

“Marriage in the Name of Christ”
Colossians 3:18-19

I. Wives are to Submit to their Husbands in the Name of the Lord. (v. 18)

- A. Wives are only called to submit to their *own* husbands (not all men).
- B. Wives are to submit to their husbands because it is “fitting in the Lord”.
 - 1. That’s not a reason based on time period or culture.
 - 2. It’s a reason based on the eternal Lordship of Christ and His love for the Church:

Ephesians 5:22–24 - ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

- C. Wives are to submit to their husbands in *all* things (except sin).
- D. Wives are really submitting to Jesus (as represented by their husbands).

II. Husbands are to Love their Wives in the Name of the Lord. (v. 19)

- A. A husband’s leadership is not to be harsh.
- B. A husband’s leadership is to be self-sacrificial.

Ephesians 5:25 - Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

- C. A husband’s leadership is under God’s authority.

1 Peter 3:7 - Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

- 1. Wives are made in the image of God!
- 2. Christian wives are fellow heirs of heaven!