

Titus 2:5 – “...Being Subject to Their Own Husbands”

I. Submission defined

“subject” “submissive” “obedient” – All mean basically the same thing, functioning as second in authority under our husband’s leadership.

The word used in the Greek is “hupotasso,” which was a common military term meaning “to rank under.” It was used 40 times in the New Testament— fairly frequent terminology.

Ephesians 5:22 – *Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*

Ephesians 5:23 – *For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church...”*

Ephesians 5:24 – *But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.*

Colossians 3:18 – *Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

The Bible teaches that wives are to live under the authority of their husbands. This is God’s plan for order in the family. It has nothing to do with a woman’s value or worth or abilities – even leadership abilities. God describes His great love for all people in Scripture – both men and women. **Galatians 3: 27,28** – *for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

This does not mean that we cannot have input – valuable input – or that we cannot make decisions on our own. It does mean, however, that we freely submit ourselves to be under the authority of our husbands, to support them and reinforce their decisions. It means that we will not fight or rebel or argue or manipulate to get our own way. We are committed to the same goals. This is a gift which we give our husbands.

When we, as wives, do this. We are doing it in obedience to God, trusting Him to work through our husband’s leadership to accomplish His purpose for our family.

II. Subject to your own husband (**Ephesians 5:22**)

God instructs me to submit to my own husband. Any other working relationship is superceded by my husband's authority. This includes:

A boss/employee relationship

A ministry relationship

A family member

Another man or woman

Any person who had authority over you when you were single

All requests, new responsibilities or commitments need to be discussed with my husband before I accept them. This would include a job transfer or reassignment, a new opportunity at church, taking on a new responsibility in the ministry, a request for help.

III. My husband is not God

God is perfect and infinite, omniscient (He knows the outcome of any decision before it's made and the consequence of every action), never makes a mistake, never sleeps. My submission is first to God, then to the husband He has given me.

God desires to meet my every need. Many of us marry to have our needs met. This is an unfair burden to put on my husband, who cannot completely do this—only God can.

IV. How can I evaluate the area of submission to my husband in my own life?

-Can he freely share a new idea with me without wondering how I will react?

Fear? Doubt? Anger? Tears? Silent treatment?

-Can he ask for my help or does he have to wonder if it will fit with my agenda?

-Can he confide in me or does he consider me too fragile or volatile?

-Does he have confidence in my support and trust?

-How do I react when he makes a decision which later turns out to be a mistake?

Choosing to submit to my husband's leadership ensures that God's order is established in our home. It indicates that I trust God to work through my husband to accomplish His plan for our family. It is a healthy functioning relationship. God will honor my commitment to my husband's spiritual leadership.