

HEADSHIP OF THE HUSBAND

There has to be a clear understanding of the headship of the husband in marriage before there is the balanced use of authority. Headship emphasizes fairness. Headship is not dictatorship. Headship is the ability to lead and give confidence to those you are leading. This study will reveal many principles of biblical headship to be considered.

1. Understanding Biblical submission of femininity to masculinity.

A. Colossians 3:18-19 gives the ideal for both husband and wife.

“Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be embittered against them.”

- 1) “Submit” is the present middle indicative of HUPOTASSO and it means to place self under the authority, to submit voluntarily. Notice it does not mean to subordinate, to subject or be subdued. It means the woman is to use her FREEWILL and submit voluntarily!
(See Kittel’s Dictionary, Vol. 8, pp. 43)
 - a) This is voluntary submission and is also used in Ephesians 5:22-24, 1 Peter 3:1, Titus 2:5; 1 Corinthians 11:3; 14:34.
 - b) Biblical submission does not mean that the wife has been bullied, coerced, or threatened into compliance.
 - c) Submission does not mean that she is afraid of the man so she cowers when he is around.
 - d) True submission is the result of femininity in the soul developed by accepting the teachings of Christ. From this femininity she learns to respect her husband. She readily appreciates her role in God’s plan for her life and rejoices in His divine protection over her soul. She sees her husband’s leadership as a protection over her. In his protection she is free to express her thoughts and emotions without fear.

PRINCIPLE: Submission means that she recognizes that God has set up a system of protection for her through headship of the husband.

PRINCIPLE: A woman will willingly submit to the man who will offer her masculinity and protection for her freewill.

PRINCIPLE: Submission is the use of her love and respect towards her husband.

e. Contrast between terms; “submit, subject, subordinate and subdue”.

Submit—HUPOTASSO, voluntary submission to right man and right woman relationship only, or to unbelieving husband/believer wife. 1 Peter 3:1, Ephesians 5:22-23, Colossians 3:18-19; Titus 2:5.

Subject—HUPOTAGE, dependent position for learning as in church. Pastor’s authority over the woman in teaching the Word of God, I Timothy 2:11. It means to “renounce the initiative”, and a “tactical yielding” of woman to her Pastor-teacher.

HUPOTAGE, also used for a father in the home having authority over his children to teach them. 1 Timothy 3:4. The child is not to try to overthrow the father’s authority.

Subordinate - means to be inferior in rank, of a lesser class. In order to learn Bible doctrine or take orders in a chain of command system there has to be subordination. But this word is never used in the Bible towards the wife.

PRINCIPLE: A husband is told to give his wife the freedom to submit her freewill. He is not told to subject or subordinate her.

Subdue—KATAGONIZOMAI, to struggle against, to overcome, to conquer. Man is to conquer the world system, Hebrews 11:33, Genesis 1:18; he is to conquer through war, Joshua 18:1.

- The husband is never told to conquer the wife. If a man does try to conquer the wife he will suffer divine discipline.
- He will turn his beautiful responsive wife into a dull, fearful, non-responsive woman who fears his anger but does not respect him. Men are to subdue the environment not his wife!

Summary:

1. For the husband/wife relationship HUPOTASSO is used and means

submit.

2. For the teaching of doctrine to a woman HUPOTAGE is used and means to keep quiet, don't try to outmaneuver the Pastor, yield to his authority so she can learn.
3. For the teaching of the children the father must use HUPOTAGE so he can relate doctrine and policies to them.
4. For conquering the earth and making it productive for you, and for warfare, the word KATAGONIZOMAI is used and means to subdue.
5. If these words are used interchangeably then confusion reigns and wrong principles are taught. The Pastor-teacher must be careful to tell his congregation which word is used in the context to protect the freedom of the believers!
 - 1) Ephesians 5:22 "be submissive to your own husbands" ANDRASIN, each woman has her right man she is responsible to submit to.
 - 2) "as it is fitting in the Lord," ANEKO, Imperfect Active Indicative action which begins in the past with continuing results. The woman is to do it (active voice) and her life has meaning and includes the reality of love and security (indicative mood).

ANEKO means fitting, proper, legally obligated. She is legally obligated through marriage to submit to her right man only. EN plus the locative of KURIOS means she obeys the Lord first in doctrine and through this she is able to submit to her husband thus honoring the Lord. "In the sphere of the Lord" means she stays in fellowship with the Lord so her marriage honors Him.

Colossians 3:18, "Wives, keep submitting voluntarily to your own husbands, as you are legally obligated in the sphere of the Lord."

B. Command to Husbands:

- 1) "Husbands, love your wives," AGAPAO, Present Active Imperative. AGAPAO means willingness to sacrifice, relaxed attitude about her faults, willingness to forgive wrong, unselfish concern for her comfort and needs, fair use of headship authority, 1 Corinthians 13.

(See Kittel's Dictionary, Volume I)

In other words, loving your wife is not just telling her that you love her once a week or month. It is an entire behavior pattern that fulfills the five areas mentioned above. Love will allow the woman to submit to fair authority. This is God's love, not man's. Man is never told to subject the women, subordinate the woman, make her submit, subdue here, he is told to LOVE HER, and that is all.

A man can crush his wife by not listening to her application of doctrine, not giving her freedom, not allowing her time alone at home, shopping, traveling with a girlfriend, constant put-downs in public, demeaning her, and a million other ways.

All of these things are violations of LOVE. Go through the Love list again. Begin at the top and work down the Love Sphere.

Love Sphere: AGAPE and PHILEO SPHERES, 1 John 4:8.

START

Filling of the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 5:18
Willingness to sacrifice time, energy, self
Ephesians 2:4-5; 5:2; 1 John 3:17-23

Unselfish concern for wife's comfort, needs
Ephesians 5:22-24, 28, 33; Colossians 2:19;
I John 2:10; 3:11

AGAPE SPHERE

Relaxed Mental Attitude

1 Corinthians Matthew 5:43-46; 19:19; 22:39
Qualities John 3:16; 13:34; 2 Peter 2:17

Response to Authority Levels
Genuine Humility, Matthew 22:37
1 John 5:2; John 14:15, 21-31.
Galatians 5:14; James 2:8

Fair use of Authority toward Others
Hebrews 12:6; Matthew 22:39; Romans 13:8-9

Bible Doctrine - Clearing the Conscience
Titus 3:15; 1 John 2:5; Ephesians 3:17-19

PHILEO Friend of God, John 16:27; 21:15-17
1 Corinthians 16:22; John 15:15; James 2:23

SPHERE Friend of Mate—Genesis 29:11

Friend of Family Life, Ephesians 6:4
Colossians 3:21; Genesis 27:26

Friend of friends, 2 Samuel 1:26; 1 Peter 3:8
Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12
James 4:4; Romans 12:10; Hebrews 13:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:26

- 2) “And be not bitter against them” PIKRAINO, Present Middle Imperative of prohibition. This word means pointed like arrows, to penetrate with cruelty, strictness, severity, sternness, constant anger. Check out the word in contexts like Habakkuk 1:6; Exodus 16:20; Isaiah 37:29, Hebrews 12:15; Colossians 3:19. This is the type of man who cuts his wife to shreds with his sarcastic speech, cutting monologue, spiteful phrases. He needs doctrine and fast if he has a habit of doing this for he will destroy what woman’s ability to respond.

Retranslation of Colossians 3:18-19:

“Wives, keep submitting voluntarily to your own husbands, as you are legally obligated in the sphere of the Lord.”

“Husbands, keep on loving (Love Sphere) your wives and stop being bitter (cruel, spiteful, stern, strict) against them.”

2. Headship is not dictatorship as Jesus Christ shows in John 13-17.

The following principles are extracted from the contents of John 13-17 to demonstrate how the Perfect Groom leads His Bride.

A. 13:12-17 - Headship means to serve and care for someone.

B. 13:18-30 - Headship can forgive those who betray it.

C. 13:34-35 - Headship emphasizes the filling of the Holy Spirit and identifies

those under its authority, verse 35.

- D. 14:1-14 - Headship provides information for those under his authority.
- E. 14:15 - Headship gives orders and then encourages those under him to carry them out.
- F. 14:16-26 - Headship makes provision for those he loves when he is absent. He recognizes true and false love, verse 21.
- G. 14:27-21 - Headship always gives peace to his followers, corrects misconceptions, guides into straight thinking.
- H. 15:1-4 - Headship accepts full responsibility of the position, prunes the harmful thoughts from the home, and rewards for obedience.
- I. 15:5 - Headship recognizes we are helpless without leadership.
- J. 15:6-9 - Headship recognizes the importance of maintaining fellowship in the home with others.
- K. 15:10 - Headship makes sure everyone knows the rules before he holds them accountable for discipline.
- L. 15:11-12 - Headship accepts the responsibility of giving JOY to those under his authority.
- M. 15:13-17 - Headship is willing to die for those who are under his care and authority.
- N. 15:18-27 - Headship accepts the responsibility and pressure then gives comfort to those under his care.
- O. 16:1-6 - Headship gives truth to keep others from stumbling.
- P. 16:7-15 - Headship makes provision for his home when he is to be away.
- Q. 16:16 - Headship promises hope.
- R. 17:1-14 - Headship recognizes that he is also under authority.
- S. 17:15 - Headship recognizes the evil one and asks protection for his

bride.

T. 2 Corinthians 3:18 - Headship is to lead as Christ led us.

Philippians 2:4-5 - Headship looks out for the interest of others first.

Philippians 2:7 - Headship has an attitude of humility, grace orientation.

1 Peter 5:4; 3:7 - Headship will not use his masculinity to lord it over the wife.