

I Peter 3:1-2

The Conduct Of The Submissive Christian Wife To Her Non-Christian Husband

I. Introduction:

A. Christians, who have had sinful pasts, are supposed to be people who have changed they way we behave and think (**Ephesians 4:22-24**).

1. As we have already discussed in this epistle, saints are to conduct ourselves in an honest [good; virtuous] manner; so that false charges against us are seen as such through our conduct (**I Peter 2:12**).

2. Actions speak louder than words (**Ezekiel 33:30-33, Matthew 7:15-20, Luke 6:46, and Titus 1:16**).

B. Think about what the evangelist Titus was given to teach saints regarding conduct and speech (**Titus 2:1-15**).

1. Are you a “do as I say, not as I do” person (**Matthew 23:1-3 and Romans 2:17-24**)?

2. Does your life, as you live it before others, show the way of truth or the opposite to those watching (**Psalms 15:1-5, Psalms 119:30, and I John 1:6**)?

3. Are you sure the world and the saints see godly sincerity [purity] in how you conduct yourself (**II Corinthians 1:12**)?

II. Body: *“Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear” (I Peter 3:1-2).*

A. The text we are studying starts with “likewise”, which means we are still talking about submission to those in authority, just or unjust, and even suffering with Jesus as the example (**I Peter 2:12-25**).

1. Like as to civil authorities and the like, wives are to submit to THEIR OWN husbands (**Ephesians 5:22-24 and Colossians 3:18**).

2. The man here is one who has no obeyed the Gospel. Submit to him, for the man has authority over the woman regardless of whether he is a Christian or not (**I Corinthians 11:3; I Corinthians 11:7-9 and I Timothy 2:11-15**).

B. If they don’t obey the word, they may be won (cf. **Proverbs 11:30**) by the conversation of the wives (**I Corinthians 7:10-16**).

1. As we have talked about already, conduct always matters, but especially when it comes to teaching (**I Timothy 4:12-16 and I Peter 5:1-3**).

2. Think about this too... It is the role of a father to teach his children (**Ephesians 6:4**).

a. What if the father is not a believer (**Acts 16:1-2 and II Timothy 1:5; 3:14-15**)?

- b. Wives, and fathers too, what sermon do you preach to your children through your conduct? It matters (**Numbers 32:13-14**, **Acts 7:51**, and **I Corinthians 15:33**)!
3. Be wise how you conduct yourselves amongst unbelievers (**Colossians 4:5-6**).
4. If they won't learn right from wrong through hearing Scriptures, be sure they see it (**Philippians 2:14-16**).
5. Even in the very context we are studying, we are told to look to the example of Jesus (**I Peter 2:21**).
- C. Chaste [pure; modest cf. **I John 3:1-3**] conversation.
 1. Remember what we read in **Titus 2:5**.
 2. Not that this is just expected of wives or women, but all saints (**I Peter 1:13-16**).
- D. With fear, again, like as we talked about earlier in the context (**I Peter 2:17-18**).
 1. If the Christian woman disobeys her husband, with the normal qualifier (cf. **Acts 5:29**), she is disobeying God. Fear that (**II Thessalonians 1:8** and **Hebrews 12:28-29**)!
 2. Not only in fear of God, but in reverence [to frighten; alarmed; awe of; fear - Strong's # 5399] of the husband too (**Ephesians 5:33**).

III. Conclusion; Our Next Study Will Be: *"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement"* (**I Peter 3:3-6**).