

## Basic Disciplines of a Believer: A Mature Believer Yields to Authority

### Believer's Family Submission Responsibilities: Men Are Head of the Home Under Christ

*Before one can correctly understand "submit" commands and their contexts regarding gender, we must first understand God's established order and design in creation. These commands relate directly to and stem from God's purposeful design of man and marriage. To teach the commands without the understanding of creation is to miss the foundational concepts necessary to make God's plan work. These commands involve God's designed plan, purpose, and position for each gender.*

#### Gen 1:26-28

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His [own] image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

**IMAGE OF GOD** – It appears from Scripture (Gen 1:26-27; Gen 5:1-2; 1 Cor 11:7) that the image of God pertains directly to the male (indirectly to the female), likely indicative of the male's leadership (similar to God). For more information, refer to the 6/28/09 study: *The Image of God: Is There a Gender Distinction?*

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The man reflects the dominion or sovereignty of God, which is not reflected by the *female*. (She may more reflect the Helper, the Holy Spirit, Who does the bidding of the Father & Son, but is equally God in every way). The male leads. The female assists the male. Neither functions properly or effectively without the other in his/her proper role.

#### Gen 2:7-8

<sup>7</sup> And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. <sup>8</sup> The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.

Two key concepts are found here:

**FIRST** – The male is created first, on purpose, by God (more on this in 1 Tim 2:9-15).

**PLACE** – God puts the male in a place. The female, in contrast, is placed with the man. She is to be with him wherever he is. (When he is evicted from the Garden, she leaves with him.)

#### Gen 2:15-17

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; <sup>17</sup> "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

**PURPOSE** (Career, Calling) – God gives the male a job or life focus in tending and keeping the garden. The woman, in contrast, is assigned to be the helper to the man, not given a separate section of the garden (or her own garden).

**PROVIDER** – This might be seen as the male being assigned the responsibility to provide for his family. (cp. 3:17-19)

**SPIRITUAL REPONSIBILITY** – The male is commanded regarding relationship with God. The female is not in existence, and no evidence is given that God ever commanded her. It is even possible that the command was given only to Adam, as nothing happened when the woman ate the fruit, but the eyes of both of them were open when Adam ate the fruit. God asks Adam about eating the fruit, but not Eve.

#### Gen 2:18-25

<sup>18</sup> And the LORD God said, "[It is] not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." <sup>19</sup> Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought [them] to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that [was] its name. <sup>20</sup> So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. <sup>22</sup> Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> And Adam said: "This [is] now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." <sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

**PRIMARY** – Man is given the prominence, while the woman is given to help the man.

**DOMINION** – The man is given a "dominion" task of naming the animals prior to the female's creation. The pieces of the creation account, plus the consistency throughout Scripture in God's chosen leadership, seems to back up the idea that leadership is male in God's plan. (This has to do with design and function, not value. The man in his pre-sin state was still designed to be "not good" without the woman.)

Adam, in another dominion moment (?) makes a statement regarding marriage and labels the woman (both without the input of the woman).

1 Cor 11 brings out further that the woman is originally from the man, as an emphasis of God's creative order.

*[The woman is never alone. She is created by God and brought to the man by God. This sets a precedent throughout Scripture as well regarding the care, provision, and protection of the woman that will be addressed in a later lesson.]*

<p><b>Gen 3:1-7</b></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" <sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; <sup>3</sup> "but of the fruit of the tree which [is] in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" <sup>4</sup> Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree [was] good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make [one] wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they [were] naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.</p>	<p>The woman was tempted in the realm of responsibility assigned to the man, and made the decision to eat apart from the man.</p> <p><b>GUILT</b> – It is only when the man eats that "the eyes of BOTH of them were opened." Romans 5:12 indicates that sin passed upon all men because of Adam's sin, not because of the sin of Adam and Eve.</p>
<p><b>Gen 3:8-24</b></p> <p><sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where [are] you?" <sup>10</sup> So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup> And He said, "Who told you that you [were] naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" <sup>12</sup> Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave [to be] with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup> And the LORD God said to the woman, "What [is] this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You [are] cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. <sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel." <sup>16</sup> 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." <sup>17</sup> Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed [is] the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat [of] it All the days of your life. <sup>18</sup> Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. <sup>19</sup> In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you [are], And to dust you shall return." <sup>20</sup> And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup> Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them. <sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever "-- <sup>23</sup> therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup> So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.</p>	<p><b>ACCOUNTABILITY</b> – God comes to the Garden, and calls specifically for Adam. He asks Adam if Adam has eaten as Adam himself was commanded not to.</p> <p><i>9 – God calls specifically to Adam</i>  <i>10 – Adam alone responds, and talks in the 1st person.</i>  <i>11 – God asks Adam about what Adam was commanded.</i>  <i>12 – Adam doesn't answer God's question, but blames God and the woman for his actions.</i>  <i>13 – The woman appears to be asked about what Adam just said (giving the fruit to Adam), not about eating the fruit herself.</i></p> <p><b>CONSISTENCY</b> – The woman is affected in her realms and roles of motherhood (conception and childbearing) and "wifeness" (her relationship to her husband). (16) Adam is affected in the realm of his work (the ground), and is directly held accountable for heeding the voice of his wife instead of obeying God. (reversal of roles, and making his wife God) (17-19)</p> <p><b>DOMINION</b> – Adam names Eve (20). [It is possible that Adam was understanding his impact as the father of all the dead (Rom 5:12), and wanting to alleviate any sense of responsibility from Eve by focusing on her life-giving motherhood. He might, through this, have been fully accepting his responsibility while purposefully removing his wrong-handed blame from her.] Eve is known as "his wife" here, which continues to accurately reflect her role as designed by God in creation. [Incidentally, because Eve was just named here, it is likely that the fall happened right away after creation, possibly on Day 8.]</p> <p><b>EVICION</b> – God sent HIM out of the Garden to prevent the MAN from eating from the tree of life [The fact that they had not ventured to eat from that tree is another evidence that not much time had passed since humans were created]. The MAN was evicted, but the woman obviously accompanied him out. The woman's place is wherever the man is.</p>
<p><b>Gen 5:1-5</b></p> <p><sup>1</sup> This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. <sup>2</sup> He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created. <sup>3</sup> And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot [a son] in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. <sup>4</sup> After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years; and he had sons and daughters. <sup>5</sup> So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died.</p>	<p><b>PROMINENT</b> – The male is prominent throughout the history of the Bible. This is the genealogy of Adam, not Adam and Eve. Adam bore a son, and sons and daughters. Adam lives 930 years. Eve's life is only implied through Adam's life. Obviously Eve is there, but she is significant as the one that enables Adam, not by her own separate identity. Also, God chooses male patriarchs, male judges (except Deborah), male kings, male prophets (w/ a few exceptions), male apostles, and requires male pastors.</p>

<p><b>1 Cor 11:3-9</b></p> <p><sup>3</sup> But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman <i>is</i> man, and the head of Christ <i>is</i> God. <sup>4</sup> Every man praying or prophesying, having <i>his</i> head covered, dishonors his head. <sup>5</sup> But every woman who prays or prophesies with <i>her</i> head uncovered dishonors her head, for that is one and the same as if her head were shaved. <sup>6</sup> For if a woman is not covered, let her also be shorn. But if it is shameful for a woman to be shorn or shaved, let her be covered. <sup>7</sup> For a man indeed ought not to cover <i>his</i> head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man. <sup>8</sup> For man is not from woman, but woman from man. <sup>9</sup> Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man.</p>	<p><b>HEAD of WOMAN</b> – The male is head over the female (this seems to imply every realm of life, not just the marriage relationship).</p> <p><b>UNDER the HEADSHIP of CHRIST</b> – Man is not independent. He is under the headship of Christ and under His direction. Man is responsible to Christ, and accountable to Him. [This implies that we can appeal to the Master of all to hold irresponsible men accountable at any level. cf. 1 Peter 2:18-25]</p> <p><b>MAN HAS THE MISSION</b> – The woman is made for the man, not man for the woman. The man is assigned the mission (career, purpose, calling). The woman assists him to help him succeed. An erasing of this or reversing of this goes against God’s design and hobbles or destroys God’s design and the resulting fruit of it.</p>
<p><b>Eph 5:22-33</b></p> <p><sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. <sup>24</sup> Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so <i>let</i> the wives <i>be</i> to their own husbands in everything. <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, <sup>26</sup> that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup> 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. <sup>28</sup> So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord <i>does</i> the church. <sup>30</sup> For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. <sup>31</sup> "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." <sup>32</sup> This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup> Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife <i>see</i> that she respects <i>her</i> husband.</p>	<p><b>HEAD</b> – The husband is clearly said to be head of the wife (an application of “the head of the woman is man” concept in creation and reviewed in 1 Cor 11:3). Headship is defined by Christ’s love for the church. It is not open-ended, but graphically illustrated by Christ’s life, love, and death. The husband is to sanctify his wife by the washing of water by the word (“word” is <i>rhema</i>, the active applying of the Word as the man may be taught, as opposed to the teaching of the Word as in a class – it does not require every man to be a teacher, but a mentor putting to practice what he has himself been taught).</p>
<p><b>1 Tim 2:8-14</b></p> <p><sup>8</sup> I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; <sup>9</sup> in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, <sup>10</sup> but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works. <sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. <sup>12</sup> And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. <sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve.</p>	<p><b>SPIRITUAL LEADER</b> – The MEN (the word here is used only of ADULT MALES; never of boys or females). Men are to lead in worship. They are to be the ones praying in public (and as the text will indicate, leading and teaching as well).</p> <p><b>FIRST</b> – Women are not allowed to teach or to have authority over a man. Two reasons are given, and both are based upon creation, not culture. The first reason points back to Genesis 2, when <i>Adam was formed first, then Eve</i>. The creation order is seen to be purposeful, indicative of the God-assigned leadership role of the male. Paul’s reference does not relate to the church directly. He is not referencing any church in existence at creation. He is only APPLYING the truth of man’s creation to the church. In other words, this truth is transcendent of culture, as it is derived from creation. Therefore, the truth applies everywhere, as “the head of woman is the man.” Women are not to teach or have authority over men in the home, church, work place, or government (and this is consistent with God’s working “norm” throughout all of Scripture). Because of God’s purposeful order of creation, He established the male as the intended leader in every realm of humanity, and the female to assist. God’s creation design requires both the male and female to function as He intended for either of them to find success as prescribed by God.</p>

**Man’s Roles:**

- Leader** (in every realm – home, church, work, government)
- Husband** (Gen 2)
- Father** (Gen 1:26-27; Psalm 127; Psalm 128)
- Provider** (1 Tim 5:8)
- Protector** (in the spiritual realm as well, Heb 13:17 in concept)
- Teacher** (Eph 6:4; Deut 6; Proverbs)