

# THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HUSBAND AND WIFE: *A Basic Biblical Approach*

## Introduction:

The key starting point for a successful Christian home is submission to the authority of God's Word. We take the Bible and its words at face value and interpret and apply the words literally. Only by twisting words can one escape the clear and plain meaning of Scripture. God knows best, for He designed men and women as well as marriage itself. He may require difficult things of us—things which go against our natural inclinations. But He also provides grace and strength to obey. We must trust Him and His Word. As we obey with confidence in God, He rewards with the blessings of joy and fulfillment.

**Key Passages:** Ephesians 5:22-33; Colossians 3:18-19; I Peter 3:1-7; Proverbs 31:10-31

## I. The Role and Responsibilities of the Husband – The Loving Leader

A. He loves. (Eph. 5:25; Col. 3:19)

1. As Christ loved the church.
  - a. He lived in an exemplary manner.
  - b. He gave His life for the church.
  - c. He protects the church.
  - d. He provides for the church.
  - e. He encourages the church.
  - f. He fellowships with the church.
2. As he naturally loves and cares for himself (Eph. 5:28-29)

B. He leads. (Eph. 5:23)

1. He is the head of the wife as Christ is the Head of the Church. (cf. I Cor. 11:3)
2. His leadership is to be loving and purposeful for her good.

C. He understands. (I Peter 3:7)

D. He honors. (I Peter 3:7)

1. He respects the differences between men and women.
2. He seeks a prayerful togetherness in the grace of life.

E. He provides. (I Tim. 5:8)

F. He fulfills her needs. (I Cor. 7:1-5)

G. He brings up the children in the things of the Lord in a non-wrath provoking manner. (Eph. 6:4)

## II. The Role and Responsibilities of the Wife - The Respectful Companion

A. She submits. (Eph. 5:22; Col. 3:18; Titus 2:5; I Pet. 3:1-6)

1. As unto the Lord.
2. As the church is subject unto Christ.
3. As is fit in the Lord.

B. She respects. (Eph. 5:33; I Pet. 3:2, 6)

1. Responsive actions
2. Respectful tone

This respect flows from the godliness and modesty of her nature.  
(I Pet. 3:2-4)

C. She loves. (Titus 2:4)

1. Her husband
2. Her children

D. She stays pure. (Titus 2:5 - discreet, chaste)

E. She is home-oriented. (Titus 2:5; I Tim. 5:14)

F. She protects the marriage and home. (Titus 2: 5; I Tim. 5:14)

G. She is God-fearing and industrious. (Prov. 31:10-31)

1. She sews clothing for her household (13, 19)
2. She acquires food (14)
3. She rises early and prepares food for the household (15)
4. She buys a field for planting a vineyard (16)
5. She works hard with her hands (17)
6. She works diligently into the night (18)
7. She cares for the poor and needy (20)
8. She provides fine clothing for her household and herself (21-22)
9. She is an asset to her husband's leadership (23)
10. She is involved in business (24)
11. She is known by her strength and honor (25)
12. She is edifying in speech (wise, kind) – v. 26
13. She cares well and diligently for her household (27)
14. She is praised by children and husband (28-31)
15. She fears the Lord (30)