

THE HOME

The Wife

Introduction

1. **The first divine institution on earth was "The Home".**
 - A. **God made it when He gave Adam his wife and put them in Eden.**

Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

- 1) **Again, he made woman a helper for man.**
- 2) **Woman is not inferior to a man in God's sight**
 - a. **God does expect each one to perform their duty.**

- B. **God's wisdom determined that man needed a wife.**

1 Cor 7:2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.

- C. **Man needs the love and companionship that only a wife can give him.**

Bible Facts about the Wife

1. **She was made from the rib of man (Gen 2:21-22).**
2. **She was given a subordinate place - she was made from man and brought unto man.**
3. **She was called woman - meaning "taken out of man" (Gen 2:23).**
4. **She was made to be a helper to man (Gen 2:18, 24).**

5. She is a weaker vessel.

1 Pet 3:7 Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

A. As a general rule: Roughness and strength characteristic to the man. Beauty and delicacy is characteristic to the female.

B. But she is an equal heir with man of the grace of life.

1) Man has not always recognized God's will in this. Man has what she wants - Strength and Courage.

2) She has what he wants - Beauty and Love. Mutually dependent and beneficial. Neither should feel superior to the other!

6. She was first deceived by the serpent & led her husband into transgression.

1 Tim 2:14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

Genesis 3:1-6

A. Women, you have a great influence on us men!!

7. As a result of this transgression, her pain in childbirth was multiplied.

Gen 3:16

8. It is also a fact that the man who finds a wife, finds a good thing.

Prov 18:22 He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the LORD.

A. Especially if the woman we take is a godly woman that truly will help her husband and family get to heaven!

Duties of a Godly Wife

1. To love her husband and children.

- A. The older women have a responsibility to teach younger women....**

Titus 2:3-5 the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things-- that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

- B. Admonish (Teach, KJV) "to school them and train them in matters of good sense - especially in their relationship with their husband and children."**

2. To dress modestly.

1 Tim 2:9-10 in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

1 Pet 3:3 Do not let your adornment be merely outward-- arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel--

- A. The context of these passages is talking about the wife and her manner of dress.**
- B. She is not to dress in such a way as to attract and lure men other than her husband.**
- 1) A Christian woman should not be a "man's" woman - but rather her man's woman!**
 - 2) Her desire should be only for her husband and not for others to look to her.**

- C. **She's to dress & act in a way that befits good works not evil.**
- D. **Peter further explains the proper adorning that a woman should be possessed with:**

1 Peter 3:4-6

3. To be in subjection to her husband (Col 3:18).

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Eph 5:24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

1 Tim 2:11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.

- A. **The wife should receive instruction from her husband in a peaceful way, understanding that he is her head.**

NOTE: Those women who do not have Christian husbands have a better opportunity to win over your disobedient husbands.

1 Pet 3:1-2 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, when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear.

4. Not to usurp authority over your husband.

- A. **The wife is not to master herself over her husband, but rather to be respectful toward him. Why?.....**

1 Timothy 2:12-14

- 1) **Two reasons: 1) Adam was created first 2) Eve was deceived**

- **Satan singled out the woman to tempt**
- **She had a readiness to yield to temptation**
- **She is now forever made to occupy a subordinate relationship to her husband (Gen 3:16).**

5. To be a keeper at home.

Titus 2:5 to be discreet, chaste, **homemakers** (NAS - “**workers at home**”, KJV - “**keepers at home**”), good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

1 Tim 5:14 Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, **manage the house** (NAS - “**keep house**”, KJV “**guide the house**”), give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

Titus 2:5

A. “Homemakers” GREEK WORD: OIKOUROS Meaning: "a keeper at home; to look after domestic affairs with careful management."

1 Timothy 5:14

B. “Manage the house” Meaning: "To rule household, to be a master of the house"

C. The first duty of the wife is to ensure her home is in order in all areas to include her husband and children.

1) All her other duties should take second place to this.

D. **QUESTION:** Can a wife with children ensure that the necessary careful management of her home is being accomplished if she is away all day?

1) Example: Preacher getting a 40 hour per week job at a store.

A) Would he still be just as effective of a preacher?

6. To bear children.
1 Timothy 5:14-15

- A. The word "bearing" in Greek is TEKNOGONIAS meaning: "more than merely giving birth. It implies the **rearing of the child**".
- B. The latter part of verse 15 is saying that the wife's salvation is dependent on her love, faith, and loyalty to her husband and children.

Suggestions on Making Your Home Happy:

1. Dress to be attractive to your husband.
2. Make your home comfortable, attractive, and loving.
3. Live within your means - be brave in financial adversity.
4. Do not criticize your husband in front of others.
 - A. He should mean the world to you as Abraham did to Sarah.
5. Discuss his business with him so you can be knowledgeable of his concerns and problems.
6. Take time out to do things together such as recreation, hobbies.
 - A. Those who play together do not grow old.
7. Never pout, nag, or quarrel! Godly wives don't do that.
8. Remember the qualities you possessed that attracted him to you in the first place - then try to maintain them.

Conclusion:

- 1. **The proverbs are full of descriptions of all kinds of women. Some have good virtues, some bad.**
- 2. **A Christian wife should strive to adopt the virtues of the "worthy woman" that is found in the 31st chapter.**

PRO 31:10 An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.

- A. **This is so true.**
- B. **Men, it's good to have a godly woman. Nothing can take the place of her!**
- 3. **I would like to encourage all wives to strive to live the life "*that makes a claim to godliness*" and love your husband and children.**
- 4. **When God's will for men and women is followed, then and only then can we have the peaceful homes that God intended!**

Invitation:

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Richie Thetford, 2000 - Adapted from previous lessons on this subject.