

Bible Homes Part III

The Wife / Mother

Introduction:

God has ordained the home to achieve various functions. These functions include love toward family members (Eph. 5:28; 6:1-4; Titus 2:4), instruction in spiritual and secular education (Eph. 6:4; II Thess. 3:7-13), and discipline (Heb. 12:9-11). Overall the home is where one learns to bring glory to the name of Jehovah God whether at work or play (cf. Jn. 15:8-10). God has ordained roles within the home to achieve these functions. The husband (father) is ordained to take the lead (be the head of the home) (Eph. 5:23). The wife is commanded to be in subjection to her husband and respect this God ordained role (Eph. 5:22). The children are commanded to be subject not only to the father's rule but the mother's as well (Eph. 6:1). Though the societies in which we live in today may see this arrangement as prejudice gender oppression the Lord commands the arrangement. This lesson shall examine the role of the wife and mother within the home.

I. **Subjection of the wife to her husband (I Cor. 11:3, 9; Eph. 5:22-24):**

- A. Is defined as "to place or arrange under, to post under, to subject, to be obedient" (LS 848). "To place or arrange under; to subordinate" (Moulton 419). "Primarily a military term, to rank under. It denotes in the middle or passive voice, to subject oneself, to obey, be subject to" (Vines 1099). "To subject one's self, to obey; to submit to one's control; to yield to one's admonition or advice:" (Thayer 645).
- B. By the wisdom of God he ordained said roles of head and subordinate in the home so that the home's function may be accomplished. A military has a commander with subordinate men under him to accomplish the function of war. A supervisor has people under him that the work of production may be accomplished. The church has elders who supervise the work of the church that it may be accomplished. Likewise the home has leadership that its functions may be achieved.

II. **The wife / mother has a divinely appointed attitude toward her husband:**

- A. She loves her husband (Titus 2:4).
- B. She voluntarily submits to her husband's headship (I Cor. 11:3, 9; Eph. 5:22-24).
- C. She provides emotional support to her husband (Gen. 2:18).
- D. She renders to her husband her due (Prov. 5:15-20; I Cor. 7:1-5; Heb. 13:4).
- E. She views her husband with honor and respect (Eph. 5:22; Titus 2:5).
- F. She is not ashamed to call him her lord in respect to roles (I Pet. 3:6).
- G. She understands that her first priority in this life is to the home (Prov. 31; Titus 2:5).

II. **The wife is a "help meet" to the husband to accomplish the functions of the home:**

- A. The mother helps in nurturing the children with tenderness and kindness (Titus 2:4).
- B. The mother helps the husband in the spiritual and secular education of the children (Eph. 6:4; II Thess. 3:10-12).
- C. The mother is a help meet in administering discipline in the home (Prov. 13:24; 19:18; 22:6, 15; 23:13).
- D. The mother is a help meet in producing glory to the name of Jehovah God through all family members (Jn. 15:8ff).

Conclusion:

The woman that we have examined in this lesson may be called a "worthy woman" because she knows her place and performs her functions in the home with gladness of heart. Such a woman's husband and children have a great deal of love and respect for her (cf. Prov. 31:28-30).