

The wife is to obey her husband; the husband is to serve his wife.

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Large
Text
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(The word “serve” means to be a loving caretaker of, to lovingly minister to the needs of, to provide loving care for.)

This article is focused on the husband's responsibility. The husband's decisions are to be family-focused, not self-focused. The husband needs to interact with his wife as he would want her to interact with him if the role of authority was reversed (*The Golden Rule*).

The source of this information comes from my observation of people (*what people do and say*) and the Bible. Not everything in this article fits everyone, because everyone and every situation is different.

The Bible tells us God made the woman for the man, to be his helper/companion, to obey her husband. Too many times this is used out of context by ignoring or down playing Biblical instructions for the husband on how he is to love, care for, and interact with his wife.

Jesus Christ came down from paradise to die on the cross to care for his bride (*the genuine Christians*). The husband is to love his wife as much as Jesus Christ loves his bride. This amount of love produces constant actions of love every day, all kinds of actions. The husband doing his part is what brings the wife obeying her husband back into balance. When the husband loves his wife as much as Jesus Christ loves his bride, his love for his wife will cause him to care and provide for her before he takes care of himself, just as Christ put his bride (*the genuine Christians*) ahead of himself, when he died for her at Calvary.

The wife should be very content to obey (*cooperate with*) her husband: (1) because of how lovingly, wonderful, and kindly he treats, cares, and pampers her all the time, taking care of her wants and needs, often choosing to do things her way; (2) because his decisions are always righteous and genuinely balanced among everyone's wants and needs in the family, and are not self-focused, self-serving, or self-elevating. Because he does these things, she highly respects her husband, trusting him to always make good and righteous decisions in a loving manner.

The wife is to obey her husband, yet the husband is a servant responsible for caring for his wife and family. God has appointed him to serve (*to care for, to minister to the needs of*) his wife and family; he has a God given responsibility to be a doer for his wife and family.



The husband's responsibilities include doing some occasional dictating, but dictating has a line not to be crossed:

On one side of the line, the husband's deciding/dictating is done with genuine love; his decisions profit his wife and family; he does it with an abundance of love, not self-focused, but impartially considering everyone's wants and needs in his family.

If the husband's dictating passes this line, his actions will show his lack of love for his wife and family, and his endeavor is to be the one in control. This kind of self-focused dictating will work to destroy his wife, his family, and himself.

Much of this article is about this problem.

The difference between treating your wife as a wife, or using her as your servant:

- Your servant is someone who does things for you, following your dictates.
- Your wife is someone you want to do things for, someone you love, cherish, and want to pamper.

Do a New Testament Word Study on the words "even as" in the verse below. It will show you the husband is to love his wife just as much as Christ loves his Church (*Christ's bride, the genuine Christians*), and that is an enormous amount of love.

"Husbands, love your wives, even as"

(Ephesians 5:25 AV)

"25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;"

Christ gave himself for his bride, the church (*the genuine Christians*).

Husbands are to give themselves for their wives too.

God uses a loving Christian family to teach us things about himself. The wife obeying her husband is to parallel and teach about genuine Christians obeying Christ. The husband's extreme love for his wife, and the extent he works to care and provide for his wife, is to parallel and teach Christ's extreme love for his bride, and the extent Christ works to care and provide for his bride (*the genuine Christians*). Husbands and wives are to maintain this parallel.

Love

The husband is Biblically instructed to love his wife.

Thus, studying "love" is studying the husbands responsibilities for interacting with his wife.

Love is not measured by the husband's words, "I love you." Love is measure by how he treats his wife and family, how much he gives up so his wife and family can have, and the continuous actions of love he keeps doing for them.

I remember being told a story of genuine love (*I believe it was written by O Henry*). This is the type of love a man and his wife are to have for each other. This is my description of the story:

There was a man and wife who loved each other, who were bare bones poor; they did not have any money. It was Christmas, and their love for each other cause them to desire to give their spouse something for Christmas. The husband had a pocket watch, it was the only earthly possession he had, and he took it out of his pocket and looked at it many times a day. His wife did not have anything of value, but she had long beautiful hair, and she fussed with it throughout the day. The husband went and sold his watch to buy his wife a set combs for her beautiful hair. The wife went and sold her hair to buy her husband a beautiful chain for his watch.

Christmas came and they gave each other their gifts. The wife had the set of combs, but she no longer had her hair to comb. Her husband had a beautiful watch chain, but he no longer had a watch. But what they both received was an expression of love, which was far greater than the husband's watch and the wife's hair.

Like above, genuine love always causes the actions of genuine love. Genuine love will cause us to give up what we hold precious, to benefit the one we love. God loves us so much he gave his only begotten Son for our benefit. Jesus Christ loves us so much he gave his life for our benefit. This is the measure of love that a husband is to have for his wife. Genuine love will cause the husband to give up doing everything his way, so his wife can do a lot of things her way.

Genuine love causes people to deny themselves of what is precious and valuable to them, so they can do and give to the people they love. If the husband expects his wife to do more for him than he does for his wife, something is wrong with his love for his wife.

Genuine love gives.

The husband's genuine love for his wife will cause him to strive to please her every day, because he enjoys seeing her smile. She is to be first in his heart and life, right after God. If life was a cake, the husband's job is to cut the cake into pieces, and his love for his wife is to cause him to give her the biggest and best piece. The husband's genuine love for his wife will make it impossible for him to willfully mistreat her in any way: physically, verbally, put her down, etc.

A happy marriage is maintained when the husband and wife love God and lovingly strive to please each other every day. A one sided marriage (*almost everything my way*) does not work. **Sharing** needs to be a part of our love, even in the area of doing some things the way our spouse wants to do them.

The word, “Charity,” (below) means Love, and a husband is commanded to love his wife. **Love gives; it does not seek its own.**

“**seeketh not her own,**”

(1 Corinthians 13:4-7 AV)

“4 ¶ Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.”

A husband’s job is to assist and lead, pushing does not work.

Some people point to Scripture that says the wife is to obey her husband, and Scripture that says a husband is to rule his house. Then they **conclude** husbands are to rule their wives and family comparable to the kings of this world ruling their kingdoms, but this is not God’s way; it is contrary to the genuine love a husband is to have for his wife and family.

Many of the problems of correctly understanding the husband’s God given authority come from failing to distinguish the difference between the ways of God and the ways of the world (*the ways most people do things, while not considering God’s directions*). God places the husband in authority over his family. The problem is our minds want to parallel the husband’s God given authority to the authority found in the human world, because the authority found in the human world is the kind of authority we understand. In the authority found in the world, the person with authority is at the top; he is the boss, dictating orders to the people under his authority. He tends to be self-focused, doing things his own way, doing what pleases and benefits himself. He sees himself as the one whose job it is to boss and control the people under his authority. **But with genuine Christians,** God given authority, including the husband’s authority, **is altogether different;** it does not parallel this kind of human (*totalitarian domineering*) authority.

In Christ's world, the first are to be last.

In Christ's world, the first (*the leaders*) are to be last. The leaders, the people in charge, including husbands, always have the responsibility to take care of the people under their authority before they take care of themselves: just as a captain of a sinking ship is in charge, but he is responsible to help all the other people off the ship before he gets off.

How many happy/content families do you see ruled by an "everything my way" husband?

(For a better understanding of the Bible, download and read my free PDF book, "Missing Bible Verses, missing from common beliefs" at <https://seeketh.com/>)

As you read the following Bible verses note: All Christians who have God given authority over other Christians are not to domineer the people under their authority; rather, they are to lovingly serve them, lead them, and minister to their needs.

A husband is to be a shepherd of his family (not a me first king), who out of love for his wife and family, will put them ahead of himself.

These verses apply to all Christians leaders at all levels, including husbands, and just not to Church leaders.

“the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them”

“But it shall not be so among you”

“chief among you, let him be your servant”

(Matthew 20:25-28 AV)

“25 But Jesus called them *unto him*, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.

26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

“they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them”

“But so shall it not be among you”

“the chiefest, shall be servant of all”

(Mark 10:42-45 AV)

“42 But Jesus called them *to him*, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.

43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:

44 And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.

45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

“The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them”

“But ye *shall not be so*”

“he that is chief, as he that doth serve”

(Luke 22:25-27 AV)

“25 And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.

26 But ye *shall not be so*: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.

27 For whether *is* greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? *is* not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.”

Even though the following is addressed to the elders of the Church, it reinforces that leaders in God’s world are not to be domineering lords over God’s people.

“Neither as being lords over *God’s* heritage”

(1 Peter 5:1-4 AV)

“1 ¶ The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

3 Neither as being lords over *God’s* heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.”

If the husband rules his household in genuine love, his wife will not feel as he is controlling her in dictator mode. His love for her is always making plenty of room for her wants and needs. He often chooses to do things her way, just to make her happy: it falls under love, being fair, caring, and sharing.

God has placed the husband in charge of his family; thus, it is his job and responsibility to make the final family decisions. He is to do it with an abundance of love, not self-focused, but impartially considering everyone's wants and needs in his family. He will often choose to take the short stick to benefit his wife and family. In most families, his wife and family will obey him.

Illustration: The parents put their 18 year old son in charge of his younger brothers and sisters while they were away. They did not elevate him above his brothers and sisters; he and all his brothers and sisters are equal (*of the same value and importance*). He was not elevated to domineering dictatorship; he was simply given the responsibility to oversee his younger brothers and sisters. He is required to do the things that are in the best interest of everyone, to be fair, considering everyone's wants and needs, following the examples of his parents.

Likewise: God putting the husband in charge is giving him a job, a set of responsibilities; it is not elevating the husband above his wife and family. His authority is simply a tool to fulfill his great responsibility of serving (*ministering to the needs of*) his family as a loving overseeing caretaker, following God's instructions. The husband is in charge, while remaining equal to his wife and family in value and importance. There is no respect of persons with God.

Some husbands are more self-focused; they want to be the one in control, domineering their family. Stern domineering kills love. It will produce rebellion, divisions, bitterness, mental problems, separation, etc. In the end, it will destroy the marriage, the family, and the husband.

Stern Domineering - is oppressive control; is often abusing power over adults. They are to do as they are told without questioning it. They are seldom allowed to choose, or do things their own way. They must ask for permission before they do anything. Stern domineering says: "I am the king of my family, you are obligated to heel to what I say, how I say, and when I say.

The family is not to be run military style. Husbands that genuinely love their wife and family will not treat them this way.

If the husband gets upset when someone pushes to boss and control him, then he knows how his wife feels when he pushes to boss and control her. A husband's genuine love for his wife will cause him to say, "I am not going to do that to my beloved wife." *Remember the golden rule.*

Some husbands put themselves ahead of their wife and family, looking out for themselves first. A husband who self-centeredly (*me, me, my way, my way*) bosses his family, whose decisions regularly favor himself, will almost always end up being by himself, separated from his wife and children, even if they are living in the same house. I have seen how stern domineering destroys both the people being sternly domineered and the person doing the stern domineering.

There is a road that husbands are to travel in their God given authority/responsibilities. There are curbs on both sides of the road. If a husband is not careful, he can get off the road to the right or to the left, and in both cases it can destroy his marriage and family. (1) He can get off the left side of the road by not giving his family proper Godly oversight, letting his family members wander into unGodly activities. (2) He can get off the right side of the road by being self-centered, declaring himself to be the king of his family, declaring that his wife and family are to heel to his every command, making them do everything his way. This is not love.

Some people are short sighted. They think, if they are not sternly domineering people, they are not in control. They do not grasp that sternly domineering people gives them less control, because stern domineering produces resistance and rebellion, and builds a wall of separation between them and the people they are trying to sternly domineer. Saying, "I am the king of our family, heel to my commands," is a family killer.

A husband with God given authority can be in complete control of his family without being a totalitarian dictator; instead, he can rule his family with love. I have observed that most people freely and willfully obey (*cooperate with*) their leader who greatly loves them, who rules by lovingly leading and teaching, by setting a good example, by honestly taking into account the wants, needs, and concerns of the people under their authority, by always making decisions that put the people's welfare ahead of himself, by going out of his way to make sure everyone is treated kindly and fairly, by always striving to do everything God's way, and by never allowing room for unGodliness. I have observed that we get more obedience from individuals through honestly loving and caring for them, than we get through bossing them. The people cooperate with their leader, because they see their leader is lovingly doing what is fair, righteous, Godly, etc.

Loving leadership builds the family
and earns respect for the husband.

There are times when the husband must dictate sternly; this is when things are about doing and acting righteously, doing things God's way, but most of the choices in life are preferences, and are not about good versus evil. Choices of preferences need to be freely shared with the wife and family, or the family will normally fall apart. There is a time for dictating, but there is a huge amount of time to love and refrain from dictating.

To be fair, the older son was to cut the cake in half, and the younger son was to pick his piece first. Similarly, the husband is to make the family decisions, and the balance is that his decisions are to favor his wife and family ahead of himself (*Women and children first*). The husband's love for his wife and family is to cause him to be fair and share, even in the area of deciding things. The husband needs to treat his wife and family as lovingly as he wants God to treat him.

Illustration of a husband making a family-centered decision with love: Bill worked a stressful pressure job involving many people. His wife Judy worked a dull boring job, away from people.

It was time to go on vacation. Bill wanted to spend their vacation at a quiet peaceful secluded cabin, away from work, people, computers, phones, etc. Judy wanted a vacation with life and excitement. Since Bill was the husband, it was his job to make the decision.

Bill's love for Judy caused him to tell her, "This year we will spend our vacation where you want to go, and next year we will spend our vacation at the cabin, so I can get some peace and quiet."

Bill did not use his power of making the decisions to favor himself; rather, he uses his power of making the decisions to favor everyone in his family. Bill loves his wife and family, and wants to treat them right.

The husband and wife do not vote on what they are going to do. It is the husband's job to make the family decisions; however, he is required to make them God's way. He needs to put his wife and family ahead of himself. The husband's decisions should favor his wife first, giving her the most benefits, giving her the best care.

The husband has the God given role to be the strong one who cares for the weaker one: his wife. The husband is to pick up his wife and gently carry her through the hard times of her life: if she has a problem, he takes care of it; if she is crying, he consoles her; if she needs an outfit, he works to see that she gets it; if she stubs her toe, he is there for her, etc. All the husband's actions should be paralleling Christ caring for his bride (*the genuine Christians*).

God loves the husband's wife and family too, so the husband needs to treat his wife and family lovingly and kindly, because he does not want to irritate God.

If we are a person who is in charge, including a husband, we need to see our self as a teacher and leader. We must not think too highly of our self, or it can cause us to get angry at people for not heeling to our commands (*"God put me in charge, who do they think they are to disobey me?" -- This is a feeling of self-importance, instead of focusing on the importance of doing God's will*). If people are not obeying us, maybe it is because we are bossing them instead of teaching and leading them in love, maybe our lives are not being a good example for them. If we believe people are not respecting us, what are we doing to earn their respect?

My study of the Bible, and experience in life, tells me no human being is to have complete authority over a Christian. Except for God, everybody's authority, including the husband's, is limited; it has boundaries. The wife and family are to obey the husband as long as the husband's instructions are in the will of God. The husband does not have the authority to tell his wife and family to lie, to be unrighteous, to stop going to church, to commit fornication, to be unkind, etc.; this is because the husband's authority does not override God's authority.

People need time and room to do almost everything their own way, to be themselves. A husband who demands that his wife and family do almost everything his way, takes away the freedom from his wife and family to be themselves. He can become like a mother who is constantly pushing her son to think and act like his brother; it does not work. Only a person's freewill choice, and God, can change a person. In almost all cases, the husband who constantly commands his wife and family to change and act like someone else will destroy his family, including himself. If someone needs to change, we first need to pray for them; then we need to convince them to genuinely want to change. Commanding, pressing, and obligating people to change does not work; it just produces anger.

All people have characteristics born into them, and characteristics that their lifetime environments have welded into them, which form the individual. These characteristics need to be accepted by the people around them, because there is almost zero chance of getting them to change into someone else. If they need to change, we need to pray for them, because God can change them. If a man marries a woman who is always going here and there, there is very little chance that he can turn her into a homebody; it will not work, even if she promises she is going to change. It is nearly impossible for a person to change the characteristics which are born and welded into them.

Example: I have observed that sloppiness/neatness is one of these characteristics. If a sloppy person wants to be a neat person, and they try very hard to be a neat person, in almost all cases it only lasts a short time, and they fall back to being sloppy again. Since they cannot get them self to change, others pressuring them to change only produces irritation, anger, and division, without change.

When a husband frequently chooses to do things his wife's way, he is showing his wife love by giving her room to be herself. A husband who demands that almost everything be done his way, and seldom chooses to do anything his wife's way, will destroy his marriage. Why? Denying someone adequate time and room to be themselves is a form of mental strangulation. You cannot be mentally strangling your wife and have a satisfactory marriage.

A husband should not expect God to treat him any better than he treats his wife. We reap what we sow. If we genuinely love God, God will continue to love us. If we reject God, God will reject us. If we forgive others, God will forgive us. If we don't forgive others, God will not forgive us. God will judge us as hard as we judge others. And the list goes on and on. If the wife comes to her husband with a problem and he says, "It is your problem, take care of it yourself;" the husband should expect the same answer from God, when he goes to God with one of his problems. If the husband will not carry his wife through the hard times of her life, he should not expect God to carry him through

the hard times of his life. If the husband supplies his wife's needs, but is stingy on supplying her wants, he should expect God to do the same to him. If the husband puts his wife down, he should expect that God will put him down. And the list goes on and on. The better he treats his wife and others out of love, the more good he should see in his life.

If his wife is a genuine Christian, then she is Jesus Christ's bride too; and whatsoever the husband does to his wife, good or bad, he does it unto Jesus Christ's bride. If the husband mistreats his wife, he is mistreating Jesus Christ's bride. If he belittles his wife by calling her names, or talking down to her as if she was a child, he is belittling Jesus Christ's bride. If he bosses his wife hard, he is bossing Jesus Christ's bride hard. If he does not work to please his wife, he is not working to please Jesus Christ's bride. However, if he takes good care of his wife, he is taking good care of Jesus Christ's bride. The husband of a genuine Christian wife has been given the job/responsibility of caring for Jesus Christ's bride (*his Christian wife*). If the husband is a genuine Christian, then whatsoever the wife does to him, good or bad, she does unto Christ's bride. (*Every genuine Christian is part of Christ's bride.*)

If a husband calls his genuine Christian wife ill names, Christ takes it personally, because she is a part of Christ's bride. What does the Bible say about name calling?

“whosoever shall say”

(Matthew 5:22 AV)

“22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.”

I have heard people saying it was okay for them to call their family members ill names, because they were their family. In reality, it is mean and wrong to call anyone an ill name. It is worse when people do it to their own family members. It is the husband's job to protect his wife and family; if he calls them ill names, it is worse than when other people do it. It is like the following: Robbing banks is bad, but it is worse when the police are the ones robbing them.

Christ, who genuinely has authority over us, teaches and leads us; he does not compel us to obey him; rather, obeying him is our choice. We are to choose to do God's will. Likewise, wives need to choose to obey their husbands. Husbands pressuring their wives to obey them destroys their family. If husbands genuinely love their wives as much as Jesus Christ loves his bride, putting them ahead of themselves, I believe most wives will willingly choose to obey their husband's fair, loving, and righteous directions.

God made a man to be a man, and he made a woman to be a woman. Our example of a man being a man is Jesus Christ. A man being a man is measured by how much he gives of himself, how much he gives up, so he can provide proper care for his wife, family, and others. Christ gave up his life when he died for his bride.

A husband and wife need to go out of their way to do and care for each other. The wife might separate herself from her husband by telling him, "You are a big boy. I am not your slave. You can make your own sandwich, and wash your own clothes." The reality is the husband and wife are to serve (*care and do for*) each other; this is the only way they can have a good loving marriage.

Often, a 50/50 relationship in a marriage does not work. A marriage needs to be a 30/70 relationship: 30% for me, and 70% for my spouse. Both the husband and wife need to do this if they want a good marriage. Why would people give their spouse 70% and only take 30% for themselves; the reason is called LOVE.

In a good marriage there are no secrets: no secret bank accounts, etc. We do not hide things from our spouse. We do not tell our spouse, "That is none of your business," because in marriage, everything is shared business. We need to tell our spouse the things we are doing, and why we are doing them. Hiding things divide the husband and wife, and works to destroy the marriage.

In a good marriage everything is our things to do, our responsibilities, our house, our children, our bills, our cars, etc. In a good marriage the husband and wife function as one.

It is not a good marriage if the husband and wife live and go in their separate directions. Instead of a marriage, the husband and wife become two individuals who live in the same house, who share the same children, etc. Often the marriage becomes more divided if they divide jobs and responsibilities: it becomes my job, your job; my bill, your bill; my car, your car; my responsibilities, your responsibilities; etc. In a divided marriage the husband and wife might say, "I am not going to do that; it is your job; it is your bill; it is your responsibility," etc. When the husband and wife are not lovingly working as one, the marriage becomes divided.

Some people believe that they are not being bossy because they ask people to do things instead of telling them. But if we ask someone to do something, then we get irritated because he did not do it, we are not really asking him; rather, we are telling him to do it using a question. We got irritated because he did not follow our directive (*our command*). Genuine asking does not require obedience; "NO" is an acceptable answer. We can be a bossy dictator phrasing our commands as questions.

Sometimes imperative sentences are used to make a request (*asking*). My wife might tell me, "Take the garbage out." Even though she did not phrase it as a question, she is actually asking me, not ordering me, to take the garbage out.

A husband should expect many family problems if he spends too much time thinking about his own things (*job; activities; etc.*), and too little time planning how to please his wife and family. It is easy for a self-focused husband to become separated from his family.

I believe if the husband always takes the short stick, he can start to feel dispirited. The goal is for the husband to be fair to all, including being fair to himself. Humans have the tendency to see their own stick shorter than it is, and to see other people's sticks longer than they are; thus we choose a shorter stick to help make things more equal. It is a shame for a husband to be giving his wife the shorter stick, while he is regularly taking the longer stick for himself. The husband's decisions need to be fair to his wife, family, and himself.

If our wife is not obeying (*cooperating with*) us, maybe we are not treating her properly: the way God wants us to lovingly treat her.

The Golden Rule

(Luke 6:31 AV)

“31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.”

Question: Does a husband have a right to complain about his wife not doing her part of obeying him, if he is not doing his part of genuinely loving his wife, which includes the actions that genuine love produces.

Remember: Genuine love gives.

Who is Guilty?

People can only take so much before they break. Too much domineering will break almost anybody, including wives and children. When a wife does not obey her husband, who is guilty? Is it the wife for not obeying her husband, or is it the domineering husband who drove her to the breaking point, or is it both?

“and shall cleave unto his wife”

(Genesis 2:24 AV)

“24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

“He that loveth his wife loveth himself.”

(Ephesians 5:28 AV)

“28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.”

“love his wife even as himself”

(Ephesians 5:33 AV)

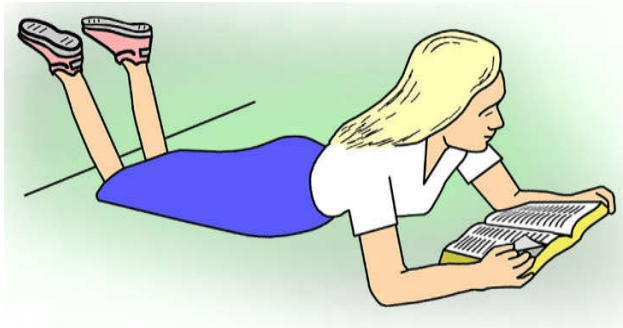
“33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband.”

“that your prayers be not hindered”

(1 Peter 3:7 AV)

“7 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.”

In this article I talk about Jesus Christ dying for his bride (*the genuine Christians*). Actually Jesus Christ died for everyone, but only the people who choose to become genuine Christians (*Christ's bride*) receive its benefits. Everyone who declines to become a genuine Christian rejects Jesus Christ, which is also rejecting his work at Calvary.



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