Calvary Chapel on the Horizon
October 25, 2026
1Peter 3:1-12 "The Christian's Lifestyle"

I. Introduction

Read: 1Peter 2:11-12

- **We talked last week about the fact that submission or subjection is a big deal to God.**

- **All creation has hierarchy – we will always have to answer to someone and be in submission to that someone.**

- **1Co 11:3** But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

- **In chapter 2, Peter tells us that we should be in submission to the authorities placed over us, we should be in subjection to our masters (meaning in our context, our bosses) and then he gave us our example…**

- **Jesus was in submission to our Father in Heaven regarding His ministry, death and resurrection.**

- **Today, we continue this idea by looking at marriage and Peter begins with the wife:**

II. Subjection in Marriage

A. Wives

1Pe 3:1-6 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 price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

- **So, as we move into the concept of subjection in marriage…we find the Holy Spirit telling us that wives should voluntarily place themselves in subjection to their own husbands.**

- **Subjection means to submit to one's control, to yield to one's advice and to obey and be subordinate to.**

- **This doesn't speak of worth or value – we are all on equal footing as far as value to the Lord, however – we are to walk in different roles.**

- **The husband's role is to lead his wife and family as he is led by the Lord. The wife's role is to follow his leading.**

- **Peter tells us that the wife should have a meek and quiet spirit…meek means gentle, kind and forgiving -- it's the same meek we find in Matthew 11 when Jesus tells us He is "meek and lowly of heart".**

- **Interestingly, quiet doesn't mean not speaking…it means tranquil or peaceful. Ultimately, meek and quiet means loving and not contentious.**

- **A lost husband isn't going to get saved by nagging here according to Peter, but he might be saved through the wife's manner of life; by the behavior and conduct of the wife if she will walk in subjection to him.**

- **Realize that this doesn't mean that a wife who has a saved husband doesn't need to do this…we'll look in a minute to Paul's parallel teachings and see that it is vital that a wife always walk in this role.**

- **Peter tells wives that they should have a chaste manner of life and show respect for their husband. This phrase coupled with fear isn't speaking of fearing the Lord nor is it saying a wife should walk in fear of their husband…**

- **Rather it is telling the wife to show her husband (literally) deep respect…meaning not lip service, not sarcasm and not mocking him.**

- **If a husband is not treating his wife lovingly…it might be easy for a wife to respond bitterly and show the opposite of deep respect.**

- **Peter goes on to say that what the man will see as the wife shows submission and respect is the "hidden man of the heart" – he will see Jesus through his wife.**

- **Consequently, in v.4, Peter tells us that a woman who shows these attributes and behaviors to her husband is in the sight of God of great price!**

"Pictures from this behavior"

- **Paul writes similar thoughts in Colossians and Ephesians…**

- **Col 3:18** Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

- **Eph 5:22-24** Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

- **Between Peter and Paul there are two pictures presented…**

- **The first comes from the first word: "LIKEWISE" in 1Peter 3:1. Proper Subjection is associated with bringing God glory, thus, in this 1Peter passage, the design is that the husband who is not saved or obeying the Word of God might come into submission to God and be saved.**

- **The second we find in the Pauline writings: God will be glorified in a marriage by the wife if she submits unto her husband as unto the Lord - just as the church is to be in submission to the Lord.**

B. Husbands

1Pe 3:7 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.

- **Peter uses the word "Likewise" similarly to the way he used it in v. 1, however the likewise doesn't mean the husband should be in subjection to his wife, rather it means that God will be glorified through the described behavior.**

- **Husbands, first off, are to live with their wives according to knowledge. Husbands are to study their wives…learning who she is and who she isn't. Over the course of a lifetime, a man will be married to several different people in this one wife. Everything from newlywed to mom to grandmother and all the nuances in between.**

- **The idea is that you should know how a Christian huband should act and as you study your wife you apply those principles:**

- **1Co 13:4-8a** Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, [5] Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; [6] Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; [7] Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. [8] Charity never faileth:

- **Rom 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

- **So…a husband is to love with patience and kindness, bearing and believing all things as they love sacrificially and unconditionally.**

- **And husbands are to give honor to their wives as the weaker vessel…**

- **Giving honor means to show value, worth, esteem & respect as they are, generally speaking, the weaker vessel both physically and emotionally.**

- **BUT…the husband must also recognize their equality as "co-heirs together in the grace of life"!**

- **ELSE! The couple's prayers will be hindered as they are not walking centered in God's will and desire for marriage.**

- **Recognize, the phrase "I deserve" has no place in a marriage on either side. Spouses must recognize that they are one flesh.**

- **Marriage is the one place that Christians have rights…but if one is wise, he or she will allow those to be given to him or her voluntarily otherwise it is not of grace but of law and the law kills! (2Cor 3:6)**

- **And the law can kill a marriage!**

III. The Christian's Conduct

1Pe 3:8-12 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. 10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

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- **Peter wraps us this section before going on to deal with the issue of suffering by writing to us about our lifestyle in general regardless of our marital state, our socio-economic position or anything else…**

- **He tells us to "be of one mind" -- we are to seek to walk in unity.**

- **Amo 3:3** Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

- **Php 2:2** Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

- **Likeminded means that we are unified on the majors and minimizing the distractions of the minors.**

- **We are to have compassion one of another and love as brethren…being pitiful and courteous.**

- **Pitiful means to be tender-hearted and courteous is to be friendly and kind to each other.**

- **We are NOT to render evil for evil and railing for railing…we are to follow Christ's example described to us in chapter 2.**

- **Rom 12:14-21** Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. 15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. 16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. 17Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

- **Rather, we should bless others and we will ourselves inherit a blessing.**

- **If we want to live a good life, we need to learn to speak NO evil or guile (which is deceit)!**

- **We are to hate evil and seek & pursue peace with all men.**

- **Why?** V.12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

IV. Conclusion

Psa 34:8-15 O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. [9] O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. [10] The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing. [11] Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD. [12] What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? [13] Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. [14] Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. [15] The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.