

Introduction

1. The first Divine institution God established was the home ([Gen. 2:18-25](#))
 - a. A home begins at marriage when one man and one woman are joined together by God for one lifetime ([Mt. 19:4-6](#); [1 Cor. 7:39](#))
 - b. A godly home has God at its center ([Ps. 127](#))
2. Within the home, God has provided clear roles for the husband and wife
 - a. To reverence God, we must reverence His roles for the home

I. The Role of the Husband

1. The husband is the head of the home ([Eph. 5:23](#))
 - a. God gave him rule over the wife ([Gen. 3:16](#))
 - b. If the husband is to rule, and he is, then he has the role of leader of the home ([Gen. 18:19](#); [Jos. 24:15](#))
 - c. God took a rib out of Adam's side to make woman ([Gen. 2:21-23](#))
 - i. He did not take a bone out of his head such that the woman would rule over him, nor did he take one from his foot such that he would trample on her
 - ii. Husband and wife are to walk side-by-side through life
2. The husband must love his wife ([Eph. 5:25](#))
 - a. This is the highest form of love which is shown by Christ who gave Himself for the church
 - i. He purchased her with His own blood ([Acts 20:28](#))
 - b. This love seeks out the greatest benefit for the recipient
 - i. Husbands, what greater display of love than helping our wives get to Heaven?
 - ii. A wife is a blessing from the LORD ([Pr. 18:22](#))
 - c. The husband ought to love his wife as his own body ([Eph. 5:28](#))
 - i. This gets back to the idea of "one flesh" ([Eph. 5:31](#))
 - ii. This eliminates the abusive husband
 - d. The husband must nourish and cherish his wife as the Lord does the church ([Eph. 5:29](#))
 - i. Nourish means to provide food and to maintain and support ([1 Tim. 5:8](#))
 - ii. Cherish means to foster with tender care
 - iii. The husband takes care of his body, so he is to take care of his wife
3. The husband is to dwell with his wife with understanding and give her honor ([1 Pt. 3:7](#))
 - a. If both spouses have an understanding of God's Word, then the marriage is greatly benefitted ([Pr. 19:14](#), [27:17](#))
 - b. Honor has to do with value, esteem, and dignity which comes with wisdom and understanding ([Pr. 8:12-18](#))
 - i. A virtuous wife's worth is far above rubies ([Pr. 31:10](#))
 - ii. The queen of Sheba learned the value of wisdom ([1 Kgs. 10:10](#); [Pr. 20:15](#))

- c. Husbands, we must treat our wives this way
 - i. It has a direct impact on our prayer life
 - ii. Hindered means to cut into or impede one's course by cutting his way off
- d. In the Christian home we are joint heirs of the grace of life which is eternal life (cf. [1 Pt. 1:3-9](#); [Titus 1:2, 3:7](#))

II. The Role of the Wife

1. The wife is to be in subjection to her husband ([Eph. 5:22](#); [Col. 3:18](#))
 - a. Submit means to subordinate or to obey
 - i. God's chain of authority ([1 Cor. 11:3](#))
 - ii. This requirement was established early in history and is not based upon culture ([Gen. 3:16](#))
 - iii. The submission to the husband is "as to the Lord" ([Eph. 5:22](#)) and "as is fitting [proper] in the Lord" ([Col. 3:18](#))
 - iv. Christians submit to one another in the fear of God ([Eph. 5:21](#))
 - b. Submission is motivated by love ([Eph. 5:24](#); cf. [Titus 2:4](#))
 - i. The church loves Christ and because we love Him we obey Him ([Jn. 14:15, 21, 23](#))
 - ii. This same principle is practiced by the wife toward her husband
 - iii. What if my husband does not obey the word, should I submit to him? Yes! ([1 Pt. 3:1-6](#))
2. The wife is to respect or reverence her husband ([Eph. 5:33](#))
 - a. Respect is the same idea as reverence
 - b. A lack of respect can cause one to become a contentious [brawling, quarrelsome] wife ([Pr. 19:13, 21:9, 19, 27:15-16](#))
 - c. A virtuous wife respects not only her husband, but God ([Pr. 31:10-31](#))
 - i. She is "priceless" ([Pr. 31:10](#))
 - ii. She is trustworthy ([Pr. 31:11](#))
 - iii. She does good ([Pr. 31:12](#))
 - iv. Her husband is respected ([Pr. 31:23](#))
 - v. She is thrifty ([Pr. 31:24](#))
 - vi. She is wise and kind ([Pr. 31:26](#))
 - vii. She fears the LORD ([Pr. 31:30](#))

Conclusion

1. Within the home, God has established clear roles for both husbands and wives
 - a. The husband is the head of the home, he is to love his wife, and give honor to her
 - b. The wife is to be submissive to her husband, and show reverence toward him
2. At the center of every godly home is the fear of the LORD
 - a. Let us be those that respect God's roles!