

The Christian Wife's High Calling to Submission (1 Peter 3:1-7)

- Peter has called for Christians to submit to all authority (2: 13,14)
- Slaves & servants: be subject to masters, even the evil ones (2:15-17)
- We are to follow in the footsteps & example of Christ who suffered for us (2:18-25)

I. Wives Submit to your own Husbands (3:1,2)

- “likewise” refers back to all that Peter has been saying about following Christ
Wives must submit to their husbands even if they do not believe “obey the word”
Why? So that they may be “won without a word” – your testimony may witness
- 1) Peter says don't write your husband off, though he has /does responded negatively
- 2) Don't try to nag your husband over to Christ: your godly conduct speaks loudly
- Peter writes these words as a testimony to the integrity of the Christian faith (2:9)

II. The Importance of Your Godly Conduct and Its Effects (3:3,4)

- Peter says godly conduct is not: braided hair, jewelry or fine clothing
- Peter says godly conduct is: hidden person of the heart –imperishable beauty
- Peter tells us the effect it has & who is really pleased by it: it is precious to God

III. The Example of Godly Women of the Past (5,6)

- Peter speaks of what we could call the mothers of Israel, women of faith
- In speaking of Sarah and her children, Peter pointing out her calling & dignity
- Her willing submission to Abraham was freely given, she called him her lord
- This did not mean Sarah was in any way inferior to Abraham (cf. Gen 18: 12)
- Greek term ‘kyrios’ polite address or Sr. or Mr. and indicates respect
- Peter ends v. 6 by saying, ‘you are her daughters if you do not give way to fear.’
- A Christian wife's highest duty is to God above her husband (Prov 3:25,27)