

Here, the Holy Spirit **commands husbands** to **HONOR** their wives as **HEIRS TOGETHER** of God's grace!

This is astounding! Peter instructed wives to do what **wives were already expected to do**. Peter instructs husbands to do something that was **NOT EXPECTED of them... HONOR THEIR WIVES**.

This means far more than complementing their cooking or appearance. They are to be honored as **JOINT HEIRS of God's grace!**

This is the **OPPOSITE** of what people today think when they hear "wives submit."

- Today, we think, Scripture is advocating suppressing women.
- But the Bible is elevating women to equality with men.

The passage also issues a **"threat" to the husbands**. Their prayers might be hindered if they don't honor their wives as co-heirs of grace. No such warning is given to the wives who don't submit to their husbands.

Again, the greater responsibility and accountability is on the husband.

Satan has most effectively blinded people and twisted what they THINK the Bible says.

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**Husbands Love Your Wife**

Husbands are commanded to love their wives like Jesus loved the church. **Sacrificial love!**

This tall order first requires a growing understanding of how Jesus loves His church. The verse from Ephesians (quoted above) tells us part of this love is **to lay down one's life for his wife**. This can be physically or non-physically.

The bottom line is that the godly husband will put his wife's wants and needs above his own. He will seek her best interests, even at the cost of his own.

Studying the infinite ways Christ loves the church would be extremely valuable, but it is far too much to touch on in this brief writing.

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**Conclusion:**

Both the husband and the wife are in desperate need of **walking in faith in God**. Each must **focus on their part** in the marriage relationship and NOT the other's responsibilities.

The husband and wife are **EQUALS** (heirs together of God's grace), but we have different roles and responsibilities.

Doing things God's way, and trusting Him, is the path to victorious living!

*"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is **neither male nor female**: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."* (Galatians 3:28)

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By: Robert Dallmann  
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I know I am going out on a limb to even dare discuss this subject. In our modern society, even the utterance of the words "wives submit" is tantamount to a lynching offense.

Remember, as you read, the thought of this topic comes from the Bible (not me!)

Also, if you read this, you should come away with a new appreciation of God's Word over the thinking of the secular world. **Please read on...**

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**Wives**

"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection **to your own husbands**; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word **be won** by the conversation of the wives; (2) While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. (3)

Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; (4) But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a **meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great**

# WIVES SUBMIT - HUSBANDS LOVE AND HONOR

price.” (1 Peter 3:1-4)

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## Submit To Your OWN Husbands

Why did Peter include the word “**own**” in this passage? Why even address submission?

It almost seems odd to include the concept of **wives submitting** to their husbands since this scenario was culturally a given. **Wives were expected to submit**. In that culture, women and children were essentially looked upon as “property” of the husband. Thus, one would expect that Peter would **not need** to address the issue of subjecting oneself to their husband.

Take note that Peter includes the word “own.” Wives must submit to their own husbands. Believing wives found freedom in Christ, a freedom they never had when in bondage to sin, but also a **freedom of equality** with their husbands and all others.

Some began to abuse this liberty and **became rebellious and contrary**. Through Peter (and Paul), the Holy Spirit deemed it necessary to address **believers** in what was commonly understood amongst the masses. Although equal in the eyes of God, men and women have different (but equally important) roles to play in God’s plans.

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## Submit To Your Ungodly Husband

Another thing that began to happen amongst believing women was that they began to grasp concepts of **spiritual headship** and authority. Some believing women started to question

whether they should **leave their unsaved husbands**. They had some understanding of spiritual headship and wondered how their unbelieving husband could be the “head of the home.”

Peter clearly addresses this idea by instructing wives on how to behave to **win their spouses to Jesus**. Peter’s primary concern is for the **salvation of the ungodly husband**, and he instructs the wife on how they can help lead their spouse to Jesus. They should be submissive, respectful, godly, and focused on inward beauty rather than the external.

## A godly wife, as defined in Scripture, is far more attractive than an ungodly supermodel!

Peter’s point is to love your ungodly husband so much that you live in a way that will attract him to Jesus. After all, genuine love for any human being (especially a spouse) would intensely desire that person to come to Jesus!

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## Avoid Another Demonic Trap

Yet another thing that was happening, and continues to this day, is that wives were becoming Christians and were seeking **strong spiritual covering**. In some cases, these wives would be attracted to spiritually mature leaders, which could lead to marital infidelity.

Sadly, this continues to happen all too often.

Peter is instructing marital and spiritual fidelity of wives to their own husbands. They ought not to be looking for another man!

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## The Bride Of Christ

Christian marriage is an analogy of the believers’ relationship with Jesus. He is the Bridegroom, and His followers are His bride. Spiritual adultery is addressed routinely throughout Scripture. For example:

*“And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding **Israel committed adultery** I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also.” (Jeremiah 3:8)*

There are many other references to spiritual adultery in the Bible, and Peter’s instructions to wives are intended in part to prevent physical and spiritual adultery in their marriages.

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## Husbands

“Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, **giving honour unto the wife**, as unto the weaker vessel, and as **being heirs together of the grace of life**; that your **prayers be not hindered.**” (1 Peter 3:7)

“Husbands, **love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church**, and gave himself for it;” (Ephesians 5:25)

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## Husbands Honor Your Wife

This was an almost entirely foreign concept in that culture. As noted previously, wives were considered almost like property. Wives had no rights to speak of.