

BRINGING HOMELIFE INTO HARMONY WITH HEAVEN

Colossians 3:18-19

With any doctrine, teaching, or instruction in the Bible, the question we must ask ourselves is, “*Am I truly seeking to allow the Bible to teach me **what it means by what it says?***”

Responsible Bible interpretation is hard work; it’s the work of every follower of Christ. Keeping your **biases** and **pride** at bay allows the Bible to teach you its message.

What was the **heart** of Paul's teaching which redefined, revolutionized, and spiritually **energized** first-century homelife?

Wives, husbands, parents, kids, and other household workers needed to view the relational dynamics of their **homelife** as expressions of their worship of **God**.

This passage of Scripture commands wives and husbands in **two expressions of their worship** of Christ making for a marriage and a homelife in harmony with heaven.

Wives and Husbands:

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

Worship here involves **submission** and **headship**.

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“...in the Lord...” **makes it worship**. It tells us how we are to understand and respond to what God considers our duty, what is suitable, the appropriate and proper foundation for a wife’s submission. That submission concerns the Lordship of Jesus.

He loves her with the **love of Christ**; it is **sacrificial** love born in his heart of **self-denial** and **expressed** in his life as always seeking to act in terms of what is best for her.

Husbands, your **submission to Jesus** is the foundation and model for submission in your marriage and family.

Here is **what your surrender** to Jesus looks like on behalf of your wife:

You worship Christ in a **sacrificial commitment** to compassionately, kindly, humbly, gently, patiently, and forgivingly invest in your wife's walk with God.

“*Embittered*”: a husband becoming **cynical, resentful, irritated, or harsh** towards his wife

The **root cause** is the **same** for both husbands and wives:
You have ceased seeing your relationship as an expression of
your love and worship for Jesus Christ.

Two sinners, patiently forgiving each other as you follow Jesus
together; that is the basis for a **home in harmony with heaven.**

A husband's love for his wife is *agape*—the **sacrificial love** Jesus showed in giving Himself up for His bride, “...*that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.*” (Ephesians 5:25, 27)

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.” (Colossians 2:6-7)

You have obtained, and you seek to grow in, a spiritual knowledge, and spiritual wisdom, and a spiritual understanding, “*so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.*” (Colossians 1:9-12)

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