

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER

TO THE CHURCH OF THE DISPERSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

1-PETER CHAPTER 3:1-7

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX962

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“When God Gets A Hold Of Your Marriage – Part 2”

The Ministry of The Grace of God Toward All Those Who Are Anchored in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Evangelism, Witnessing, Marriage, Sanctification, Maturity

Introduction to the Text: 1 Peter 3:1-7

Corporate Reading

1 Peter 3:1-7

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, (1) dwell with them with understanding, (2) giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and (3) as being heirs together of the grace of life, (with promise) that your prayers may not be hindered.

Benjamin Franklin said something to the effect of:

“Before you go into a marriage, have your eyes wide open.
But then once married, keep one eye shut.”

Franklin has been unduly criticized for that remark.

But once you unpack what he was saying, there’s wisdom in it –

Prior to getting married, you had better be discerning, judgmental, wise and cautious – it’s a smart thing to do. Once you’re married, it’s best to be merciful, kind, gentle and forgiving.

**In Part One:
When God Gets A Hold Of Your Marriage**

1.) He often begins with just one vs. 1-2

**When God Gets A Hold Of Your Marriage
He Often Begins With Just One**

1a.) Using the irresistible influence of the wife vs. 1a

:1a Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands,

I can tell you that, since last week's message we are already starting to hear encouraging reports that I hope to share with you as the series continues.

(the wife's) Evangelism In The Home!

So what does being **submissive** look like in a biblical marriage?

Can I tell you something? – I wanna believe that I'm one of the most **submissive** people I know... ***to the will of God!***

Building on what we saw last time together:

**The best way to approach what the Bible
has to say about marriage & husbands and wives –
is to first understand several things that are key:**

We learned **#1** of all that:

Marriage has been invented, design and introduced to humanity by the God of the Bible. It is He who has defined what marriage is. Marriage is not between two men and it's not between two women – the God of the Bible says that marriage is between a male husband and a female wife.

This should not surprise us because it proves to be sociologically true. It proves to be **archaeologically** true. And of course it proves to be **scientifically** true.

What God designs and creates brings joy and meaning.

As we learned last week, “**Cosmos**”, meaning order, has been ordained for logical functionality.

God’s design is to “make known” His expression of “cosmos - order”. The God of the Bible proves by His creation, that all that He does is **Symbiotic**, that is – creation is “**mutual, complimentary, pro-ductive and pro-lific.**”

Genesis 1:26-28a

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.**” **27** So God created **man** in His own image; in the image of God He created him; **male and female** He created **them**. **28a** Then God blessed **them**, and God said to **them**, “**Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it;**”

Genesis 2:18

And the Lord God **said**, “It is **not good** that man (not Adam, but mankind in general cannot function as designed – alone) should be alone; I will make him a **helper comparable** to him.”

This is the “**Teleological**” or “data transmission” from God Himself.

The Creation of “Woman” was a “Teleological” act of God

Genesis 2:21-25

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. **22** Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. **:23** 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.” **24** Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. **:25** And they were both **naked**, (without added coverings. without clothing but not nude – light covered or clothed in light) the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

There is a “**Fellowship of Light**” among God and His people.

Psalm 104:2

The Lord wraps himself in **light** as with a garment.

1 John 1:5

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is **light** and in Him is no darkness at all.

Adam and Eve were not naked as we define “naked”

like being nude. they were naked (no other covering) but being wrapped in light.

1 John 1:6-7

If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the **light** as He is in the **light**, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

It is God’s desire that this “Fellowship of Light”
be lived out, realized in the biblical institution of marriage.

It’s been argued that love and respect are
the two sides of the same coin.

Ephesians 5:21-33

Submitting to one another in the fear of God. :**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. :**25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, **26** that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, **27** 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. **28** So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. **29** For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. **30** For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. **31** “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” **32** This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. **33** Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so **love his own wife** as himself, and let the wife see that she **respects her husband**.

(the distinctions between male and female temperaments and the unique dynamics of the marital relationship is what is meant here.)

Here in 1 Peter 3, Peter introduces us to the remarkable power of the Christian wife to be effective, even anointed by God, in the influencing of her Non-Christian husband.

1a.) Using the irresistible influence of the wife vs. 1a

**When God Gets A Hold Of Your Marriage
He Often Begins With Just One**

1b.) Using the undeniable quality of the wife vs. 1b

:1b that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

1st. things 1st.

In all of our lives as believers, once we come to Jesus

Christ as Lord and Savior – and our Christian journey begins, the Lord goes to work by creating within us a new **character**. By **character** I mean a whole **new** man.

Galatians 3:27-28

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

According to God – the best way to reach your unsaved husband is by showing him *a more excellent way to live and to love.*

:1b they, **without a word**,
may be won by the conduct of their wives,

We're talking about "Effective, In-Home Evangelism" where it matters most – in the home!

It's the most important mission in your life.

The way to win your unsaved hubby to Jesus is by your character.

All we need to do is ask - what does your husband need?

- Q1** He needs a wife who **honors** him, **Q2** He needs a wife who **prefers** him,
Q3 He needs a wife who **notices** him, **Q4** He needs a wife who **believes** in him.
Q5 He needs a wife who **respects** him!
(this will require God's intervention)

Galatians 6:9

And let us not grow weary while doing good,
for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

He was **never** designed to be like you – but he was designed
to be **what you're not**

There is an "**engineered difference**" in the make-up of the two
sexes, the two opposing/complimentary **genders** demand the
difference like a one piece of the puzzle requires the
opposing/complimentary to complete the **puzzle**.

Wives and Women that made a difference!

Zipporah

Moses was about to be put to death by the LORD, but Zipporah wisely intervened by
circumcising his sons and therefore saving his life so he could fulfill his mission to lead God's
people out of Egypt.

Deborah

Barak was hesitant to obey the LORD, but Deborah boldly reminded him of God's promise to
go before them, and the blessings that come with obedience.
(Judges 4:6-7)

Mrs. Manoah's wife

Manoah was tempted to fearfully overreact after a visit from God, but Manoah's wife calmly
and insightfully encouraged him with words of faith. Their promised son Samson would evoke
longing for the greatest promised son, Jesus.

Ruth

Boaz was kind to pray for Ruth, that she would receive protection from the LORD, but Ruth humbly called Boaz to recognize that he was God's choice to provide that protection. Ruth became the mother of Obed, grandfather of David.

Hannah

The Priest Eli was unable to decipher the difference between a rambling drunk and troubled woman seeking the LORD, but Hannah gently corrected him and opened his eyes to see how God was at work. God's answer was that he blessed Hannah with baby Samuel.

Abigail

David was angry and ready to commit murder, but Abigail discretely appealed to him to do the right thing and leave vengeance to the LORD, protecting David from the folly of his temper. David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me from this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand!"

Esther

Mordechai urged Esther to use all of her influence to change the King's deadly decree, but Esther humbly requested that first all the Jews in Susa gather for three days of fasting, demonstrating her belief that only God could save her and her people.

Notice the place of "leadership" that God placed upon the man.

Why not Eve?

Genesis 3:8-9

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. :9 Then the Lord God called to **Adam** and said to him, "**Where are you?**"

Using the **undeniable quality** of the wife

:1b that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

won grk: kerdaino; to gain as in victory. to acquire as in business. to make a profit. to obtain by wise dealings as a wise investor or merchant.

There is a Promise Here.

The "**character witness**" of a Christian wife will influence her non-Christian husband **toward a decision (+/-)** to the Lord Jesus Christ - - this is given with a special promise!

conduct grk: anastrophe; the way, style, pattern, manner of living. A changed lifestyle from what was previously known.

Proverbs 31:10-12 esv

An **excellent** wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.
11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. **12**
She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

When a husband trusts his wife, he feels respected and when he feels respected – there’s nothing he cannot do but prosper!

Question: what are the evidences of a new life,
a life under the control of Jesus Christ?

Answer; the things that were previously offensive
are now falling away and a new way of thinking now lives inside of you.

Answer; the things once viewed as ridiculous and silly
are now attractive and desirable.

Answer; the things that, for all of your life have been missing,
are now beginning to be added to your person.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;
and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who
loved me and gave Himself for me.

But if that husband refuses such a witness –

Let it be known that he is rejecting the work of the Holy Spirit to save.

Don't be a fool like Nabal.

(who’s name “like yours” means – empty headed or foolish)

Proverbs 31:26-31

She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness.
27 She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of
idleness. **28** Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he
praises her: **29** “Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all.”
30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the Lord,
she shall be praised. **31** Give her of the fruit of her hands,
and let her own works praise her in the gates.

fear grk: phobos; being respectful, being reverent, living in a sense of awe
regarding her husband’s love and protection.

Her Character is Secure – She’s Confident

Proverbs 31:25

She is clothed with **strength** and **dignity**,
and she laughs without **fear** of the future. *(she’s not afraid of hardship)*

The Bible is clear – the husband bears the lion’s share of responsibility for leadership in the home. His role model is Jesus Christ! The wife ought to be enjoying the leadership of her God-fearing, servant minded husband.

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

The wife and her role in the union of marriage.

#1 she has equal input of **idea**. **#2** equal value of **thought**. **#3** equal scope of **vision** - - **then** the husband is called to determine to the course.

The husband and his role in the union of marriage.

#2 Then the wife should be impressed but how the husband receives his mantle of leadership. If you are prayerful, considerate, gentle – knowing that whatever decision he makes, he must answer to God for it.

This is a serious matter!

1 Corinthians 11:3

But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

Titus 2:5

Wives are to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

(remember; the **presupposition** of Christian marriage is **love**.)

I wish younger people today would trust the old

people of today. There’s a lot to be learned from those who have weathered the storms of life and have come to learn what really matters in relationships.

What to do about:

Time. Finances. Children. Holidays. Family...

**I wanna address this morning the (+/-) husband who is here.
Your wife has been, is burdened for your soul (what for?)**

She's to be following Jesus' lead. She's to be honoring Jesus. She's to be serving Jesus. She's to be in union with Jesus.

an alter call to the husbands of the church.

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End of Study

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