

## I Peter 3:7

*Likewise Ye Husbands...*

I. Introduction: As with **I Peter 3:1**, this verse begins with “Likewise” and thus the context goes back to and includes all of **I Peter 2:12-3:6**.

A. A wife is certainly not a bad thing (**Proverbs 18:22**).

1. A virtuous wife is a treasure (**Proverbs 12:4** and **Proverbs 31:10**).
2. That good wife is going to help build a great home (**Proverbs 14:1**).

B. But what if the wife is not so good. What if she is an unbeliever (**I Corinthians 7:12**)?

1. Husbands are to love their wives (**Ephesians 5:25-28**).
2. Without bitterness (**Colossians 3:19**).
3. If that love is lost, find it just as with the church in Ephesus and their love for the Lord (**Revelation 2:1-5**).

II. Body: *“Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered”* (**I Peter 3:7**).

A. In a similar manner (cf. **I Corinthians 7:3-4**), ye husbands...

1. Your wife has to submit to you, make that an easy thing for her to do (**Psalms 37:30**, **Proverbs 12:8**, **Proverbs 24:3**, **I Timothy 5:8**, etc.).
2. Use your conduct as a means to teach (**Acts 20:33-35**).
3. Be holy, blameless (**Ephesians 1:3-4**).
4. With fear (**Hebrews 12:28-29**).
5. A spiritually focused man (**Romans 13:14**) rather than focusing on the external (**Jeremiah 9:23-24** and **Matthew 6:5-8**).
6. Meekness (**Colossians 3:12**).
7. Without ceasing to be manly (**I Corinthians 16:13**), don't be without peace [quietness] (**Hebrews 12:14**).
8. Trust in God (**Psalms 56:4**).
9. Fill your role, but if married to a Christian woman also understand the spiritual role as fellow saints (**Galatians 5:13** and **Ephesians 5:21**).
10. Do well [good] (**I Peter 2:15** and **III John 1:11**).

B. Reside together (**Ecclesiastes 9:9**).

1. Living together based on what comes down from knowledge gained from above (i.e. **Ephesians 5:23-29**).
  - a. The correct knowledge (**Proverbs 2:1-12**).
  - b. From a heart that is willing to learn (**Proverbs 23:12**).
2. As a contrast, consider **Romans 10:1-3**.

- C. Giving honor to the wife (**Proverbs 5:18-19**).
1. Such is not an unfamiliar point to Christians (**Romans 12:9-10**).
  2. Earlier translated in this letter as “precious” [Strong’s # 5092] (**I Peter 2:7**).
  3. This is easier with some wives (**Proverbs 11:16**).
- D. She is the weaker [feeble; cf. **I Corinthians 12:22**] vessel (**Genesis 2:22-23**).
1. This is to set forth that she is to be supported by the husband just as the weaker in a congregation (**I Thessalonians 5:14**).
  2. Even true in a physical, carnal manner (**I Timothy 5:8**).
  3. The man providing a sense of security (**Mark 3:27**).
- E. As heirs together of the grace of life (**Titus 3:7**).
1. There will be no marriage in Heaven (**Mark 12:18-27**).
  2. Yet, the #1 goal of a godly man is to see that his wife will spend eternity in Heaven even if he or she is not a Christian now (**I Corinthians 7:16**).
  3. Heirs together is “*joint-heirs*” (**Romans 8:17**), “*fellowheirs*” (**Ephesians 3:6**), or “*heirs with him*” (**Hebrews 11:9**). See: Strong’s # 4789
- F. That your prayers be not hindered... (**I Peter 3:12**).
1. This point emphasizes that this is not just brotherly counsel, but instruction whereby if one chooses not to follow his prayers are not heard which shows he is a sinner (**John 9:31**).
  2. If you are a sinner... (**I John 3:8-10**).

III. Conclusion: Our Next Study; *“Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing”* (**I Peter 3:8-9**).