

PREPARED TO LIVE IN VICTORY: THE POWER OF A WIFE WHO WAITS ON GOD

Houses of Light Church • July 9 y 10, 2022 • Pastor Netz Gómez

1 Pet. 3:1-6

'Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, ² when they see your respectful and pure conduct. ³ Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— ⁴ but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. ⁵ For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, ⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.'

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The apostle Peter already spoke to us as citizens, as workers, even to slaves in unjust situations and now he addresses wives who find themselves in the difficult reality of a husband who does not believe (does not obey) the word to give them hope and direction .
- B. The first word in this section is ***"Likewise"*** which refers to a sequence of instructions, first for all Christians to submit to rulers, second for slaves to submit to their masters, and now for wives to submit to their masters. that they submit to their husbands.
1 Ped. 2:13-14 y 18 "Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good... ¹⁸ Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust."
- C. The goal of this instruction for believers who are foreigners and pilgrims in this world is that we change the slander into the affirmation of the glory of God on the day that He visits them so that they may convert to see the truth of Christ and those that represent it.
- D. Peter goes on to talk about every situation where you might have a leader who is falling short in carrying out his God-appointed role. That is why he says ***"likewise wives submit to your [own] husbands,"*** This means that wives do not have the same kind of submission to all men as they do to their own husbands. **There are all kinds of roles that we have to play and the subjection for each one is specific.**
- E. In this case he is speaking to women who are also foreigners because they are living in an unequally yoked marriage. When he talks about husbands

who do not obey the Word he is talking about husbands who are not Christians specifically.

II. THE POWERFUL MESSAGE OF RESPECTFUL AND PURE CONDUCT

- A. **1 Pet. 3:1b-2** *“so that even if some [husbands] do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, ² when they see your respectful and pure conduct.”* The behavior that is emphasized is a way to win the husband. This is an instance that has been marked for all believers at the beginning of this section:

1 Pet. 2:11a-12 *“Beloved... ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.”*

- B. This wife hopes her husband will change from calling her someone who is doing silly things like going to church and Friendship Group etc. to a husband who is glorifying her God.
- C. The reason this is important to us is to point out that although it is a specific instance; when we read it, even men learn things from these women. **The reason they are not afraid of anything that can frighten them is because they have their hope in God (1 Pet. 2:5).** This is something we all want to learn from this wife who waits on God and becomes brave whether we are male, single or married.
- D. It may seem illegitimate to obtain principles and truths as men from a passage that is dedicated to the wife, but we can do it because it is a principle that has been established for all Christians (1 Pet. 2:11-12).
- E. Can a husband be won without a word? That is to say that if this man does not need to hear the gospel he can become a Christian just by observing the behavior without knowing anything about what this woman believes. We know this is not the case because we previously saw this:

1 Pet. 1:23 y 25 *“since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God... ²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.”*

- F. This husband must know about the good news, so when he says to be won *“without a word”* it does not mean that he does not need to know anything that she believes as if he were going to become a Christian just by seeing her; he needs to know what she believes, he needs to know the gospel that is changing this woman. Rather what he means is that it is not an excess of words, scolding or verbal pressure; this verse does not mean that he cannot speak of her faith at all.
- G. She needs to distinguish when these words are offensive, pressured, or scolding or to manipulate her husband. So, once he knows the gospel that transformed her, it is the behavior that is going to make the difference. That's why he says: *“because of her respectful conduct (with fear)”*: This

may sound complicated but, as we have already seen, that first respect that she has is the fear of God. He then tells them: women conduct yourselves with fear of God and with purity and this is for everyone.

1 Pet. 1:17 *"And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile."*

1 Pet. 2:17-18 *"Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. **18** Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect..."*

- H. He tells the wives not to be afraid. You are the women with the heart of a lion, intrepid, daring and brave because you hope in God; then the respect or fear of which he speaks here is not fear of the husband but respect and fear of God; and he expresses himself in saying: 'husband, you are not my greatest fear, my greatest fear is of God; I want to please God and I may not please you in everything but I will not stop pleasing my new Master who is supreme (Jesus). Then in the fear of God, she is sent into a relationship of respect and submission to her husband.
- I. When Peter speaks of "**Pure conduct**" he means that she is not inclined to be dishonest or to any kind of lack of sexual integrity or manipulation. This unbelieving husband finds that he has a pure and trustworthy wife.

Jas. 3:17 *"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."*

III. INNER BEAUTY OUTWEIGHS OUTER BEAUTY

- A. The goal in all this instruction is for that man who does not obey the Word to be winning and Peter mentions things that women should not do: **Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear...** He speaks of the external adornment first and after the value of the internal adornment that they must have **"but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."**
- B. Why does Peter take up the dress issue when he is trying to help these women win their husbands without words? It seems that the reason is because some women can be influenced by their culture; It happened at that time and now too: *'I need to work on looking beautiful for him and if I can be pretty enough then he's going to take me seriously and he's not going to leave me and maybe he'll take my faith seriously...'* and Pedro tells them don't think like that, what makes you more effective in your testimony is what is happening inside you.
- C. This does not mean that the woman cannot adorn her hair, or wear earrings or necklaces or bracelets and we know this because she says, or wear luxurious clothes. If these were absolute commandments then he would say, you must by no means fix your hair, wear any gold jewelry, or wear any clothing. Peter is saying: **don't let your focus be on the outside...**

- D. Any woman can fix herself externally even those who do not know God, that does not testify to what only God can do ***"but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."*** This beauty is something that does not deteriorate or fade over the years and that only God can do: fill it with tenderness and tranquility. God sees this kind of beauty as something very precious that He is going to back up and use to save that unbelieving husband.
- E. **What it produced is this kind of heart in the women of old was that they "hoped in God"** and that is why they stopped fearing and became gentle and calm and it shows and the husband is going to ask her about her faith:
- 1 Pet. 3:15 "but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect."**
- F. This is something that God asks of all of us believers and by doing what God tells you it is possible that He will save even that unbelieving husband and others around us who have not believed until now.

IV. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What is it that makes the message of salvation more effective when we want someone, including the spouse, to know the Lord?
2. Why shouldn't our words be the only means of testifying of the Lord to those around us?
3. According to today's passage, what makes us become someone who does not fear any threat and how can you apply it to your life?

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Our Healing Rooms will be open on Thursday, July 14 at 7:00 p.m.** Please make an appointment at www.nhop.la
2. **Vacation Bible School for children ages 4-12 will be July 18-22** Donation \$60. Please register your children at the children's ministry office.
3. **Awaken Week for Youth ages 13-18 • July 27-29.** Please register at www.housesoflight.org
4. **The Passion for Jesus Conference and Leadership Summit will take place September 8-10.** Please register online or at the outside table space is limited.