

## Wives, Submit to Your Husbands to Please the Lord

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### Colossians 3:18

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NKJ Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

BGT Αἱ γυναῖκες, ὑποτάσσεσθε τοῖς ἀνδράσιν ὡς ἀνήκει ἐν κυρίῳ.

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#### REVIEW

Therefore, if then you were raised with Christ,

- Be Seeking the Above Things (Col 3:1)
- Be Thinking the Above Things (Col 3:2)
- Put to Death Sinful Motivations (Col 3:5-7) (slay utterly)
- Put Off Sinful Actions (Col 3:8-10)

Instead, Put On the Seven Articles of Clothing that a Believer is Commanded to Wear

1. Put on “Tender Mercies” by Choosing to See and Feel the Needs of Others
2. Put on “Kindness” by Choosing to Benefit Others as You Seek to Meet Their Needs
3. Put on “Humility” by Choosing to Consider Yourself to Be a Servant to Others
4. Put on “Meekness” by Choosing to Approach Others with Gentleness and Consideration
5. Put on “Longsuffering” by Choosing to Give People Time and Grace to Grow
6. Put on “Bearing with One Another” by Choosing to Put Up with the Faults of Others
7. Put on “Forgiving One Another” by Choosing to Release Others from Their Sin Debts

Three Essential Components to Christian Maturity

1. Be Clothed with the Love of God
2. Be Umpired by the Peace of Christ
3. Be Immersed in Thankfulness to God

The Word of God Should Live in You

The Word of God Should Grow You

As believers, we have been placed into the Body of Christ. On an ongoing basis, GOD PRESENTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR US TO GROW by crossing our paths with people to whom we can show “Tender Mercy” or “Kindness” or “Longsuffering,” some even right here in our local body.

Do Everything in the Name of the Lord Jesus Name reflects character

Col 3:17 “And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

**Even, or maybe Especially, in Our Close God-Given Relationships, we should Uphold the Name of Jesus by Doing everything in His character**

Though we all stand equal in Christ (Col 3:11), we still have various roles in the relationships in which God has placed us: wife to husband, husband to wife, children to parents, fathers to children, and bondservants to masters.

#### I. WIVES, PLACE YOURSELF UNDER YOUR HUSBAND’S AUTHORITY

Col 3:18 “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

“Submit” ὑποτάσσω *hypotasso* means “to order \_\_\_\_, draw \_\_\_\_ up, or arrange \_\_\_\_ under.”

In the active voice, the term has a very militaristic connotation, and means to make subject, to subjugate.

1 Corinthians 15:28 “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

Luke 10:17 “Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.’”

In Col 3:18 the term is in the passive voice, “allow \_\_\_\_ yourself to be subject to.”

The word “submit” carries some heavy, negative connotations with it in today’s culture. Anyone who preaches on submission is considered a woman hater. However, this isn’t the only occurrence of the word in Scripture and women aren’t the only ones told to submit. Wives aren’t being picked on.

1. Servants should submit to masters.

**1 Peter 2:18** "Servants, *be* submissive to *your* masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh."

2. Younger should submit to older.

**1 Peter 5:5** "Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

3. Everyone should submit to the government.

**Romans 13:1** "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."

As much as modern society bashes anyone who preaches on "submission" as an outdated, sadistic, woman-hating barbarian, society itself would not exist without laws and submission to those laws.

4. All things will be subject to Christ.

**1 Corinthians 15:28** "Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all."

Jesus Himself submitted to His parents.

**Luke 2:51** "Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart."

Submission itself isn't "evil." The struggle to submit is as old as sin itself.

Though Eve was created to be Adam's helper, her desire to act independently led to her being deceived by Satan, eating of the fruit, and giving it to Adam. Adam was cursed because he heeded his wife:

**Genesis 3:17** "Then to Adam He said, 'Because you have heeded the voice of your wife,'"

And part of Eve's curse was that **Genesis 3:16** "...Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you." Morris: "She who had acted independently of her husband in her fateful decision to taste the desired fruit, must henceforth exercise her desire only to her husband and he would rule over her" (*The Genesis Record*).

### **Biblical Pictures of Submission**

Bow the neck :

**2 Chronicles 30:8** "Now do not be stiff-necked, as your fathers *were*, but **yield** yourselves to the LORD; and enter His sanctuary, which He has sanctified forever, and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of His wrath may turn away from you."

Bow the knee :

**2 Kings 1:13** "Again, he sent a third captain of fifty with his fifty men. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and pleaded with him, and said to him: 'Man of God, please let my life and the life of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight.'" **Genesis 33:3; Philippians 2:10-11**

Bow the heart :

**Daniel 5:20** "But when his (Nebuchadnezzar's) heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him." **2 Chronicles 36:13; Deuteronomy 5:29**

## II. BECAUSE IT'S THE LORD'S ARRANGEMENT

- Not because women are inferior to men (own husband, not everyone's) **Galatians 3:28**
- Not because the husband is worthy. **1 Samuel 25 (Abigail and Nabal)**
- Because the Lord (He is worthy) has ordained it **Ephesians 5:22**

"Is fitting," ἀνῆκεν *anaken* "to come up to, to reach, measure up to"

**Ephesians 5:4** "neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks."

**Philemon 1:8** "Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to command you what is fitting,"

That which is proper, what is fitting, what meets with the Lord's approval = God's order of things

The parallel in Ephesians states **Ephesians 5:22** "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord."

The thought is connected to the previous verse: **Colossians 3:17** "And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

In the Name of Jesus= as a representative of Him; wives, submit to your own husbands

ARE YOU MAKING YOUR THINKING "FIT" THE LORD'S THINKING?