

Series "Our Riches In Christ"
"The Walk Of The Wife"
Ephesians 5:22-24
Study-20

Hebrews 13:4

The Role of The Christian Wife is found here in Ephesians 5:22-24. This section of **Ephesians 5:18-6:9** is dealing with **"Walking in Harmony."**

Ephesians 5:18

Paul says there are 3 evidences of one being filled with the Spirit!

- 1. Evidence – Joy: Ephesians 5:19**
- 2. Evidence – Thankfulness: Ephesians 5:20**
- 3. Evidence – Submissive: Ephesians 5:21**

Thought Of The Passage: "The Spirit-Filled Wife Chooses To Be Submissive To God, And Her Husband In Everything."

- 1. Verse 22 – Submission – Is Voluntary**
- 2. Verse 22 – Submission – Is To The Lord**
- 3. Verse 23 – Submission – Is To The Husband**
- 4. Verse 24 – Submission – Is In Everything**

1. Verse 22 – Submission – Is Voluntary:

Ephesians 5:22 – Most of our Bibles have the word "subject" in italics, because the word "subject" was inserted by the translators to keep the sense of the passage.

Ephesians 5:21 – "and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ."

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

What Submission is Not!

Submission Is Not – Establishing The Husband As Dictator.

Submission Is Not – Implying That Women Are Inferior To Men: Submission is not an issue of equality but order.

1 Peter 3:7 – as with a weaker vessel, more delicate.

Submission Is Not – The Design Of Men: It is God's design.

Submission Is Not – Only For Women: Ephesians 5:21.

Ephesians 5:22-24 – Wives submit under direction of husband.

Ephesians 5:25-33 – Husbands submit to wives.

Ephesians 6:1-3 – Children submit to Parents.

Ephesians 6:4 – Fathers submit, don't provoke.

Ephesians 6:5-8 – Slaves submit to master.

Ephesians 6:9 – Masters submit – don't threaten.

Submission Is Not – Forfeiting Your Right To Make Decisions: You make a decision to submit or not.

Submission Is Not – Suicide: It is the preservation of life; It is Life to the fullest, 1 Peter 3:6.

“Subject” – A Greek military term meaning “to arrange [troop divisions] in a military fashion under the command of a leader” In non-military use, it was “a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating, assuming responsibility, to arrange under to obey; to submit to one's control; to yield to one's admonition or advice”

Ephesians 5:21 – “and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.” – Every child of God is to be subject; in the role of wife it is subjection to her husband.

“Wives, be subject to your own husbands,” – Note it does not address the husbands to make their wives submit!

It Is An Appeal to Christian Wives to Voluntarily Place Themselves Under God's Order.

“own husbands,” – Misconception is that a woman is to submit to all men!
NO!

Submission – Voluntary; Submission is personal and it is voluntary.

2. Verse 22 – Submission – Is To The Lord:

Ephesians 5:22 – “as to the Lord.” – Means two things:

1. A Wife fully submitted to God is a wife fully submitted to her husband. It becomes God's will for their life, Romans 13:2.
2. Because the wife submits to the Lord, she is able to submit to her husband.

Jesus should be the Lord of her life; the husband should be the Lord of the house!

Why Did God Institute This Order?

Genesis 3 – The woman was deceived by Satan, the man was disobedient to God's commands. The result of sin was God's pronouncement of a curse on Satan, women, men, and the earth.

Genesis 3:16 – "desire" – "to master, to rule, control." The woman naturally wants to lead or control in the marriage relationship.

1 Corinthians 11:8-9; Colossians 3:18; 1 Timothy 2:13-15; 1 Peter 3:1-6; Titus 2:3-5

1. Reason for submission is based upon the order of creation.
2. Reason based upon the Results of the fall through sin.

Submission As To The Lord – A Wife submitted to God is a wife submitted to her husband. Submission to God makes possible the submission to her husband.

3. Verse 23 – Submission – Is To The Husband:

Ephesians 5:23 – "For the husband is the head of the wife," – "head" – There cannot be two heads and have an organization function properly.

"as Christ also is the head of the church," – This whole plan of the body of Christ is of God. This whole plan for marriage is of God.

"He Himself being the Savior of the body." – "Savior" – "deliverer, preserver." Jesus paid the price to redeem or purchase us.

Headship and savior – It should produce humble dependence on God, as one that is fallible and will give an account to the Lord.

Submission To Husband – God has designated the head of the home and it is the husband.

4. Verse 24 – Submission – Is In Everything:

Ephesians 5:24 – “But as the church is subject to Christ,” – It’s His body – “in everything.”

1. Forbids what God commands.
2. Commands what God forbids.

“There is a higher law than that which man can legislate or command. It is that of God. When man forbids what God commands, or God forbids what man commands, then we must obey God rather than man.”

1 Samuel 25 – Story of a husband by the name of Nabal which means “fool.” His wife name was Abigail which means “one who causes joy.”

Acts 5:28-29

The Actions and the Attitude of our response is important.

Submission In Everything – There is a limit to authority and God alone can set those limits.

Application:

1. Submission – Is Voluntary: Submission Is Personal And It Is Voluntary.
2. Submission – Is To The Lord: A Wife Submitted To God Is A Wife Submitted To Her Husband. Submission To God Makes Possible The Submission To Her Husband.
3. Submission – Is To The Husband: God Has Designated The Head Of The Home And It Is The Husband.
4. Submission – Is In Everything: There Is A Limit To Authority And God Alone Can Set Those Limits.