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Overwhelming biblical support for female leadership and ordination

by Ray Schulz

SDC Member Tanya Wittwer has provided a recording of a presentation made by Ray Schulz on 6 January 2023 and subsequently released on the SWOLCA fb page and now on YouTube.

See <https://youtu.be/Xea3YztAFD0>

You are encouraged to share the YouTube link with others.

Tanya writes: 'I think it's really useful that it's a voice that isn't one of those already heard a lot in this space.'

In this presentation, emeritus pastor and WA president, Ray Schulz, has drawn on his expertise in the discipline of 'Textual Criticism' to demonstrate what he regards as the overwhelming biblical support for female leadership and ordination. Ray has come to the conviction that especially in the 20th century the most influential textual critics have demonstrated a considerable bias against women in church leadership, by enhancing or even creating flimsy textual evidence to suit their perspective while ignoring the overwhelming counter evidence that clearly shows the case for female leadership.

Published articles by Ray include:

- "Romans 16:7. Junia or Junias?" Expository Times (Jan 1987),
- "Twentieth Century Corruption of Scripture," Expository Times (March 2008),
- "Phoebe as Leader" Lutheran Theological Journal (53, 2019), and
- "Which Text?" LTJ (55/3, 2021).

In the presentation Ray has replaced the "in house" language of textual criticism with everyday English expressions. It should be noted that the term textual criticism by no means implies a critical attitude to the scriptures. Rather, it is the standard discipline whereby biblical scholars seek to determine the best form of the Greek text of the New Testament (and the Hebrew text of the Old Testament) as they study the countless variations within the transmitted manuscripts.