

The power of submission

1 Peter 3:1-7

3:1 Wives, in the same way be submissive to your 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 braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, 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 make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. 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. (1 Peter 3:1-7 (NIV))

The principle of submission is a major theme on 1 Peter. It is a theme that is anchored in the example of Jesus Christ.

The power of submission in the Christian wife:

- It is a power greater than words.
- The reason for submission has an eternal purpose

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A wife's submission does not mean:

- Compromising your faith.
- That you can never disagree
- That you don't have a voice.
- That you have to endure unfaithfulness or abuse.
- That you are a lesser person than your husband.

True beauty, "which is of great worth in God's sight", is the beauty that comes from "your inner self," not from your outward appearance.

Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, 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. (1 Peter 3:3-4 NIV)

The husband's call to submission:

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. (1 Peter 3:7 NIV)

The husbands duty to his wife is a call to :

- Be considerate.

- Support and protect.
- Respect her and treat her as an equal.

...for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
(Galatians 3:27-29 NIV)