

Submission in Marriage

1 Peter 3:1-8

Ephesians 5:21-33; Colossians 3:18-21



16 March 2025

The Times We Live In

- Watch the nations (Hab 1:5-6; Matt 24:6-8)
- Watch the society (Psalm 14:1; Romans 1:21-22)
- Watch the family (Roles, Obedience, Training, Discipline, Divorce, Remarriage, Sexuality)
- What the “the church” (Form of Godliness; Pursuit of Holiness; Ignorance of God and His Word; Disciples; Traditions; children of the devil vs children of God; Having a name; Lukewarm; Jeremiah 4:22; Revelation 3:1, 15-17, 20; John 8:31; Matthew 15:8-9; 1 John 3:6-9, 10)
- Whach the Body of Christ, the Bride of Christ: John 10:27-28; Titus 2:11-12; Luke 4:4; James 1:22; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 1 John 5:3; 1 Timothy 4:7-8; James 4:4; 2 Corinthians 13:5)
- What will Christ find when He returns? Consider carefully Luke 18:8.
- THIS SERIOUS! (Romans 2:5)
- The CHURCH, not only the Pastor, must contend for the faith handed down to us. (Jude 3)
- What is sin? (1 John 3:4)
 - God’s Law is “holy, just, and good.” (Romans 7:12)
 - One must know the Law of God to confess and repent of sins.
 - Disciples meditate on, memorize, regularly read, and study God’s commandments. (Psalm 1:1-3; 119:15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148)
 - Disciples love God’s Law. (Psalm 119:47, 97)

A Quick Review

Marriage: Institution Ordained by God

- Marriage is an institution established by GOD - NOT MAN.
- Participants: ONE God; ONE Man; ONE Woman
- Reasons for Marriage
 - ① Propagation of Children
 - ② Prevention of Sexual Sin
 - ③ Provide Companionship
- Duration of marriage: As long as one lives. (Romans 7:1-2; 1 Cor 7:39)
- Marriage, Divorce, Remarriage (Malachi 2:16; Matthew 19:4-6, 8-9; Mark 10:11-12; 1 Corinthians 7:10-11)

Christ and His Bride (Ephesians 5:22-33)

- ★ Paul's main point . . . (v. 32) "I speak concerning Christ and the Church.
- Paul, as he has been since the middle of chapter 2, is speaking of the Church as ONE BODY.
- This passage is primarily used to describe what CHURCH is in God's eyes. It is an organism with a HEAD and a BODY. That HEAD and BODY are intimately in union with each other. Each member belonging to each other, serving each other, and growing together. (Romans 12:4-5; 1 Cor 12:22-27)

A Mystery: Two Are Made ONE (Ephesians 5:31)

- In the true mystery of marriage husband and wife become ONE. (Mark 10:6-9)
- We ARE the Body of Christ! (Ephesians 1:22-23)
- In our marriage with Christ we become ONE with Christ! The Bride and the Bridegroom become one.
 - See John 17:11, 21-22 – Christ prayed that His Bride be ONE with Him *just* as He and the Father ARE ONE.
- What does this mean?
 - ① All that is Christ's is ours.
 - We are JOINT HEIRS with Christ. (Romans 8:17)
 - He IS our righteousness. (1 Corinthians 1:30; Jeremiah 33:16)
 - ② Christ, the Groom, assumes all of my debt. (Isaiah 53:6; 1 Peter 2:24)
 - ③ He has prepared a home for us. (John 14:1-6; 17:24)

Submit to Each Other (Ephesians 5:18-21)

- We are commanded to be filled with Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18)
- We are to be filled with hymns and spiritual songs - making melody in our hearts to the Lord.
- We are to give thanks *always for all things* to God.
- We are to submit to one another *in the fear of God*. All disciples are called to be HUMBLE and serve each other in the LOWLINESS of mind. We are called to be bond servants to each other. (Matt 20:28; Ephesians 4:1-2; Colossians 3:12-13; Matthew 11:29; Isaiah 57:15)

The Bride (the Wives) (1 Peter 3:16; Ephesians 5:22-24)

- "Likewise" or "in the same way" – God points back to what has just been written – submission.
- Wives are called to submit just as the elect were called to submit to the government and employers.
- This is significant in that in the Roman Empire women were not respected very much.
- A woman deciding to follow Christ, whether while living with her father and under his rule, or while living with her husband under his rule, could very easily bring

herself much trouble.

• How to Be A Godly Wife:

① She was to stay with her unbelieving husband. (1 Corinthians 7:13, 39)

→ Only death can absolve a marriage! (Romans 7:2-3)

→ If an unbelieving husband wanted to leave a marriage she did not need to try to convince him to stay. (1 Cor 7:15).

→ Remarriage is allowed only upon death. (Romans 7:2-3)

② She must be submissive.

→ "submissive" is the same word used in chapter 2 verse 13.

upotassw *hupotasso* - "to subject oneself, to obey, to submit to one's control".

→ She is to submit to her own husband.

→ Her submission must be just as the Church, the Bride of Christ, submits herself to her Lord. (Ephesians 5:22)

→ Her submission is out of her love for her husband - just as the Church submits out of love for her Lord.

→ She is to submit herself in everything. (Ephesians 5:24)

★ UNLESS it would cause her to sin against her Lord.

→ She is to submit herself to her husband even if he "does not obey the word".

→ God can use her submission to save her husband. (Proverbs 31:26; Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:15; Titus 2:3-5)

→ She is to show respect or reverence to her husband.

③ She is NOT to use her external beauty but her internal beauty.

→ As all of God's elect are to worship God with the "beauty of holiness", so too, wives submit with "gentle and quiet" spirits.

→ This passage does not forbid women from dressing nicely, but it emphasizes the priority of an inner beauty. Christian women must fight the cultures "demands" or "lusts" to look beautiful. A Christian woman is to exercise herself in godliness! (1 Tim 4:7-8; Titus 2:11-14)

→ God considers a woman's inner beauty as precious!

④ She is to honor her husband. God points back to Abraham and Sarah (Abraham being the father of all who believe).

→ Sarah called her husband lord or master!!! THINK HOW THIS WOULD GO OVER IN OUR CULTURE! (Jeremiah 6:16)

→ Again, doing good is emphasized in following Sarah's example.

The Groom (the Husbands) (1 Peter 3:7; Ephesians 5:24-29)

- "Likewise" or "in the same way" points back to submission in 2:13, 18; and 3:1! A husband is to submit himself to being a godly husband to his wife. He does this by . . .

- ① Being understanding his wife's spiritual, physical, and emotional needs.
He needs to be caring.
★ Husbands are commanded to love their wives just as Christ loves the Church, His Bride. (Ephesians 5:25-28)
★ Biblical love is DEMONSTRATED in good works.
 - ② Providing and Protecting Her.
★ Women are generally weaker physically than men.
★ This term has nothing to do with a woman being weaker intellectually or spiritually.
★ He is to be her "knight in shining armor"!
★ He is to give his life for hers! (1 John 3:16; Matt 20:28)
 - ③ Honoring His Wife.
★ NEVER should a husband speak evil of his wife in public.
★ He is to LIFT HER UP in public.
 - ④ Provide her companionship.
★ He is to share his life with HER.
★ He is to be her closest and best friend.
 - ⑤ He is to serve her. (Philippians 2:5-8; Matt 20:28; Ephesians 5:25)
- ☆ If a husband fails to love his wife as he is commanded, God will NOT listen to his prayers!! (v. 7; 1 John 3:22)
- ★ The husband, as the head of the family, is accountable to God for all that happens in the family.

CLEAVED Together Forever (Ephesians 5:30-31)

- proskol law (proskollao) means to be glued together, cemented together, to be joined together.
- Christ and His Bride are in a union that is so close that they are consider to be ONE.
- When a husband takes a wife they become ONE.
- What can separate Christ's Bride from His love? NOTHING. (Rom 8:35, 38-39)
- Husband and wives are to remain married until DEATH. (Romans 7:2-3)
- What GOD has jointed together let no man separate! (Matthew 19:6)

Church and the Christian Couple

- ① We must know the times in which we are living. (1 Chronicles 12:32)
- ② We must know what sin is in order to confess it and repent of it. (1 John 1:7-9; Luke 13:1-5)
- ③ Be a New Testament Church, the Bride of Christ, and not compromise with the culture or traditions. We are to obey Christ in ALL THINGS. (Matthew 28:20; 15:1-9)
- ④ Be wives and husbands according to the God's written Word no matter how "out of touch" it may be with contemporary culture.