

## **Introduction**

- 1. Eph 5:22-22 We see the husband and wife relationship.**
  - A. Wives are to submit to their husbands as the church submits itself to Christ
    1. Not out of fear of retribution.
    2. Like Christ, it is because of the undying love in the care and protection he gives.
  - B. Husbands are told three times to love their wives.
    1. Like Christ loved the Church.
      - a. Willing to give his life for her.
      - b. To protect her from corruption and harm.
      - c. To love her as he would love himself.
- 2. Eph. 6:1-3 We see the relationship of children to the parents**
  - A. Children are to honor their parents
    1. This was the first commandment from the Lord
    2. That it may be well for the children
    3. That they may have a long life
- 3. Eph 1:4 We see the relationship of the fathers to the children**
  - A. Do not provoke them to anger.
  - B. Raise them in the training and admonition of the Lord.
    1. Instruction in the ways of God.
      - a. discipline; training and education of children, hence: instruction; chastisement, correction. (Strong's definition)
    2. properly, setting (placing) the mind through God-inspired warning (Strong's definition)
- 4. What we are told in these verses concerning the husband, wife, and child relationships.**
  - A. The relationship.
    1. Must be built on obedience.
    2. Must be built on respect.
    3. Must be built on honor.
    4. Most importantly on love.
5. Let us take a look at each of these and see how they enrich our lives

## **Discussion**

- 1. Words defined**
  - A. Obedience – Defined**
    - 1. Concerning wives - Eph 5:33 - (5399) (phobētai) Showing reverent respect**
      - a. Thayer's definition.
        - A). To reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience (Mk. 6:20)
      - b. We see recognition of Gods order of authority and abiding by it.
    - 2. Concerning Children - Eph. 6:4 - (5219) hypakouō – to obey what is heard.**

- a. Thayer's Definition
  - A). To obey what is heard.

**B. Honor - Defined**

- 1. Strong's definition
  - a. 5092 (timē) - Valuable. Esteem of the highest degree, Esteem of dignity itself. Honorable, precious. Praise of which one is judged worthy. One who is precious.
- C. 1 Peter 3:7 <sup>NKJV</sup> – 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.

**D. Respect - Defined (The same word as for Obedience of wives)**

- 1. Strong's definition
  - a. (5399) (phobētai) Showing reverent respect
- 2. Thayer's definition.
  - a. To reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience (Mk. 6:20)
- 3. The definition for both respect and obey are the same.
  - a. The better word for Eph 5:33 is respect in reference of the wife.

**E. Respect Defined in Heb. 12:9**

- 1. *Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?*<sup>NKJV</sup>
- 2. Theyer's definition
  - a. (1788) (entrepó) - To turn about, to turn one upon himself, to be ashamed, to reverence a person
    - A). This respect is because someone has corrected you and you see your error. In return you respect them for their concern for you.

**2. God's established order - 1 Cor. 11:3**

- A. *<sup>3</sup>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.*
- B. The order - God is over Christ who is over man who is over woman.

**3. Christ respected this order and lived by it.**

- A. Christ demonstrated obedience, honor, and respect
  - 1. Obedience
    - a. Christ did His Father's will - John 6:38
      - A). *<sup>38</sup>For I am come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.*
- B. Christ was obedient to God to the point of death
  - 1. Philippians 2:7-8
    - a. *<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; <sup>8</sup>and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yes, the death of the cross.*
- C. Honor

## Honor, Respect, and Obedience - The Embellishment of Love

Eph. 5:33 - 6:1-4

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1. Jesus honored His Father - Jn.8:49

- a. <sup>49</sup>*Jesus answered, I do not have a demon; but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me.*

2. Jesus taught that one must honor their parents. – Matt. 15:4

- a. <sup>4</sup>*For God said, Honor your father and your mother: and, He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him die the death.*

D. Respect

1. Jesus showed respect to his parents - Lk.2:51

- a. <sup>51</sup>*And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth; and he was subject to them; and his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.*

- b. Jesus by submitting himself to his earthly parents, showed respect to God.

A). He kept the law of honoring his parents (Ex. 20:12)

4. How obedience, honor, and respect apply to the family relationship

A. Concerning Wives

1. Obedience (respect) – In Application

a. Herod and John the Baptist - Mark 6:19-20

- A). <sup>20</sup>*for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. And when he heard him, he was much perplexed; and he heard him gladly.*<sup>RASV</sup>

B). “Feared” is the same word used for wives in Eph. 5:33

C). What was the fear that Herod had for John?

A. He knew he was a righteous and holy man.

B. John’s teaching perplexed his mind.

1. To chose what was right or wrong in his marriage to his brothers wife.

C. He kept him safe.

D. He listened to him and did so gladly.

D). Herod’s fear defined

A. Herod’s fear of John was not due to what John would do to him.

B. Herod had respect and reverence for John.

1. Seen by his protection and desire to hear his teaching.

b. The wife’s obedience in respect to her husband

A). The woman should submit to her husband (Eph. 6:22-24) with respect and reverence.

A. Ephesians 5:22-24 <sup>NKJV</sup> - *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. [23] For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. [24] Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.*

B). This does not mean she should tremble with fear of danger whenever her husband enters the room.

A. Reverential fear is to understand God’s established order and not try to abuse it.

- C). That would not fit the concept of love the husband should have for the wife as for his own self.
- D). But it surely would include the idea of respectful speech and conduct, such as the church should offer to Jesus.
  - A. How does the wife speak of her husband in public?
  - B. How do you speak of the church in public?
- c. **The wives submission is like the church is to Christ. - We gladly submit for understanding what we receive.**
  - A). Christ Provides for the church - We gladly receive that provision.
  - B). Christ instructs the church for it's salvation - We all want that salvation.
  - C). Christ protects the church - We find comfort in that providential care.
  - D). Christ was willing to die for the church - We all want that dedication of love.
  - E). Christ wants all in the church to have eternal salvation - Husbands want to help their wives and children to have eternal salvation.
  - F). He allows leeway in some matters to do what we think is best for the Church
  - G). We respect, honor and obey Christ for all that he has done for us.
    - A. Wives should have the same respect for their husbands for the same reasons.
- d. **The husband's regard for his wife**
  - A). He is to honor her.
    - A. 1 Peter 3:7 <sup>NKJV</sup> - *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.*
  - B). He is to love her as his own self
    - A. Ephesians 5:33 <sup>NKJV</sup> - Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself,...
- e. **Abuse of obedience in regard to the wife.**
  - A). Some have the idea that the husband is the Lord of the house and the wife must obey him in everything.
    - A. Reasoning is based on Christ's authority over the church and the church must do as he says.
    - B. Some reason that the husbands responsibility is to oversee his house and lead them to salvation.
      - 1. Therefore his will must be obeyed in all things.
  - B). From this, the wife is not to supply income.
    - A. That is the husbands responsibility
    - B. Daughters are sometimes not given college educations.
      - 1. They are to marry, and be keeps of the home.
  - C). This concept ignores the virtuous woman of Prov. 31.
  - D). This does not show the love that the husband should have for his wife and her needs.
    - A. I Cor. 7:33-34 <sup>NKJV</sup> - Those who are married seek to please each other.

1. *But he who is married cares about the things of the world-how he may please his wife. There is a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world-how she may please her husband.*

**f. Concluding thoughts**

- A). A wife's respect for her husband will be a commitment to him.
  - A. Working together to ensure the security and happiness of the home.
  - B. Understanding his commitment to the wife even up to death.

**5. Obedience in relation to children**

**A. While in the home under the parents care**

1. This obedience is different from that of the wife
  - a. Eph. 6:4 - (5219) hypakoúō – to obey what is heard.
2. The child is to heed his fathers instructions and the reason why.
  - a. Proverbs 1:8-9 <sup>NKJV</sup> - *My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck.*
  - b. Proverbs 4:1-6 <sup>NKJV</sup> - *Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding; For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law. When I was my father's son, Tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, He also taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands, and live. Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you.*
3. The instructions of the father will keep him wise throughout his life.

**B. This obedience is done in accordance to God's laws. - "...in the lord"**

1. Anything required of us that would cause us to transgress God's laws are forbidden.
  - a. Acts 5:29 <sup>NKJV</sup> - *But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.*

**C. Should children respect and honor their parents if they do not deserve it?**

1. Yes! - By our conduct and actions we may be able to save their souls.
  - a. 1 Peter 3:1 <sup>NKJV</sup> - *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.*
  - b. What the wives are able to do with their conduct, so can the child.

**D. After the children are grown and left their parents oversight**

1. We will always be our parents children. Age makes no difference.
  - a. When grown, the child moves from direct obedience to obedience of honor.
    - A). Our parents cannot control our home. But their wisdom can have an influence.
    - B). The grown child should listen to their parents and respect the wisdom given.
      - A. Ultimately, the grown child must make the final decision they consider

best for their family.

B. No greater joy can one receive than to hear their children say “I respect your wisdom”

1. Proverbs 2:2 <sup>NKJV</sup> - So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart to understanding;

**6. Examples of when obedience, honor, and respect are not practiced**

A. David’s teaching his own children

1. Amnon - Seduces his half sister Tamar - 2 Sam. 13
2. Absalom
  - a. Executes his brother Amnon. - 2 Sam. 13
  - b. Violated his fathers bed, sought to displace David and put him to death. - 2 Sam. 16-17.

B. Neither sons had no honor or respect for their father.

1. They did not follow what teaching they may have been given.

**In Conclusion**

**1. Considering that Christ accepted His place in God’s established order of authority, we should also accept our place in God’s established order.**

A. Following established order does not belittle us. It gives us order.

B. Like Christ, we should obey, give honor, and show respect to our wives and husbands.

C. Children should show obedience, respect and honor.

D. Like Christ we should find approval with God. – Phil. 2:9

1. <sup>9</sup>*Therefore also God highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name;*

**E. If we follow Christ, who showed obedience, honor and respect, God will bestow honor on us.**

1. John 12:26 <sup>NKJV</sup> - *If any man serves me, let him follow me; and where I am, there also my servant shall be: if any man serves me, him the Father will honor.*
2. 1 Sam. 2:30 <sup>NKJV</sup> - Therefore the LORD God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the LORD says: 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed