

1ST PETER

You'd think Peter would be done with the topic of "submission" - but he is not. Matter of fact, he gets downright personal about it.



CHAPTER 3: 1-7

¹ Wives, IN THE SAME WAY BE SUBMISSIVE to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, ² when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. ³ Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. ⁴ Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. ⁵ For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were SUBMISSIVE to their own husbands, ⁶ like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. (EMPHASIS ADDED)

Though some men love this passage, it isn't a favorite of many women. Why do you think that might be the case? Why do you think God may have chosen for wives to submit to husbands?

Is this a cultural thing of a bygone era or a timeless principle?

Why do some women worry so much over their appearance?

Is Peter ordering wives to be slaves to their husbands?

Peter says wives should "not give way to fear." What is he referring to?

Now, notice Peter's brief but powerful word to husbands.

⁷ Husbands, IN THE SAME WAY BE CONSIDERATE as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

Both husbands and wives are instructed to do something "in the same way" as someone else. Who is it? Hint: look again at the preceding verses.

How can a husband's disregard for his wife affect his relationship with God?

Read **Ephesians 5:21-33**. How are Paul's instructions and Peter's alike? What does that suggest to you?

Points to Ponder

Should a christian wife be a women's lib advocate?

Should a christian husband be domineering?

