

# PRINCIPLES FOR CHRISTIAN MARRIAGES

1 Peter 3:1-7

## INTRODUCTION:

Marriage is designed to portray a living picture of the Gospel – Christ’s love for the church and the church’s response to Christ.

In this message, we will dwell on four (4) Principles for Christian Marriages:

- I. **THE WITNESS OF A GODLY WIFE** (vv. 1-2)
  - A. The Wife is to be Submissive to her Husband
  - B. This Submission of the Wife to the Husband is God’s Order for the Family (Eph 5:23)
  - C. This Submission Does Not Mean the Wife is Inferior to her Husband
  - D. What God means by Submission
  - E. The Godly Wife is to Subject Herself to Her Own Husband
  - F. The Goal of the Submissive Wife is to Win Her Husband to Christ (Ps 29:2; Isa 25:1)
  
- II. **THE BEAUTY OF INNER CHARACTER** (vv. 3-4)
  - A. The Wife’s Beauty Should Not Come from Outward Adornment (Decoration) – (v. 3; Rom 6:13)
  - B. The Wife is to Submit by Focusing “Upon the Hidden Man of Her Heart” (v. 4; 1 Sam 16:7; Prov 4:23)
  
- III. **THE EXAMPLE OF SARAH** (vv. 5-6)
  - A. “In the Old Time” (Old Testament) “The Holy Women” (Believing Women) illustrated the principles of submission and modest godliness (v. 5).
  - B. Peter cited Sarah as an example of a godly, submissive wife, she called Abraham, her husband, Lord (Master) – (v. 6).
  - C. Abraham and Sarah Did Not Have an Easy Time in Their Marriage (Gen 16; 21:9-11).
  
- IV. **THE HONOR OF A GODLY HUSBAND** (v. 7)
  - A. Husbands are to dwell (live) with their wives “According to Knowledge” (in an understanding way).
  - B. The Husband is to Honor his Wife as a Joint-Heir of the Grace of Life (Gal 3:28)
  - C. Failure to Honor the Wife Hinders the Prayers of the Husband

## CONCLUSION:

- A. The key to having a positive witness to an unsaved spouse is living an exemplary Christian life as a faithful submissive spouse.
- B. Christian conduct within marriage acts as a testament to the Gospel and is a reflection of Christ.
- C. Call upon Christ today! Repent (turn) from your sins and turn to Christ.
- D. Romans Road (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)

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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).