

# A God- Honoring Marriage

1 Peter 3:1-7

## Notes

- **Christian Wife with an Unbelieving Husband (V1-2):** Peter calls Christian wives to submit to their husbands, emphasizing that submission is a core Christian principle modeled by Jesus, who submitted to God's will out of love. True submission is rooted in love and trust, not hierarchy.
  - **Related Scripture –**
    - John 6:38 (Jesus is submitted to the will of God)
    - Hebrews 12:2 – (Out of love for us Jesus submitted himself to the cross)
    - Galatians 3:28 (is clear there no superiority for male or female in Christ so our submission is not a form of hierarchy)
  
- **Outward vs. Inward Beauty (V3-4):** Peter advises that true beauty comes from within, characterized by a gentle and quiet spirit. The principle given here is to not let your beauty be external, but your beauty to come from your love of God and your desire to grow closer to him, and your external beauty should reflect all that is true of your internal beauty.
  - **Related Scripture**
    - Matthew 11:29 (the qualities asked of a wife are Christ-like qualities simply expressed in a marriage relationship.)
  
- **Example of Sarah (V5-6):** Sarah's respectful attitude towards Abraham, even in private, serves as an example of inner beauty and honor. This is a reference to **Genesis 18:12** – Sarah speak to herself, or kind of under her breath about Abraham, and even in this moment she refers to him as lord, Peter is pointing out that her reaction was honor even in a private moment.
  
- **Husband's Role (V7):** Husbands are called to understand and honor their wives, treating them with respect and valuing them as equals. They should love their wives sacrificially, as Christ loved the church this means they die to themselves and their desires and often suffer for the sake of blessing and honoring their wife. Peter closes this section with a warning that a man who mistreats his wife is one who will not have his prayers heard by God. God does not bless those in authority who use their authority to abuse others.
  - **Related Scripture**
    - Ephesians 5:25 (husbands are to love their wives and Christ loves the church)

### Questions for Deeper Reflection:

1. How does the concept of submission, as presented in 1 Peter 3:1-7, challenge contemporary views on independence and equality within marriage?
2. In what ways can we cultivate and demonstrate inner beauty in our daily lives, beyond physical appearance?

3. How can a wife in a marriage with an unbelieving husband practically show Christ-like love and respect, even when faced with resistance or indifference?
4. What steps can husbands take to ensure they are honoring and valuing their wives according to the biblical standards set in 1 Peter 3:7?