



FAMILY MATTERS

Husbands and Wives in the Image and for the Glory of God

(The Power of a Beautiful Life, Part 3)

1 Peter 3:1-7

“The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband, even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God, as is her husband, and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.”

The Baptist Faith and Message

Marriage is to be between one man and one woman. As a God of order and design, God opposes the confusion of man as woman and woman as man. Sexual intimacy is a gift from God to be cherished and is reserved for the marriage relationship between one man and one woman. Marriage was instituted by God for the mutual help and blessing of husband and wife.

PCA Statement on Human Sexuality

“Love in marriage is a choice made moment by moment where one person chooses to put the other's last need above their own first want.”

Robert G. McDonald

“Recognize how revolutionary Peter's teaching here was. He addresses women directly, without a view to the opinions of their husbands, urges them to live their lives on the basis of the highest conceivable principles, and to remain faithful to those principles even though it may bring them into some conflict with their husbands. In that world, at that time, women were expected to follow the religious leadership of their husbands; they were, in most respects, absolutely subject to their husbands and vulnerable to their husband's whims if married to cruel or thoughtless men. In many respects, at least for many women, they were their husband's property. But Peter addresses them as independent moral agents with their own lives to live. The most surprising thing here to a first century reader of the Bible would perhaps be that women and wives were addressed separately in the first place.”

Robert S. Rayburn

“She served her husband well, she did all she could do to win him for You, speaking to him of You through her conduct, by which you made her beautiful. Finally, by the end of his life, she had gained him for You.”

Augustine (speaking of his mother and her influence on his father)

I. Believing WIVES (3:1-6) “In the same way...” 2:13

- A. **Submit** to your Husbands (**vs.1**) Purpose/Order/Function/Fit “Suitable Opposites” **Gen. 2:18**
- B. **Pursue True Beauty** (**vs. 2-6**) Focus on the Inward, not the Outward (The one that lasts!) **1:24** Flowers
- C. The Power of a *Beautiful Life*: Preaches without Words! (**vs. 1b**) Conversion!

II. Believing HUSBANDS (3:7)

- A. Consider your wives (Know them!) and as you live with them— appreciate what you have!
- B. Honor your wives! Reciprocal Honoring/Loving/Esteeming one another
- C. Be Gentle with your wives (as they are ‘weaker vessels,’—Don't be Harsh, Handle with Care!)
- D. Acknowledge they are **Co-Heirs of Grace!**
- E. Otherwise, your prayers will be **Hindered!** Singular, Masculine “Your” (Husband)

III. The Believing CHURCH (3:1-7)

Believing Husbands and/or their Wives, and their Children!

- A. Are In the *Image of God!*
 - B. Are For the *Glory of God!*
 - C. Are Becoming like Jesus **Philippians 2:5-8, John 13:3-5, Ephesians 5:1-2**
- All Together these are to **Witness, Woo and Win** via the Power of a Beautiful Life!*

1 Peter 3:1-7

Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, 2 when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. 3 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes.

4 Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. 5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

Ephesians 5:21-25, 6:1-3, 5, 9

21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— 3 "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.

9 Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.

1 Corinthians 11:3

But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

John 5:30

I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

John 13:3-5

3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.