The Role of Women in Worship

I. I Corinthians 11:2-16
a. Paul’s instruction in these verses was based on the concept of authority. (Vs. 3)
b. Paul taught that a woman should pray or prophecy with her head covered or veiled. Why?
   i. To keep from dishonoring her head. (Vs. 5)
   ii. As an expression of propriety and submission. Culture of the time – adulterous, prostitutes, Aphrodite’s priestesses, Greek custom (Vs. 5-6)
   iii. It was a sign of authority or submission to the man (Vs. 10)
c. The authority of the Apostles and not the customs was the only method to solve the problem. (Vs. 16)

II. I Corinthians 14:26-40
a. Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak. (Vs. 34)
b. The women are to be submissive. (Vs. 34)
c. Let the women learn from their husbands at home. (Vs. 35)
d. Let all things be done decently and in order. Who’s order? The Lord’s. (Vs. 36-40).
e. Was this just a cultural thing? NO! “The law says…” (Vs. 34), “The origin of the word of God.” (Vs. 36)

III. I Timothy 2:8-15
a. I desire that the men pray everywhere. (Vs. 8)
b. The women should adorn themselves in modest apparel. (Vs. 9)
c. Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. (Vs. 11)
d. I do not permit a woman to teach or have authority over a man. (Vs. 12)
e. Is this a cultural thing? NO. Goes back to creation. (Vs. 13)

IV. Miscellaneous
a. Examples of Church leaders in the Bible:
   i. Twelve (Thirteen) Apostles (Matthew 10:2-4; Acts 1:21-26)
   ii. The seven servers (Acts 6:1-3)
   iii. Elders or bishops. (I Timothy 3:1-7)
   iv. Deacons. (I Timothy 3:8-13)
   v. Common theme: all are male.
b. What about Phoebe? She was a servant. (Romans 16:1-2)
d. Teaching young women. (Titus 2:3-5)