

Yielding in the Home: Wives to Husbands

1. **POSITION & PURPOSE** – *Helper, Mother, Homemaker* (each assumes a role of helping the man in different ways)

Helper – to help is to give oneself to assist another, to follow another's passion and purpose. (Gen 2, 1 Cor 11)

A wife's submission to her husband really makes sense when one understands God's assigned and designed position and functions. People try to redefine this since the word "helper" is used of God also, but the context and supporting passages makes this clear.

A woman finds her God designed and assigned purpose in the man as helper to him, mother to his children, and manager of his home.

To ignore or reject God's design is to hinder the man ("it is not good for man to be alone") by removing his helper, and it is to distract the woman from the most eternally influential positions of all (motherhood).

This is reflected throughout Scripture. God chooses men to lead the home, government, church, and in the work place (since women are homemakers). Submission is reflected even within the Godhead! (1 Cor 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.)

- **Genesis 2:18** – And the LORD God said, "[It is] not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." (ESV "I will make him a helper fit for him."; NASB "I will make him a helper suitable for him.")
- **1 Corinthians 11:9** – Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man.
- **Genesis 3:16** – To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire [shall be] for your husband, And he shall rule over you."
- **1 Timothy 5:9-10, 14** – ⁹ Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, [and not unless] she has been the wife of one man, ¹⁰ well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work. ¹⁴ Therefore I desire that [the] younger [widows] marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.
- **Titus 2:3-5** – ³ the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things -- ⁴ that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ [to be] discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

2. **PRINCIPLE** – *Submit [Yourself]* – God commands a woman to submit, to willfully choose to follow someone that God has placed over you, even though you likely disagree with the direction and/or the person has not himself earned the right to be followed.

- **Ephesians 5:22** – Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.
- **Colossians 3:18** – Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
- **1 Peter 3:1** – Wives, likewise, [be] submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

3. **PERSON** – *To Your Own Husband* – God directs a woman's submission to her own husband. (Prior to this, she is under her parents' authority, which we will cover soon.) This emphasis seems to eliminate submission relationships in the work force. Her focus is to help her husband be successful (as well as her family), not to seek her own ends.

- **Ephesians 5:22-24** – ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so [let] the wives [be] to their own husbands in everything.
- **Colossians 3:18** – Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
- **Titus 3:5** – [to be] discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.
- **1 Peter 3:1** – Wives, likewise, [be] submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

4. **PRACTICE** – Yielding as to the Lord, and Doing So with a Beautified Heart

APPROACH (& ATTITUDE) – *Respect and yield to your husband as if you were yielding to the Lord, while trusting in the Lord.* (cf. Rom 13:1-2)

- **Ephesians 5:22-24** – ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so [let] the wives [be] to their own husbands in everything. ³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects [her] husband.
- **Colossians 3:18** – Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
- **1 Peter 3:5** – For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands,

ADORNMENT (Chaste Conduct, Inner Beauty, Gentle & Quiet Spirit)

- **1 Peter 3:1-5** – ¹ Wives, likewise, [be] submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, ² when they observe your chaste conduct [accompanied] by fear. ³ Do not let your adornment be [merely] outward-- arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on [fine] apparel--⁴ rather [let it be] the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible [beauty] of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. ⁵ For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands,

5. **PATTERN** – This Is Doable (Others Have Succeeded!)

- **Sarah to imperfect Abraham**
1 Peter 3:5-6 – ⁵ For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, ⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.
- **Jesus to the Father**
- **Hannah to Elkanah, etc.**

6. **PICTURE** – *Profound Impact* – A Biblical marriage with husband and wife fulfilling their God-designed roles is a display to the world and to those within the church. To reject God's design brings evil speaking on the Word!

- **Ephesians 5:22-33** – ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so [let] the wives be to their own husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord [does] the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. ³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects [her] husband.
- **Titus 2:3-5** – ³ the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things -- ⁴ that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ [to be] discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.