

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
Speaker, Robert Emerson
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

"...on that day a great persecution began... and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria... Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word."

—Acts 8:1,4



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**Servants during November:**

Songleader: Stanley (6), Larry (13), David (20), Peter (27)

Reading: Stanley

Announcements: Robert

Table: Marty, David, Peter, Mike Mitchell

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley (2),

Kris (9), Larry (16), Stanley (23), Kris (30)

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The Bible . Examiner

"Examine everything carefully..." —1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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Calling Our Husbands, "Lord"

By Dene Ward

"In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands," 1 Pet 3:1a.

I have come to the sad conclusion that few women in the world even know **HOW** to practice this command, much less actually do it. The tides of the times, the dictates of society, and many husbands' abuse of their headship, have not only corrupted the original role of the woman, but have tempted even the righteous woman to find imaginary loopholes to escape her duties. Satan has blinded us, as he blinded Eve, into thinking that there is at least one command we need not obey—"Wives, be in subjection." We need to remind ourselves that just as Eve died spiritually the day she took a measly bite of fruit, so we also will die

spiritually for disobeying God in even this one area. So, where does one go to find out how to be in subjection? Using the same restoration principle Josiah and Hezekiah used, one goes back to the original pattern, 2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chron 29-31. And Peter tells us who to look to: "For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands; just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord," 1 Pet 3:5,6a.

Immediately comes the question, "Do I have to address my husband as "Lord," or perhaps, "Sir"? Notice that in the instance Peter speaks of, Sarah is not speaking **TO** Abraham, Gen 18:12. Rather, she is speaking **OF** Abraham—to herself! How often do

we have to guard our tongues in the presence of those of whom, at other times, we speak ill? As Jesus so often said to the Pharisees, take care of the inside and the outside will take care of itself, Mt 23:25,26.

How do you think of your husband? Do you laugh at him behind his back? Do you obey cheerlessly, then stew about it all day long? Do you often whine, “He never does anything my way?” Do you resent the rule God has given him over you? You may as well resent God, 1 Sam 8:4-8.

Now, how do you speak of him to others? Do you complain to the neighborhood kaffeeklatsch (the ones you hope to convert by your godly example)? Do you advertise his weaknesses and failures, Prov 14:1? Do you defy him or put him down in front of the children? Do you find it necessary to correct every little mistake he makes (No, honey, it’s 38 miles, not forty)?

If you are honest with yourself, you can possibly see several areas where you need to improve. It is not easy. A woman cannot get into Heaven on her husband’s coat-tails. God expects her to have her own faith, convictions, and responsibilities, Phil 2:12. He expects her to be strong, Prov 31:25. So how can a person like that find submission easy?

It helps to know where the difficulties lie. It began with Eve in the Garden. Before the fall, man had work—tending the garden—but after the fall, work became harder, Gen. 2:15; 3:17-19. Before the fall,

woman was capable of child-bearing but after the fall, it became more difficult, Gen 1:27,28; 3:16. Before the fall, woman was subject to man—she was made second in the role of helper—but after the fall, subjection became a major source of temptation, Gen 2:20; 1 Tim 2:13. Notice the parallel wording of Gen 3:16 and 4:7.

Woman’s desire is unto her husband, but he rules over her. Sin would desire to rule over Cain, but God commanded **HIM** to rule over it. The parallel follows that the woman would desire to rule over her husband, but he would rule over her. Therefore, part of woman’s curse was that subjection became a struggle. It takes strength of character and enormous self-discipline to be a woman in subjection. The libber, who puts down the submissive woman, is the weak one, giving in to her own selfish desires without even a fight.

Another difficulty we face is that men in general do not deserve subjection “as to the Lord.” They are only mortals with their own faults and weaknesses, and Satan does his best to remind us of them. But God has never made any law of subjection depend on what the other deserves. We are to be subject to rulers—that was written to Christians under a ruthless tyranny, 1 Pet 2:13. We are to be subject to one another even though we each have “our own burdens” to bear, Eph 5:21. We are to be subject to masters (employers), even “to those who are unreasonable,” and “In the same way,

you wives, be submissive to your own husbands,” 1 Pet 2:18; 3:1. I doubt there are more than a handful of husbands anywhere who truly deserve the kind of loving devotion and subjection God intends a wife to give her husband. But there are probably not many more who get it either.

Then there are the individual husbands themselves who cause the difficulties, the slobs, the sorry providers, the insecure tyrants, the workaholics, the robots, the insensitive ingrates, not to mention the ones who just do not think. A lot of husbands excel in verbal abuse. If the places I have been are any indication, such abuse occurs every Sunday and Wednesday night in every churchyard in the world, not to mention what happens in private. (We will not mention physical abuse, but I wish some faithful gospel preacher would write at length on the subject. Like all other forms of ungodliness, this, too, has “crept in unawares” into the church. The Christian needs to know her scriptural options in such cases.) And there are the husbands who believe subjection means his wife can never express a difference of opinion. He tells his side

and then closes the subject, “Let’s not argue,” or “That is enough.” Yet, not a one of them will claim to be better than the Lord, and even he allowed a woman to reason with him and to change his mind, Mk 7:26-30. Would that more husbands “followed his steps” in the treatment of their own wives, whom they claim to “love even as himself,” 1 Pet 2:21; Eph 5:33. A husband needs to remember that he can help his wife be in subjection, and when he does not, he is in the unenviable position of causing his **SISTER** to stumble, Rom 14:13; Lk 17:1,2.

But wives, while it is true that a loving husband can make subjection easier, it is only wishing to think we will ever have the problem licked—“take heed,” 1 Cor 10:12. And it is only rationalization to blame it on our husbands. God never commanded them to keep us in subjection. He told us wives to have enough self-discipline to keep ourselves in subjection, and promised there would never be more than we could bear, 1 Cor 10:13. And, somehow, I cannot believe that sharing hell with the husband one insists is at fault will make it more bearable.

—via *Searching the Scriptures*, Dec 1984 

Remember in Prayer

Joyce had tests run after some fainting spells; they were not encouraging. She will have more tests shortly, and needs our prayers. **Cindy Vilander** will be having tests also, and would appreciate prayers. **Cindy**

Presnell was tested for COVID-19, but is feeling pretty well! Please continue to pray for **Lois Adams, Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, and Polly McNatt.** 