



Part 4: A Biblical Look At Marriage

Colossians 3:18-19 NLT Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord. (19) Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.

Hebrews 13:4 NASB Marriage *is to be held* in honor among all, and the *marriage* bed *is to be* undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

True Submission & Authority:

Ephesians 5:21-24 NASB

(21) and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

(22) Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

(23) For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body.

(24) But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

Ephesians 5:21-24 MSG Out of respect for Christ, be courteously reverent to one another. (22) Wives, understand and support your husbands in ways that show your support for Christ. (23) The husband provides leadership to his wife the way Christ does to his church, not by domineering but by cherishing. (24) So just as the church submits to Christ as he exercises such leadership, wives should likewise submit to their husbands.

Love each other as your own selves:

Ephesians 5:25-30 NASB

- (25) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,
(26) so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,
(27) that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.
(28) So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;
(29) for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also *does* the church,
(30) because we are members of His body.

Ephesians 5:25-30 MSG Husbands, go all out in your love for your wives, exactly as Christ did for the church--a love marked by giving, not getting. (26) Christ's love makes the church whole. His words evoke her beauty. Everything he does and says is designed to bring the best out of her, (27) dressing her in dazzling white silk, radiant with holiness. (28) And that is how husbands ought to love their wives. They're really doing themselves a favor--since they're already "one" in marriage. (29) No one abuses his own body, does he? No, he feeds and pampers it. That's how Christ treats us, the church, (30) since we are part of his body.

Colossians 3:18-19 NLT Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord. (19) Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.

Leave the fleshly past behind & become 1 in the now & future:

Ephesians 5:31-33 NASB

- (31) FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.
(32) This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

(33) Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must *see to it* that she respects her husband.

Ephesians 5:31-33 MSG And this is why a man leaves father and mother and cherishes his wife. No longer two, they become "one flesh." (32) This is a huge mystery, and I don't pretend to understand it all. What is clearest to me is the way Christ treats the church. (33) And this provides a good picture of how each husband is to treat his wife, loving himself in loving her, and how each wife is to honor her husband.

1 Corinthians 7:1-17, 24-40 NASB

- (1) Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman.
- (2) But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.

It's NOT Yours Anymore:

- (3) The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.
- (4) The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband *does*; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife *does*.
- (5) Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

It is good to keep God as your only focus & priority:

- (6) But this I say by way of concession, not of command.
- (7) Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am. However, each man has his own gift from God, one in this manner, and another in that.
- (8) But I say to the unmarried and to widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I.
- (9) But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn *with passion*.

Don't break covenant over what he just said. You're a light!

- (10) But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband
- (11) (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.
- (12) But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.
- (13) And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.
- (14) For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.
- (15) Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such *cases*, but God has called us to peace.
- (16) For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?
- (17) Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this manner let him walk. And so I direct in all the churches.
- (24) Brethren, each one is to remain with God in that *condition* in which he was called.
- (25) Now concerning virgins I have no command of the Lord, but I give an opinion as one who by the mercy of the Lord is trustworthy.
- (26) I think then that this is good in view of the present distress, that it is good for a man to remain as he is.
- (27) Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be released. Are you released from a wife? Do not seek a wife.
- (28) But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.

- (29) But this I say, brethren, the time has been shortened, so that from now on those who have wives should be as though they had none;
- (30) and those who weep, as though they did not weep; and those who rejoice, as though they did not rejoice; and those who buy, as though they did not possess;
- (31) and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the form of this world is passing away.
- (32) But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord;**
- (33) but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife,**
- (34) and *his interests* are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband.
- (35) This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and *to secure* undistracted devotion to the Lord.
- (36) But if any man thinks that he is acting unbecomingly toward his virgin *daughter*, if she is past her youth, and if it must be so, let him do what he wishes, he does not sin; let her marry.
- (37) But he who stands firm in his heart, being under no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and has decided this in his own heart, to keep his own virgin *daughter*, he will do well.
- (38) So then both he who gives his own virgin *daughter* in marriage does well, and he who does not give her in marriage will do better.
- (39) A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.
- (40) But in my opinion she is happier if she remains as she is; and I think that I also have the Spirit of God.