

A Christian and His Wife

Prov. 18:22

Introduction:

- A. Someone said, “Solomon must have written this early in his career and 21:9 much later.
- B. Our subject: “A Christian and His Wife” to be followed by “A Christian and Her Husband.”
 - 1. At one time could have said, “A Christians and his/her partner” and all understand - no more.
 - 2. As stated in another lesson, “One **woman** for one **man** for life.”
 - 3. Same sex marriages fast becoming legal in society, never by God’s law (Rom. 1:26-27)
- C. We shall notices some relationships a Christians sustains to his wife.

Discussion:

I. A Husband Is to Be His Wife’s *Lover*.

- A. Several kinds of love – Greeks even had different words for it.
- B. Husband is to love his wife in romantic passionate way (1 Cor. 7:3 NKJ)
- C. Husbands are to love in a “social and moral sense” (Strong on Agapeo; Eph. 5:25, 28, 33)
 - 1. This love is a commitment to the welfare of another¹
 - 2. This love is fueled by principle more than passion.
 - 3. This love is better shown than told (cf. 1 Cor. 13:4-7 NIV)
 - 4. This love is self-sacrificing (Eph. 5:25-28)

II. A Husband Is to Be His Wife’s *Leader*.

- A. As husband he is appointed her head by God. (Eph. 5:23).
 - 1. Warned not to abuse his authority (Col. 3:19).
 - 2. Wife told to submit, but husband not to “bring her into submission.”
- B. As husband he in not just to rule, but to rule well (2 Tim. 3:4; 12)
- C. As husband he is to make it easy for her to fulfil her roles.
 - 1. As a mother taking the lead in spiritual training of children (Eph. 6:4)
 - 2. As a homemaker.
 - a. Don’t demand the near impossible as a housekeeper.
 - b. Allow her to “manage” the house (1 Tim. 5:14).

III. A Husband Is to Be His Wife’s *Partner*.

- A. He is not a master, and she a servant (cf. 1 Pet. 3:7)
- B. Eve was taken from Adam’s side, not head nor foot.
 - 1. She is not his ruler.
 - 2. Nor is she his doormat.
- C. Both are parents of their children.

IV. A Husband Is to Be His Wife’s *Provider*.

- A. A husband is to cherish (cares for - NIV) his wife.
 - 1. To refuse to do so is terrible (1 Tim. 5:8).
 - 2. To spend only on self is wrong – “If she wants it, let her get a job and pay for it.”
- B. The Lord is not pleased with a dead-beat.
 - 1. Subject to church discipline (2 Thess. 3:11-14)
 - 2. He expects a man to engage in honest work (Eph. 4:28).

Conclusion:

- A. How much do you love your wife?
- B. How well are you ruling or leading her?
- C. Do you make her fell like a true partner?
- D. How hard do you try to provide for her financially, emotionally, etc.

1. "Christian love, whether exercised toward the brethren, or toward men generally, is not an impulse from the feelings, it does not always run with the natural inclinations, nor does it spend itself only upon those for whom some affinity is discovered. Love seeks the welfare of all, <Rom. 15:2>, and works no ill to any, <13:8-10>; love seeks opportunity to do good to `all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith,' <Gal. 6:10>. See further <1 Cor. 13> and <Col. 3:12-14>."

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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