain women….who provided for them out of their own resources

1. Provided for: *diekonoun*: ministered: same word as deacon:
2. These women left their homes, studied with Jesus,

* After resurrection:

1. Jesus appeared first to womenhood
2. Commissioned by Him to bear witness of the risen Jesus to the eleven John 20:11; Mt. 28:9; Mk. 16:9
3. The eleven refused to believe the women
4. Jesus deliberately did this: commissioned women to bear witness to the most important event of his career
5. Rejects the 2nd class status of women
6. 3 other raising of the dead: all include womanhood
7. Jairus daughter Mt. 9:18, Mk 5:22; Luke 8:41: only one where Jesus touched the body and made him unclean: chose to violate the ritual purity laws for a woman, not the men
8. Raising of the widow’s son:
9. Lazarus: at request of his sisters: Jesus reveals that he is the Messiah to a woman, not a man

Central event, central message in the Gospel: His resurrection, His being the resurrection to a woman.

* Woman bowed over: Luke 13:11

1. Symbol of her social status
2. Couldn’t lift herself up
3. Jesus violates the Sabbath
4. Great priority: was Sabbath made for man or man for the Sabbath? What’s the priority?
5. Sabbath is rest, not inertia. 7th day was not inertia. If God is still working on the Sabbath, I have no choice

Jesus said both were to have same rights and responsibilities