

Passage: 1 Peter 3:1-12

Title: Wives and Husbands (for the Glory of God)

Summary: Everything God calls you to is extraordinary because He is an extraordinary God. Therefore, your marriage is not common, and God has something extraordinary in it for you, and therefore if you so desire, you can use your marriage to live the extraordinary Christian life.

1 Peter 3:1–12 (NKJV) 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, ⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. ⁷ Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered. ⁸ Finally, all of *you be* of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, *be* tenderhearted, *be* courteous; ⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. ¹⁰ For “*He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit.*” ¹¹ *Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it.* ¹² *For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil.”*

Peter’s Credentials / Still Feeding

Written by the Apostle Peter, whose credentials have been challenged because of his lack of education and training; but Peter walked with the Lord, the second Apostle called, and all could see that his power and boldness came because he had been with the Lord. For 3 years he walked with Jesus step-by-step, and now it is 30 years since the resurrection and Peter is still faithfully doing what the Lord commissioned him to do, “*feeding His sheep*”.

The Dispersed

He is writing to the Believers that have been spread out, dispersed from their homeland, thrown into foreign countries. Many of them are struggling and suffering; but their greatest struggle is yet to come, for in just several months Roman Empire Nero is going to launch an all-out attack and persecution against Christians, and over the next 2 centuries over 6 million Christians will die for their faith.

Why Peter Writes / Remember

Peter tells us in the Second Epistle why he writes to them (and us), to stir us up, to remind us, that we hang on to the things we have been taught in the Old Testament, the Epistles of the Apostles, and the teachings in the Gospels. He says remember these things, hold on to them, no matter how hard life may get.

(2 Peter 3:1 NKJV) Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), (2 Peter 3:2 NKJV) that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior,

Doctrine – Duty – Declaration

Peter pretty much breaks this letter into 3 areas. Doctrine, Duty, and Declaration; this book takes on the frame work of Ephesians, except Peter adds on the Declaration – The Lord is Returning – Remember that! Doctrine, what we believe and why. Duty, doctrine in action, living it out. Declaration, soon and very soon we are going to see the King, Hold-fast until then.

Doctrine: Remember Our Great Salvation (1:1 - 2:10)

The Certainty of Our Salvation (1:1-12)

The Calling with Our Salvation (1:13-25)

The Chosen of Salvation (2:1-10)

Duty: Remember Our Example Before Men (2:11 - 4:6)

Honorable Living Before Unbelievers (2:11 - 3:7)

Submission to the Government (2:11-17)

Submission to Masters (2:18 - 25)

Submission in the Family (3:1- 7)

Honorable Living Before Believers (3:8 - 12)

Submission to One Another (3:8 - 12)
Honorable Living in the Midst of Suffering (3:13 - 4:6)
The Principle of Suffering for Righteousness (3:13 - 17)
The Perfection of Suffering for Righteousness (3:18- 22)
The Purpose of Suffering for Righteousness (4:1 - 6)
Declaration: Remember Our Lord Will Return (4:7 - 5:14)
The Responsibility of Christian Living (4:7 - 11)
The Rewards of Christian Suffering (4:12 - 19)
The Requirements for Christian Leadership (5:1 - 4)
The Realization of Christian Victory (5:5 - 14)

Theme

He tells us to remember because of the theme of this book. The theme of this book is given to us in chapter 5:

(1 Peter 5:10 NKJV) But may the God of all **grace**, who called us to His eternal **glory** by Christ Jesus, after you have **suffered** a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.

The word suffering is used 16 times, glory 12, and grace 8. Peter unties these 3 words to write a letter of encouragement to those who are struggling and suffering, that their suffering will one day be transformed into glory.

Perfect / Establish / Strengthen / Settled

He writes to us so that we may be:

- *Perfect* - (mature) which means to mend (what has been broken or rent), to repair, to complete, to fit out, equip, put in order, arrange, adjust, to fit or frame for one's self, prepare;
- *Established* – to set fast, confirm one's mind;
- *Strengthen* – to make one strong;
- *Settle* – to lay a foundation.

Statistics / Bookstore / Jesus' Teaching on Marriage

Well, according to statistics the divorce rate among professing born-again Christians is equal with that of the world. The challenges of a Christian marriage are evident in the Christian bookstore, racks upon racks of books on marriage. It is interesting that if you took all of Jesus' teachings on marriage it would take you about 10 minutes to read them over the 4 gospels. The main teaching in Matthew 5:31-32 and Matthew 19:3-9.

We Must Live Above the Standard of the World

Marriage is under attack today, and although we are imperfect people, we cannot alter or lower the perfect standard. And for all of us, the perfect standard is Jesus Christ and the way he loves his bride and the way the bride is to respond to the groom. So both ways here, but the world wants to lower the standard. They want to change the standard because if you can, then you diminish the standard. And that's the ultimate goal with this continual attack upon marriage and the continual attack, to tear it down, to remove it from something that was sacred.

Marriage was Something Created in the Garden - Paradise

And may I just remind us all again, marriage was established before the fall marriage existed in paradise. And when the Lord gives us a calling, when he gives us a command, when he gives us a condition, all of it is to take us back to the garden, back to paradise, back to the condition before the fall. And I know theologically that's not possible, but the desire still exists. And what the Lord speaks to each and every married couple here and those who are looking to be married is this is the goodness of marriage. This is the beauty of marriage. Something that existed in the garden in the perfect world.

And I believe that God can take us into a paradise if we'll only allow him to by heeding to these things that he speaks to us in our passage before us today.

Bible Instruction Book / Vertical – Horizontal / Gov't – Marriage / Appeal to New Birth – not World

This whole Bible is an instruction book on relations.

- Our vertical relationship with our Creator, our Father in Heaven,
- and our horizontal relationships with each other, whether husband and wife, or our neighbors and co-workers.

In these passages we are studying here in 1 Peter, on submission to governing authorities, to our employer, and now here within marriage, all appeal to our new birth, that higher nature, for we are sojourners and pilgrims living to a higher calling than the world. So we are being told in these passages not to live like the rest of the world, not to pattern our marriage and relationships like the world, but to the higher calling.

Marriage Counseling / Tue & Sun / The Transformation Process

When people ask me about marriage counseling, I tell them marriage counseling is held on Tuesday and Sundays, as we go through the Bible and the transformation process happens, as we are not conformed to this world but transformed by the renewing of our mind:

(Romans 12:1 NKJV) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

(Romans 12:2 NKJV) And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Again – Nothing Common / I Do – God's Will / Settle That

Now, again, I must point out our past few studies, nothing God calls you to is common, for He is no common God. Everything He calls you to is extraordinary because He is an extraordinary God. Therefore, your marriage is not common, nor is it a mistake. The minute you said I do it became God's will, settle that in your heart and mind right now, and then cast all doubts into the great abyss. This is your spouse, for life.

Marriage Not Always Easy – But Nothing More Beautiful /

Yes, marriage is not always roses, but a Christ-center marriage, more beautiful than any sunset in Maui or mountain top view in Colorado.

God Glorified

When the family is strong, the nation is strong, and when the nation is strong, God is glorified. Godly marriages bring God glory.

Teenagers – Singles / Potential / Expectations

Teenagers and singles you will be married someday, you will watch your friends get married, you will need to know your roles and responsibilities within your marriage, what to be looking for in a potential mate, and to be able to give your friends godly counsel when their marriage needs it.

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?

- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*

The Hidden Witness

(1 Peter 3:1 NKJV) 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,

Likewise

Verse 1 – Wives likewise - Verses 1, and 7, say the word “likewise” – and the “likewise” takes us back to Jesus and his sacrifice. So the calling for us to sacrifice and submit in the government and sacrifice and submit in the workplace to sacrifice and submit as wives in the marriage to sacrifice and submit as husbands in a marriage all comes down to the picture that we have of Christ and His sacrifice for us.

1 Peter 2:21–25 (NKJV) ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ²² *“Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”*; ²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Verse 1 - be submissive to your own husbands – for the context, the submission spoken of here applies to a believing wife. We will address and make comment to what degree and what difference (if the husband is a believer or if he is an unbeliever. So for starter, as in Ephesians 5, start with the believing wife married to a believing husband.

Ephesians 5:22–24 (NKJV) 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.*

Contrary to Way of World

Submission is contrary to the way of the world, but when a woman submits to God’s word, God’s plan for her life and marriage, she is blessed and her family is enriched. Submission is a hidden jewel waiting to be found in every marriage.

Poison in Tea

Louis Talbot, preaching at a mega-church in Los Angeles called the "Open Door", in the early 1900's. he taught on wives submitting to their husbands. After the service he was greeting the people and a rather loud lady in a flower dress with a big hat on got right up in his face and said, "your message was disgusting...wives submitting to their husbands in everything." She said if you were my husband I'd put poison in your tea, he said maam, and if I was your husband...I'd drink it.

Military Term / Same Battle / Modern Example / Final Commander-in-Chief

You may say well I don't like that idea, let me explain something important of what this word means. This word submit was used as a military term when this was written. The soldiers were all fighting the same battle, side by side, and each knew their role and responsibility in the battle to win. A modern example would be this: We go to war against the Taliban, each military division (Army, Navy, etc) gives its counsel to the war planning board. The Navy says we can launch Tomahawks from sea, the Air Force says we have studied their defenses and feel we can knock out their missiles, the Army and Marines say we can't fight conventional, we need to do commando raids at first, then massive ground battles.....everybody gave their input based on their experience and strength. The Commander - in - Chief and his advisor then came up with the Final battle plan. He then passes it down to his troops, and everybody knows what their role and responsibility is. They submit to the final plan, trusting that leader has planned it carefully.

Imagine – We go it Alone / Bombing their Own / Husbands Listen – Wives Perform Role

Imagine as ridiculous as it sounds, but the Army saying we don't like that plan, we are going in alone.....our own bombs would be dropping on our own men. This is what is happening in many marriages today, we are bombing our own people, because everyone wants it their way. Each military branch performed as directed, fought side-by-side, and the resultant was victory. That is how it is to be applied in marriages. Husbands you need to listen to your wives advice and wisdom, and then you need to go off and make a plan that will ensure success, and then you must come back and communicate it clearly to your wife and family. Wives even if you don't agree with the plan, you need to perform your role and responsibility.

Own Husband / Married Eyes of Lord – Governing Authorities / 25 Cents

Verse 1 - to your own husbands: Notice it says to your own husband, beware of some false teaching out there that says woman are to submit to all men, no just your husband. Also, woman if you are dating some guys who says we are married in the eyes of the Lord, tell them you are not married until the Pastor says you are, and if that isn't enough, go back to the last study and show him you are to submit to governing authorities and they say we are not married without that marriage certificate. You youth, your fathers will give you a quarter today (or a business card with his phone number on it), and you carry it with you at all times, and if that boyfriend says he wants a kiss or more, hand him that quarter and say call my dad, if he says it is ok with him, then it is ok with me.

Unbeliever / Unequally Yoked / Heartache / No One to Share Salvation / Fancies of Youth

Verse 1 - that even if some do not obey the word, – Peter addressing woman married to an unbeliever. Let me just say this to anyone who is unequally yoke and considering marriage, read this section, you can read the pains and struggles in this verse of being married to an unbeliever. Ask anybody who is on-fire and in love with Jesus, and they will tell you of the heartaches that they live day in and day out. No one to share the joys of salvation with, instead it is "keep that Jesus stuff to yourself", no one to join with you in calling upon His name in times of need, instead it is "where is your God now". I want to go fellowship with my brothers and sisters, while they want to stay home and watch TV or go someplace that makes you feel dirty. Let's do missions, no lets go skiing. The fancy of youth will fade away, and you will mature and desire deeper things, and there is when the battle will intensify. It is a life of pain, and I can tell you because the Word says so, sooner or later, your life and relationship with Jesus will suffer.

Here's the Plan / Eye Gate – Ear Gate / Tracts in Sandwich / Living Epistle

Verse 1 - they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives - So God is saying here is the plan, if we can't reach him through the ear gate, then we will reach him through the eye gate. So don't put tracts in between his sandwich so when he bites into there it is, don't preach to him, don't sneak out to his car and tune the radio to 95.1; rather let him watch you, the living epistle:

(2 Corinthians 3:2 NKJV) You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men;

(2 Corinthians 3:3 NKJV) clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.

(1 Peter 3:2 NKJV) when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear.

Observe – Spectator / Not One Play – Dealing with Gov't – Boss – Friends / Be a Witness

Verse 2 - when they observe your chaste conduct: He will observe you. This word observe was the word used for a spectator at a sporting event. Your husband will observe you, in all of your dealing. He isn't watching one play, but the whole game. He will watch you in all of your dealings, not just with him, but

how you deal with the governing authorities, your boss and work ethics, how you talk with or about your friends and family and neighbors. We are to be a witness, not so much we are to witness.

Ear Gate / Constant Badgering / Done hearing From You

A closing note on wives trying to get their husbands to come around to the Lord's way or to their way of thinking (whether saved or unsaved), remember the ear gate, when he is done hearing from you, then he will be able to hear from the Lord. If you are constantly talking, badgering him, about something - then all he will ever hear is your voice. When you are done talking, then he will be able to hear the voice of God.

The Hidden Beauty

(1 Peter 3:3 NKJV) Do not let your adornment be merely outward; arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel;

Not Wear Makeup / Verse 5 / Kosmo – Order from Chaos / Paint the Barn

Now this passage is not saying that a woman should not wear make-up, or fix her hair, or wear nice clothes. Notice verse 5 he says holy woman of past times adorned themselves. To say that woman should not wear makeup or fix themselves up, is legalism.

Jokes

The word translated “adorning” is kosmos in the Greek, it means to bring order. It gives us our English words “cosmos” (the ordered universe). It is the opposite of chaos.

It is also where we get our word “cosmetic.” Now I am too wise to tell jokes other pastors/teachers use, who say cosmetics brings order out of chaos, no sir I would never say such a thing.

I think it was JV McGee (that ole southern preacher) who said regarding makeup, if the barn needs paintin, then paint it.

(1 Peter 3:4 NKJV) 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.

Priority / Inward vs Outward / Some are Just Shells / Doors Swing Open

What is being said here is priority. Woman, are you as concerned with your inward beauty as you are your outer beauty. There are woman that all their focus is on the outward beauty, and when you get to their heart there is no beauty, just a coldness, some a meanness, many just selfishness, me – me. Some beautiful women are just shells because their beauty has stunted their mental and spiritual growth. Their beauty opens doors for them, gets them free things, surrounds them by the in-crowd, and they never have to develop themselves, life is easy, they never have to want, and it is sad when you meet them.

It comes down to what is a woman's priorities, what are they investing more time in the (the inward or the outward), and does God's opinion of modesty outweigh everyone else's.

Gentle & Quiet / The Opposite Harsh & Quarrelsome / Hours – Snow / Harsh - Hailstorm

Verse 4 - with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit: A gentle and quiet spirit, a spirit that is characterized by a tranquility and peace and trusting in God. The opposite of gentle and quiet is harsh and quarrelsome. You know you can listen to a woman with a gentle and quiet spirit for hours on end, they are just soothing to your soul, like fresh snow falling in the winter, they are such a blessing to be around. But ten minutes with a harsh quarrelsome woman will drive anyone crazy. Then multiply that day after day, month after month, and you can see why that marriage has problems. They are like a hailstorm and you have no shelter to go into.

Jesus' only autobiographical description He gives of Himself in all the Gospel's accounts, is in Matthew 11 where He describes Himself as "Gentle and lowly". He comes gently without busting down doors (born in a manger remind you), and He comes lowly, with a meekness (which means power under control), and lowly (which means humbly), for loves comes softly (for love is patient, love is kind... 1 Corinthians 13). **Matthew 11:28-30 (NKJV)** ²⁸ Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NKJV) ⁴ Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; ⁵ does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Jesus Not Revile back / Example for Marriage / Reconciliation – Right / Chose Battles / Sojourners

Remember Jesus when they reviled against Him, did not revile back, when they made Him suffer He did not threaten them back; He is our example and that is a great example for marriage. Don't revile back and that argument will end a whole lot sooner. It is better to reconcile than be right. For reconciliation to happen someone has to die. Couples, chose your battles wisely in your marriage, don't try to hold onto to every foothold, remember all these things are passing away and we are just sojourners and pilgrims, and lots of this stuff we fight to hold on to, when we get to heaven we are going to say why did I invest so much and be aggravated by such things. Gang, for every relationship, sometimes we must endure misuse and mistreatment for the sake of the Big Picture.

1 Peter 2:21-25 (NKJV) ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ²² "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; ²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Done Hearing from You

Again, wives, when your husband is done hearing from you, then he will be able to hear the voice of God.

The Hidden Enrichment

(1 Peter 3:5 NKJV) For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands,

Sharp Dressed

Ladies, the sharp dressed holy woman in former time, and today, is wearing "submission".

Ephesians 5 – Submitting to One Another

May it be noted before, regarding women that the husband is called to submit as told in Ephesians to Christ. And so the wife isn't the only one called to submit. In Ephesians 5 before we get to the wives and husband part, back in verse 21 we are told to submit to one another. So how does all this piece together, let look at it to find out.

Ephesians 5:17-21 (NKJV) ¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God.

No Volumes – No Encyclopedias / Sums it Up

God doesn't right volumes of books for marriage, He doesn't give us the Bible, and then give us an encyclopedia on marriage, rather He sums it all up in Ephesians for us, brings marriage down to this simple formula:

(Ephesians 5:22 NKJV) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.....

(Ephesians 5:25 NKJV) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

Love – Submit / He Knows Your Needs / Wired & Programmed / Loved - Lead

Men love your wife, and wives submit to your husband. God knows what your needs are, He knows how we are wired because He wired us, He wrote the code for our programming. Woman want to be loved and secure in that love, that the love will always be there. Men want to lead.

No Leading – Insecurity / I Better Get Involved / Man Feels Threatened / Wife not Loved - Cycle

Now when a man isn't leading the home as he should, the woman becomes insecure, she is thinking if he really loves me the way he says he does, he wouldn't be doing this, so I better get involved here, I better start protecting myself, I better make sure I am taken care of, and there comes the problems for the man feels his leadership is threatened and he starts to battle and defends his leadership. When he does that the wife doesn't feel very loved, and the cycle just continues.

Back V4 / Gentle & Quiet / Home to Have Peace & Order

Going back to verse 4 – the gentle and quiet spirit. What is going on in many Christian marriages is anything but that. The home is to have peace and order, but too many homes it is strife and disorder, as everyone is battling for ground.

Single Girls / Looking Our for Her / Don't Settle for Less / If Married Can't Pick & Choose

Verse 5 - being submissive to their own husbands - In times past I have met young woman who have told me I'm not going to submit to my husband, I don't believe in that stuff. For the majority of them, I say I well I met your boyfriend and if you marry him I wouldn't want to submit to him either. Don't settle for less gals, wait until God brings you that man of God, and guess what, it won't be as hard to submit as you think it is, because the man of God will be looking out for His bride, thinking about her, desiring to please her. Yes he will make mistakes, is subject to sin, but in the whole will be looking out for you more than himself. Jesus is his example and the word says he must die to himself for his bride, don't settle for anything less.

Wives Submit / Husband – What Like to Submit to You

God says wives submit to your husband. But I must ask every man this question when I teach this, how would it be for you to have to submit to you. Would it be easy? Are you a worthy leader, are you leading as you should? We will talk to you next study, stay in school, stay in school, no hooky next week.

In Context – Even Unsaved

So as we see in context, this even applies if you are married to an unsaved man. Back to the beginning of this study, your life will be hard married to someone who is living according to another instruction manual.

God's Word always Supercedes

The great debate is, how far are you to submit? Woman, submission is never in contradiction to the word of God. God's Word always supercedes your husbands and the government:

(Psalms 138:2 NKJV) I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

Can't Pick & Choose / Sarah Example / Enriched the Family

If you already are married, you can't pick and choose which commands of God to follow, all means all, do you want to protect your marriage, then submit to every word of God:

(Proverbs 30:5 NKJV) Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

(1 Peter 3:6 NKJV) as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

Verse 6 - as Sarah obeyed Abraham: Gives Sarah as an example. Sarah's family was enriched because of her submission. God prospered her and her family. They left Egypt with loads of riches. He was very rich, this is the first "rich" is used in the Scriptures and it is because Sarah was submissive, not Abraham. God will enrich your family for submitting. Wives submit, and God will protect you through his bonehead mistakes, and he will enrich your family.

(Genesis 13:1 NKJV) Then Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, to the South.

(Genesis 13:2 NKJV) Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold.

Obey – Listen Attentively / Men Struggle Too

Verse 6 – Obeyed: means to listen attentively, to be attentive to his needs, it means to listen and listen again. Can your husband share his feelings with you. Woman don't believe this tough outer shell stuff, men struggle with very much the same things you do.

Your Fulfillment In Jesus / Asked of the Lord – not Your Husband

Verse 6 - and are not afraid with any terror: Your husband is not Jesus, never will even come close, you must find your fulfillment in Jesus, don't look for you fulfillment in your husband. He is a helpmate, to walk with you, not for you, he is a helpmate to help you draw closer to Christ, but not be your Christ. Fulfillment anywhere else will bring fear into and upon your life. These things that are being asked of you, are being asked of you by the Lord, your Shepherd, the King of your heart. Don't do these things for your husband, for he will give you plenty of reasons not to, but do them for the Lord, for He will never give you reason to quit.

What's In Your Hand

What's that in your hand? It's my husband, good I'll use that for my glory in you, and through you.

Husbands - 3:7

(1 Peter 3:7 NKJV) Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

Now Husbands / 6-1 / Keep it Simple / Saul-Saul

Peter now is going to turn his attention to the husbands. He spent six verses talking to the wives, but only one for the men. Wonder why, could it be that he is saying woman you need six times more instruction because it is six times harder to be married to a man. Or could it be that Peter is saying I have to make this as simple as I possibly can, one verse, real simple, in fact this sermon should only be 10 minutes since the average man can only make it 8 minutes before he has to get up and check the refrigerator and see if something magically appeared since the last time he looked in it. It is interesting in the Scriptures that when God called men in the Bible many times he had to say their name twice. Saul, Saul. Samuel, Samuel. Abraham, Abraham. Hah, what, are you talking to me? God knows men oh so well

Marriage Not Always Easy / Ann Graham / God Glorified

Yes, marriage is not always roses. They asked Billy Graham's wife if over the course of their marriage if she ever considered divorce, she said divorce, never, murder, yes. I like what she said about marriage, she said the hardest thing about marriage is that it is so daily

We will see 4 things that God calls and tells men to see and attain in their marriages:

- Dwell with your Wife
- Know your Wife
- Honor your Wife
- Be Enriched by your Wife

[Dwell with your Wife](#)

Verse 7 - Husbands, likewise, dwell with them:

Dwell / Not Just Share a House / Eph 5

Husbands we are called to dwell with our wives. He is not just talking about sharing a house and a bedroom. Ephesians we are told to love our wives as Christ loved the Church:

(Ephesians 5:25 NKJV) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

1st thing Jesus Did / Car Alignment / Not a Distraction / Men PreOccupied

The first thing Jesus did for his Bride was enter into her/our world. He didn't say come up her, get with my program, instead He came down to us. Men if our car is out of alignment, the tires are going to wear unevenly, the car is not going to drive smoothly on the road, eventually the tires are going to blow out. So too if your marriage is out of alignment. Jesus came into our world, and so too must we come into our wives world. We were not a distraction to Him, yet sometimes that is what are wives feel like, that they are just a distraction to us. A man can be so occupied with his job, his team, his activity, his ministry, that the wife feels like she is just a distraction, that you would rather be taking care of other things.

Question – Is Wife Lonely / Eve Never Alone / Dwell - Refuge

Men, question, is your wife lonely. Are you there, but somewhere else? Men realize this, Adam was there when Eve opened her eyes, Eve/woman never knew what it meant to be alone. Adam was alone before God brought Eve to him, he was use to being alone, even though God said it is not good that man be alone. Often through the Scriptures the word for dwell means “refuge, sanctuary” I think there is good application there for us as husbands, that we become a place of refuge and sanctuary for their lives, when the world is against them, the kids are terrible, that they have a place they know they can come to and be comforted, to not feel like a distraction, a place where the storms of life rage, but she can feels secure.

Abide With / Abide In / Every Thought / Easy to Submit / She not a Distraction – but Priority

Dwelling doesn't just mean we are living together, but we the word means to abide with, to live in. We are to live in our wives, if you will; the two become one, every thought is a thought for the two. We talked about woman submitting last week, and me if you are dwelling with your with, living in her, you will make decision that will be the best for both of you, and it will be much easier for her to submit, to follow your leadership, because she will be safe and secure knowing that you love her, and you are looking out for her. She will know that she is not some distraction, but your most immediate priority. You dwell with her, come into her world, come into alignment with her. Men you dwell with your wife, and she will follow you anywhere.

To Dwell – Have to Know

To dwell with her, you will have to know her.

[Know your Wife](#)

Verse 7 - Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding:

Gnosko / Come into Her World

The word for understanding here is "gnosko" which means, "to know". You'll only know her by coming into her world, aligning yourself with her, and then listening to her. Peter did not use the word ginōskō which appears in Matthew 1:25 in reference to carnal knowledge but used gnosin which indicates a mental understanding.

Don't Struggle Why She Different / Something Missing – Brings Balance / Kleenex

Don't struggle with why she is different than you, just know that she is different. Men we will never understand why woman are so different than us, and vice-verse, but know this, all the way back in the garden man has been missing something (the rib), we are not all there, and the woman now has the piece that is missing. My wife brings me balance. I'm a facts and fix it person, she is brings that gentle side, that what about their feelings.

Do you notice that at the men's retreats there are no Kleenex boxes? The only reason they would be there would be if someone has a cold, but at a men's retreat you can just use your sleeve. Woman's retreats there are boxes every third chair, boxes in the hallway, boxes in the rooms, that's why the woman's retreats always cost more than the men's. They are different, we need to know that, and we need to know them, come in line with their difference, and not demand and expect them to conform to our differences.

Your wife's definition of love is different than yours men, you will find that out, only after you know them. You won't be able to give them the love they need until you see their difference from you.

To Her Know Deeper / The Word & Prayer

Husbands do you want to know how to know your wife deeper than you do today? Know the word. You see the word gives you deeper understanding into all things. Spending time in the word and prayer will enrich your marriage:

Hebrews 4:12–13 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Hebrews 4:14–16 (NKJV) ¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Listen to Her / Time for Coffee

You will only be able to do this by listening to them, talking with them, dwelling with them. Men when your wife wants to talk, needs to talk, you need to be there. Marriages die out after the communication dies. Listen to her, make time for coffee with her, just the two of you, turn the television off. Keep yourself spiritually discerning of what her needs are, you will do this by prayer and the word.

Question – Is She Lonely

Men, question, is your wife lonely. Are you there, but somewhere else?

Know to Honor

Knowing will flow to honoring her, you should study her, know her, so you can honor her.

Honor your Wife

Verse 7 - giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel:

Weak & Weaker

This does not mean by any means as weaker in (spirituality. or intelligence, or gifting). It is clearly identified for us, with the word vessel, which associates to the body that carries the person, just like a cup that carries water. But notice also, that both vessels are weak, just one vessel is weaker.

The word “vessel” is the translation of a Greek word referring to a vessel used in the services of the temple (Mark 11:16), also to household utensils. The English word comes from a Latin word *vasellum*, the diminutive form of *vas*, a vase, the Latin words referring to a receptacle which covers and contains. Thus, the word comes to refer to an instrument whereby something is accomplished. It is used in the latter sense here. The word is used of Paul who is called “a chosen vessel” (Acts 9:15), a chosen instrument of God. The husband is to dwell with the wife, remembering that she is an instrument of God as well as the husband, a child of God to be used by Him to His glory. The husband must ever keep in mind that she is the weaker instrument of the two, not morally or intellectually, but physically. This attitude toward the wife on the part of the husband therefore includes loving consideration of the wife in view of the fact that she is not physically as strong as he is.

Wuest, K. S. (1997). Wuest's word studies from the Greek New Testament: for the English reader (Vol. 11, p. 83). Eerdmans.

Plastic Mug versus Waterford Crystal

Yet here Peter calls women “weaker” - only as a crystal goblet is weaker than a plastic mug. The mug is durable and rugged, and easy to knock about. But the crystal's finery and delicacy make it more valuable. A wife brings a tenderness to a family that men lack. Peter is telling us to honor our wife for her sensitivity.

Deserving Honor / Place Value On / Same as Precious – 1:19

Your wife deserves to be honored. Honor means to place a value on, this is the same word used in 1 Peter 1:19 for the word “precious” as used with the precious blood of Jesus:

(1 Peter 1:18 NKJV) knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,

(1 Peter 1:19 NKJV) but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

See Correlation / Not to Handle Carelessly / Dare use Same Word / Marriage not Common

Do you see the value she is correlated to? I think it is purposeful that Peter uses this same word here, as he relates how precious your wife is to you. She isn't something that you just handle carelessly, something that is common to you, but something that has value that you would dare use it in the same sentence structure as the precious blood of Jesus. Your marriage is not common, your wife is not common, for your God is no common God, nothing He gives or calls you to will ever be common, for He is the extraordinary God. How precious is your wife to you. This knowledge we have just gleaned from the Scripture begs us husbands to honor her.

Rabbinical Teaching / Ransom / Picture of Jesus / Value of Wife

The rabbinical teachings stated the husband's duties included providing for his wife the necessities of life (Ex 21:10) such as food, clothing, and shelter. Conjugal duties, medical care, proper burial, andto provide a ransom for her in the event she was taken captive by enemy nations. She had a value, she was worth the ransom. Do you see the picture of Jesus Christ providing Himself the ransom for His Bride, us the Church, and the husband is to love his wife just as Christ loves the Church, that the husband puts such a value on his bride he would pay a ransom for her, even his life.

Dwell – Know – Honor / She will Enrich You

Men, Dwell with your wife, Know your wife, Honor your wife, and you will be enriched by your wife.

Be Enriched by your Wife

Verse 7 - giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered:

She is Rich / Heiress / Make you Rich / Need Her – You Missing Something

An heir, an heiress, she is rich, you are married to an heiress. She can enrich you men. Your wife is a joint-heir of spiritual truths and insights. Men you need her, no matter how strong you think you are, you still need her, remember in you something is missing.

Joint-Heirs / Rom 8

Same word used here for us being joint-heirs with Christ:

(Romans 8:16 NKJV) The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

(Romans 8:17 NKJV) and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Not Inferior Spiritually / Weak Physically/ Keep Order

Do you see the relationship, the idea here is not that the woman you are married to is by any means inferior spiritually, only weaker physically, we see here it is not because they are spiritually weaker, for we see they are joint-heirs in the spiritual things.

You Enriched / Sarah Did / Look for Riches – not Faults

Your wife will enrich you, Sarah enriched Abraham. The family was not enriched because Abraham was so great, he let her go into a harem, and told her to lie in order that it might happen; but God protected her, honored her submission, and the resultant was they left Egypt enriched. Husbands God will enrich you, because of your wife. Look for the riches in your wife, not the faults, failures, and irritants.

Verse 7 - that your prayers may not be hindered:

Prayers Hindered / Not Right in Home / Married to Kings Daughter / Ever Dad Knows

Men mistreatment of your wife hinders your prayers, why, because you are married to the Kings daughter. Every father knows what I am talking about. Every guy who is dating a young girl, are also dating their father, they just don't know it. Men here is a key to your marriage today, that your prayers be not hindered. When things are not right at home, they will not be right anywhere.

Mistreat her – Mistreat God

You are married to one of the Kings daughters, and if you mistreat her, God says you are mistreating Him. God says talk to her like you are talking to me, treat her like you would treat me. Remember that next argument that arises in your home.

Jesus Not Revile back / Example for Marriage / Reconciliation – Right / Chose Battles / Sojourners

Notice Jesus when they reviled against Him, did not revile back, when they made Him suffer He did not threaten them back; He is our example and that is a great example for marriage. Don't revile back and that argument will end a whole lot sooner. It is better to reconcile than be right. For reconciliation to happen someone has to die.

Couples, chose your battles wisely in your marriage, don't try to hold onto to every foothold, remember all these things are passing away and we are just sojourners and pilgrims, and lots of this stuff we fight to hold on to, when we get to heaven we are going to say why did I invest so much and be aggravated by such things. Gang, for every relationship, sometimes we must endure misuse and mistreatment for the sake of the Big Picture.

Times to Keep Quiet / No Round 2 / Rift between You & God / More Holy Spirit

Husbands, like Jesus, there is a time to just keep quiet. Imagine how many fights would never make it to the second round if we would just keep silent. But for us husbands, God gives us a strict command to honor our wives, for mistreatment of her will cause a rift between us and Him. Men, it takes more Holy Spirit to treat your wife right than it does to preach to the multitude or raise the dead. Honor your wife, treat her as the daughter of God that she is, and you will be enriched.

Wife Will Follow You Anywhere / Peter Married / Took Wife on Mission Trips

Men, do these things, and your wives will follow you anywhere. I can say that with confidence according to the life of the writer of this letter, Peter.

Peter was married:

(Matthew 8:14 NKJV) Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever.

Peter took his wife with him on missionary journeys:

(1 Corinthians 9:5 NKJV) Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas (another name for Peter)?

She Left All / Enriched His Ministry / Even to Death – Remember thou the Lord

Peter's wife got saved, she left all they knew to go with Peter and proclaim the good news. Imagine how enriching that was to Peter, having his wife there to counsel the woman, balance his ministry, to be that threefold cord that would lift him up when he was discouraged. She followed her husband even to death. Church tradition says that Peter was forced to watch his wife be crucified in front of him, before his own crucifixion, and his final words to his wife were, "remember thou the Lord." Then Peter was crucified; he plead to be crucified upside down because he did not feel worthy to be crucified in the same manner of Jesus. (from Eusebius who was a church historian in the 3rd century. He was citing the testimony of Clement who was an early church leader in the 2nd century)

Life of Peter & Wife / Best Example of Eph 5

The life of Peter and his wife are the greatest example of Ephesians 5, wives submit to your husbands, husbands love your wife.

4 Things Husbands

4 things that God calls and tells men to see and attain in their marriages:

- Dwell with your Wife
- Know your Wife
- Honor your Wife
- Be Enriched by your Wife

Know What to Do – Now Do It / World Can't Touch Counsel

Peter writes to remind us; we know what to do, the hard part is doing! Men we have to die to self, that's the only way. The world can't touch this counsel from Peter, Dr.Phil, Ohpra, the 300 dollar an hour couch, their counsel cannot touch these words from the Lord to us husbands. The Lord keeps it simple for us, now all we must do, is do what the word says to do.

Submission to One Another (3:8 - 12)

Bookends – Example of Christ - Silent

The Bookends of this teaching to and for wives and husbands, the example of Christ at the end of chapter 2, and verses 8-12 here in chapter 3.

1 Peter 2:21–25 (NKJV) ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ²² "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; ²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 3:8–12 (NKJV) ⁸ Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; ⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. ¹⁰ For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. ¹¹ Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil."

(1 Peter 3:8 NKJV) Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;

These words are self-explanatory, and imagine them applied in the marriage.

(1 Peter 3:9 NKJV) not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

These words are self-explanatory, and imagine them applied in the marriage. A repeat of 1 Peter 2:21-25 of Jesus.

You will inherit a blessing if you do

(1 Peter 3:10 NKJV) For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit.

In verses 10–12, Peter explained the “blessing” of verse 9 by quoting David’s words in Psalm 34:12–16.

These words are self-explanatory, and imagine them applied in the marriage. A repeat of 1 Peter 2:21-25 of Jesus.

You will inherit a blessing if you do

(1 Peter 3:11 NKJV) Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it.

These words are self-explanatory, and imagine them applied in the marriage.

You will inherit a blessing if you do

(1 Peter 3:12 NKJV) For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil."

3:12. Peter said the Lord’s eyes are upon the righteous (not “over” as in the Authorized Version). God looks upon them with favor, and His ears are always open to their prayers. He will faithfully fulfill His promises to grant their petitions; but He will be equally faithful to fulfill His warnings of judgment against evildoers also, for His “face” (prosōpon, face, visage, countenance) is against them that do evil. God cannot countenance wrongdoing (Habakkuk 1:13, Berkeley), nor will He listen to the prayers of those who cherish iniquity in their hearts (Psalm 66:18, RSV).

Harris, R. W., ed. (1989). Hebrews–Jude (p. 291). World Library Press.

Conclusion

We Must Live Above the Standard of the World

Although we are imperfect people, we cannot alter or lower the perfect standard. And for all of us, the perfect standard is Jesus Christ and the way he loves his bride and the way the bride is to respond to the groom. So both ways here, but the world wants to lower the standard. They want to change the standard because if you can, then you diminish the standard. And that’s the ultimate goal with this continual attack upon marriage and the continual attack, to tear it down, to remove it from something that was sacred.

Marriage was Something Created in the Garden - Paradise

And may I just remind us all again, marriage was established before the fall marriage existed in paradise. And when the Lord gives us a calling, when he gives us a command, when he gives us a condition, all of it is to take us back to the garden, back to paradise, back to the condition before the fall. And I know theologically that’s not possible, but the desire still exists. And what the Lord speaks to each and every married couple here and those who are looking to be married is this is the goodness of marriage. This is the beauty of marriage. Something that existed in the garden in the perfect world.

And I believe that God can take us into a paradise if we’ll only allow him to by heeding to these things that he speaks to us in our passage before us today.

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need