

“A BIBLICAL STANDARD FOR THE WIFE”

EPHESIANS 5:21-24, 33

This passage identifies three aspects of a godly wife. All of these traits are Holy Spirit inspired and Holy Spirit directed. They do not “come naturally.” Three words summarize the characteristics:

I. A godly wife will be SUBMISSIVE to her husband (v. 22).

- A. The MEANING of submission
(“to line one’s self up under” as a soldier to an officer)
- B. The EXTENT of submission
(a continuous action)

II. A godly wife will be RESPECTFUL of her husband (33).

- A. The MEANING of respect
(to fear, revere, to hold in high esteem or high regard)
- B. The EVIDENCES of respect
(How can a wife know if she is being respectful of her husband?)
 - 1. Her respect is seen in her ATTITUDE (I Peter 3:4)
 - 2. Her respect is seen in her ACTIONS (Titus 2:3)
 - 3. Her respect is seen in her ADORNMENT (I Peter 3:3-5;
I Timothy 2:9-10)

III. A godly wife will be COMMITTED to her husband.

- A. It is a LEARNED commitment (I Peter 3:1-2)
- B. It is a LOVE commitment (Titus 2:4b)
- C. It is a LIFE commitment (Matthew 19:6)

These traits are also expected of the church as she relates to Christ. The church is the “bride of Christ” and Christ, Himself is the “bridegroom.”