



"The Pleasure of God's Face: How to Honor Your Wife

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1 Peter 3:7



1 In the same way, you wives, be subject to your own husbands so that if any [of them] are disobedient to the Word, they may be won without a word through the behavior of their wives, 2 as they observe your pure behavior in fear [of God]. 3 And do not let your adornment be [simply] external— braiding the hair and wearing gold— or the wearing of dresses. 4 But [let it be] the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable nature of a gentle and quiet spirit which is precious in God's sight. 5 For in this way in former times the holy women whose hope was in God used to adorn themselves by submitting to their own husbands. 6 Thus Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and

you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear. 7 Husbands, likewise, live with [your wives] according to knowledge, as with a weaker vessel—since she is the woman—and grant her honor as a co-heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers might not be hindered.

— 1 Peter 3:1-7, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction:

Consistent communion with Christ is a consequence of caring for your wife with consideration as God's co-equal creation.

"Take heed of your wife or God won't take heed of you."

I. The Pleasure of God's Face: How to Honor Your Wife

A. Hear the Call - "*Husbands likewise*"

1. This is a call to every believing husband

a. The Word "likewise" brings our attention back to verse 1

B. Heed the Command - "*Treat your wife according to knowledge*"

1. A literal translation of *kata* (according to) *gnōsin* (knowledge)

2. What kind of knowledge is this?

3. Men and women are different by God's design

a. But note how our godless culture tries to squeeze women into the wrong mold

b. Examples of the unique needs and make-up of women

(1) Intimacy - The phrase "live with your wives according to knowledge" resonates with intimacy!

(a) Verb *sunoikeō* - From *oikos* (house or dwelling) + prefix *sun* (with)

c. Beyond that general sort of knowledge, there is a knowledge that's unique to your wife

(1) Men, You need to ask yourself two questions:

(a) *"What needs are unique to my wife?"*

(b) *"How am I doing in meeting those needs?"*

C. Have Consideration - *"Since she is a woman"*

1. Part of living with your wife according to knowledge is recognizing the fact that she is a weaker vessel

a. What does that mean?

D. Honor her Conversion - *"Grant her honor as a co-heir"*

1. Grant her honor! (*timē* - honor in the sense of precious or weighty)

E. Happy Consequence - *"So that your prayers be not hindered"*

Conclusion: