

**“THE LITTLE CHURCH:  
MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY”  
PART 3- “DEAR WIVES SUBMIT...”  
EPHESIANS 5:21-33  
REV. CHARLES R. BIGGS**

Remember these words, or some very similar?

*Dearly beloved, we are gathered here in the presence of God to join this man and this woman in holy matrimony.*

Marriage was instituted by God himself in the time of man's innocency and uprightness. The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him." Thereupon God created woman of man's own substance and brought her unto the man.

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here to learn what God says about our marriages.

**In Genesis 2, we learn five important truths about marriage as God intended:**

1. God makes “suitable helper” or “helper matching him” (KJV, “help-meet): God supplies a constant companion, a friend and helper.
2. God makes the union between man and wife permanent (“a man is united to his wife and they will become one flesh”)
3. A man must put his wife’s interests above all others, even his parents (“He will leave his father and mother...cleaving to his wife”).
4. The wife is under the authority of her husband; he names her “woman” (Gen. 2:23) and later “Eve” (3:20). This indicates man’s headship from the very beginning.
5. God created only one Eve for Adam, indicating divine disapproval of both polygamy and homosexual practice.

**Remember your wedding day, wives?**

I, “wife”, take you, “husband”, to be my wedded husband, and I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses to be your loving and faithful wife in sickness and in health, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, as long as we both shall live. “Wife” will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live with him after God's commandments in the holy estate of marriage? And will you love him, cherish and obey him, so long as ye both shall live?

You promised **A LOT!**

You promised **to God!**

Thank God for His grace to help us.

The health of our marriages reveal how much we understand the Gospel, our roles and callings before God, our need for the Gospel, our differences, etc.

The health of our marriages as part of the “little church” the family, will also effect the life and health of the Church of Christ.

**Three Things to Learn Today:**

**You are loved.**

**You are valuable.**

**You are beautiful.**

**YOU ARE LOVED → YOU ARE VALUABLE → YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL →  
YOU ARE LOVED...**

**YOU ARE LOVED!**

*Wives: Every woman in this world is born with a desire to be loved. There is a built-in desire to be loved in a way that only God can love!*

*Many women go through their entire lives looking for this love, and never finding it.*

***IN CHRIST YOU HAVE FOUND THIS LOVE!***

*You must believe this; and live like this FIRST!*

*The love you so desperately desire cannot ultimately be found in the “perfect husband” or a “perfect man”- -but only in Christ who is the PERFECT MAN AND PERFECT HUSBAND-BRIDE GROOM TO YOU.*

*The Gospel teaches you that you have been forgiven, and that Christ has redeemed you to be His own Bride.*

*Because of the good news, you are called to live in this world, and particularly in marriage, submitting to your husband **as to the Lord** (Eph. 5:22-24), that is, **submitting as you do to the Lord Jesus Christ.***

*Wives: You must be willing to submit because of Christ’s love for you- -first.*

*Often it is hard to submit because you are holding out until YOUR HUSBAND shows love...until you're loved...then...*

***Because of Christ's Love to you...***

***...Because of fear of Him...***

***"...Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ" (Eph. 5:21).***

The Church is submitted to Christ, and to one another for we are "members of one another".

***Husbands are called to give up self-centeredness and learn to live the costly, sacrificial life of crucifixion as head of the wife and family.***

***Wives are called to give up self-centeredness and learn to live the costly, sacrificial life of crucifixion as submissive and respectful wife.***

Jesus Christ covenants, vows, unites and shows true love to redeem and glorify His Bride. Throughout the Bible, God speaks love to His often unsubmitive and idolatrous Bride. God promises in Christ Jesus that He has betrothed Himself to His Bride, and through the submissive death on the cross, Christ redeems His wife, and teaches her how to be lovingly and willingly and joyfully submissive to Him.

This story of God's love is found in Hosea (2:14, 16, 19-20).

**GOD'S LOVE STORY SHOULD BE YOUR LOVE STORY. There are lots of love stories about princesses and their princes, etc, but your ultimate LOVE STORY MUST BE BASED AND GROUNDED UPON GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU.**

**THIS IS THE WAY YOU MUST SEE THE WORLD.**

**JANE AUSTEN IS COMMENDABLE; BUT THE SENSE AND SENSIBILITY OF THE SCRIPTURES AS THEY REVEAL GOD'S LOVE IS MUCH RICHER!**

**Hear God's love story:**

***<sup>ESV</sup> Hosea 2:14 "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her...16 "And in that day, declares the LORD, you will call me 'My Husband'...2:19-20 And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.***

The Apostle Paul picks up on this language and speaks of Christ's love for His Bride, the Church, and how wives submit to their husbands as a picture of the church's relationship to Jesus (Eph. 5:22ff). The Apostle Paul also speaks specifically of the Church being betrothed as a virgin Bride to Jesus:

*ESV 2 Corinthians 11:2 I feel a divine jealousy for you, for I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.*

**Wives: How are you to live in the marriage relationship in light of Christ's love for you?**

You are the "Daughters of Eve" and because of that you will always be tempted to desire to be in your husbands place as head of the home; submission will not come easy for you any more than leading in a loving manner will come easy for your husband.

As the "Daughters of Eve" "Your desire shall be *against* your husband" (literally from Genesis 3:16; cf. Gen. 4:7); or an alternate understanding is "Your desire shall be to rule over your husband..."

Old Testament commentator writes on this point from Genesis: "[The marriage relationship] far from being co-equals over the remainder of God's creation, the relationship now becomes a fierce dispute, with each party trying to rule over the other. The two who once reigned as "one flesh" attempt to rule each other [sinfully]" (Victor Hamilton, NICOT, 202; see also ESV Study Bible notes on Genesis 3:16 and 4:7).

Lead HE MUST.

A husband as governor of the home has authority from Christ and His Word, but combine this with love.

**Submit YOU MUST.**

Submission of wives to husbands is not merely something that is relevant to Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> century audience. **It is rooted in creation itself, before the fall.**

It was God's design for women to be submissive and for their husbands to lead as head of the family.

- Your husband's headship is grounded (rooted) in creation: 1 Corinthians 11:8-9:

*ESV 1 Corinthians 11:3 But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God....*

*ESV 1 Corinthians 11:8-9: For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. <sup>9</sup> Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.*

- Your husband's headship is always in relation to Christ's headship over his church. Lots of implications! This is not your "show" or your "game" or merely your "woman"- -your role is submissive under Christ as Christ submits to the Father:

*ESV 1 Corinthians 15:28 When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.*

Why must you submit to your husband?

Because Christ laid down his life for you and bought you with a price to live by His grace in a submissive way to show forth to the world the devotion, dedication and desire that the Church has for Jesus Christ.

Devotion  
Dedication  
Desire

Wives: Live in voluntary subjection under Jesus to your husbands **because of your love to Christ; because of His love for you**. As you are made more aware of your own weaknesses, so remember he has weaknesses too.

Apply the Gospel every day and at every moment to your relationship with your husband.

***Be a kind and gentle reminder to him that you need his leadership. You need him to seek Christ first.***

You need him to know Christ so that he can become the man you want him to be; and most of all the man Christ wants him to be.

***Self-will is self-centered and is the opposite of subjection and obedience to.***

Remember that you can behave outwardly as if you are submissive; but inwardly your heart is far from that reality.

Your heart must be submissive and bent to Christ toward your Heavenly Father's heart so that you can by the power of the Spirit submit to your husbands not merely in words and deeds, but *from the heart*.

Accept your husband's leadership and headship lovingly and willingly **out of reverence, awe, and love for Christ** (Eph. 5:21).

**YOU ARE LOVED → YOU ARE VALUABLE → YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL → YOU ARE LOVED...**

**YOU ARE VALUABLE! Your God-given role, your gifts, your strengths...**

*Because of Christ's redemption and His showing favor and grace to you as a sinner, you are valuable.*

*But more specifically you are valuable in that Christ has blessed you with a specific role to glorify and honor Him, and with gifts and strengths to serve the family.*

*Women throughout history, including feminists of different sorts, have many times wanted to hold any position other than the one of submission.*

*Why? They want to know they're valuable. They wanted to find their value in another role **other than in the one God has called them to.***

**They are looking for value in themselves;** *their worth, etc.*

Sin confuses our hearts; sin makes what God says is valuable, ***invaluable to us*** (again see Gen. 3:16; 4:7: "Sin wants to master us").

Women seek roles of leadership over men- -just because they want to rule over men:

*So some women try to find it as religious leaders (priestesses in pagan religion like at Ephesus), seeking outward beauty and the right body, and/or clothes, their jobs, their leadership positions to prove that they can be "just as good" as a man.*

*(Note: Leadership over men is not always wrong, but it certainly can be a great hindrance to spiritual growth in submission to your husbands; it can confuse you about the difference between the role you're respected for and the most and important and valuable role that God has called you to).*

**Why would they want that?** *Christ calls them to a valuable position in submission to their husbands. They are missing the place Christ has given to them to be women of great value, dignity, worth (see Proverbs 31:10ff).*

*You are valuable:*

- **In Your Role**

## • In Your Gifts and Strengths

What submission does **NOT** mean:

The world (and some in the church say (or suggest) and tend to believe):

- Submission is something dogs do to masters!
- Submission makes me weak.
- Submission makes me less important.
- Submission seems to take away or undermine my giftedness.

The world (and many in the church who are not submitted to Scripture) will never understand submission as a sign of true love in a woman for her husband!

Think about it! What does the world know about love anyway?

- Was Jesus' submission to God the Father, and even to his disciples as a common house slave in John 13 the act of a common "dog to his master"!?
- Was Jesus' submission on the cross "weak"- -or was it the power of God unto salvation for all who believe?
- Did Jesus' submission to death for sinners on the cross make him less important- -or redefine importance altogether (the kind of importance from God's perspective)?
- Did Jesus' submission take away or undermine his giftedness or rather did it not enhance it.

The world in all its issues of "Cosmo" Magazine, talk shows, and "modern feminist" perspectives (both the radical and more calmly conservative kind)- -the world in all its manifestations will never understand the submission of Christ to the Father...

...Nor the submission of the Church to Jesus Christ...

...Nor, and perhaps especially the submission of godly wives to their husbands!

But we are not living for the world- -we are not living to prove something to the world. Although when the world sees the love of a godly wife to her husband demonstrated through submission, **deep in that worldly feminist heart, she sees a window to true love that makes her long for and desire that kind of vulnerability and the trust that she could have in a man!**

**When submission is done right, that is, BIBLICALLY, it is attractive!**

Yet at the same time, she constantly is busy about exchanging the truth with a lie (Rom. 1:25ff). Nevertheless, there can be longings that only God can satisfy that are deep within every human hearts- including the most radical feminists!

***Being submission DOES NOT mean you are not gifted in your role; you are eminently gifted. You are valuable to your husband, your family, your church, and ultimately to Christ!***

Submission does not mean subjection without a recognition of your gifts; submission means that you submit all of your gifts to your husband's "headship" as the Church submits to Christ's headship.

But God has granted you strengths and gifts so that you can build the Kingdom; you are gifted with certain abilities to be used in service to the home and the congregation.

*ESV Proverbs 14:1 The wisest of women builds her house, but folly with her own hands tears it down.*

Charles Bridges (*Proverbs*) wrote: "The godly matron is the very soul of the house. She instructs her children by her example, no less than by her teaching" (Banner of Truth Trust, 170).

*ESV Proverbs 31:10 An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.*

**Proverbs 31 lists these valuable traits and gifts of the godly and submissive wife:**

- Her husband trusts her with the home, the family, the finances.
- She is busy with her hands taking care of the family: feeding, clothing, teaching, etc.
- She is dressed in "strength"- -her best dress is "strength" and "dignity"- -she can never say: "I have nothing to wear!" (31:17, 25)
- She serves her community, her church, her family.
- Her husband can work hard and be respected in the community because he can leave the "more important" business of family with her!
- She exudes wisdom and kindness.
- She is praised, lauded, appreciated by both her husband and children.

**"One Flesh"- You not only COMPLIMENT, but actually COMPLETE EACH OTHER IN YOUR ROLES**

The point in the larger passage about submission is that you are one flesh:

*ESV Ephesians 5:31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."*



You are not two autonomous entities or individuals living together, but a picture of unity, of the “oneness” of Christ and His Church.

This “oneness” or unity also anticipates in the “little church” the bringing together all things under Christ’s Lordship:

### **GOD’S COSMIC GOAL: TO UNITE ALL UNDER CHRIST!**

*ESV* ***Ephesians 1:10*** “...As a plan for the fullness of time, ***to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.***”

This all begins at home- -and then is manifested in the local congregation for all to see Christ’s great power and Lordship- -the beginning of the unification of all things under His Lordship!

Now, I must make clear that Christ’s call to the man is to love you like Christ loves the Church.

This is described particularly in Ephesians 4-6 as:

- Walking in love
- Walking in a manner worthy of his calling
- Walking in unity
- Walking in putting off his flesh and putting on Christ
- Walking in growing into Christ the Head through the ministry of the Church
- Walking in speaking the truth in love
- Walking in forgiveness and self-control with his anger
- Walking in resisting the devil and not giving the devil a foothold
- Walking in the light
- Walking wisdom and discernment
- Walking in a Spirit-filled manner full of thanksgiving and joy and song

I have found that wives “complete” men when we understand their role properly. Because women are equal with us, yet distinct. God has equipped them with emotions, feelings, sensors, thoughts, that are not always on our radar.

I find that the healthiest and strongest of marriages is after years the wife being able to think like her husband and the husband benefiting from thinking like his wife.

God grants to us a companionship where we come to know God better and ourselves better through the other’s particular gifts, using them in their God-given role.

**Worldly error in understanding submission (including when we find it in the church) concerning women and their roles:**

On one side: The Jews and the Greeks of Paul's time: Women were considered nothing, like common house-slaves (or worse!), or "baby-makers" and those not worthy to be male companions.

Traditional cultures teach that women are "nothing" compared to men; this is still true today in many traditional cultures.

Professor Charles Seltman wrote in *Women in Antiquity* (136-138) that in the Roman Empire "a girl was completely under her father's power and a wife completely under her husband's power. She was chattel... Her life was one of legal incapacity which amounted to enslavement, while her status was described as 'imbecilitas', whence our word today."

Error n the other side: Feminists and moderns who think women should be treated as the same as men without distinctions in roles.

Liberal cultures still teach over-assertion that they are "more important than men".

Both are wrong: **OPPRESSION (by men)**: women are not to be considered unimportant; **OVER-ASSERTION (by women)**: nor are they to be considered more important than men in society.

BOTH ARE WRONG! The Bible says you are valuable against both traditional and liberal cultures. And a great part of your value comes from your faithfulness to your role that God has designed and assigned you to have in the marriage relationships.

You complete your husband!

Submission to your husband DOES NOT mean allowing yourself to be "walked on and over" and abused (verbally and/or physically).

Submission to your husband DOES NOT mean "enabling your husband" to evil, or wrong.

Now you may be a Christian wife, and you may be offended by oppression by men in traditional cultures, and you may be offended by the outlandish feminist perspectives of liberal cultures.

But not so fast! You too, from the heart, can seek for the same kind of power and control in your relationship that is much more subtle.

Although you may not be one who believers in oppression or over-assertion, nevertheless, you still struggle with the same heart-reasons that other do it: Desire for control, domination, and power.

### **Particular Sins Common to All Wives**

To be fair, rather than merely looking around the congregation and trying to sum up some of the “pet sins” of women, I researched those most common sins that teachers and preachers have addressed throughout the history of the Church.

All these can bring shame on your husband, your family, and your church congregation. These particular “wife-sins” show a “disrespect” for your husband which is contrary to Ephesians 5:33 which is Paul’s summary statement for this context:

***ESV Ephesians 5:33** However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.*

- These all come from submission only in behavior, not really lovingly and joyfully and willingly from the heart.
  - **Manipulation**
  - **Undermining Authority** (agree in word, but not in deed)

These below are “grasps” at seeking to have husband’s authority; these can be subtle, but I encourage you to search your heart:

- **Gossip and slander**
- **Nagging/Being Quarrelsome**
- **Enabling**
- **Busybodies** (**peri , ergoj**- 2 Thess. 3:11; 1 Tim. 5:13)- Literally not doing the work you’re called to do; but doing someone else’s work for them (even though they don’t want you to, and you shouldn’t, but you think: “If I don’t, who will?!”).

***ESV 1 Timothy 5:11-14:** But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry <sup>12</sup> and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith. <sup>13</sup> Besides that, they **learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.** <sup>14</sup> **So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander.***

- Being a busybody is defined as those who pay attention to things that do not concern them and who busy themselves about the concerns of others (Greek, BAGD); linked to “magic” because of the desire for power or the curiosity to know things that are none of your business.

These are sins that prove that you wives, even Christian wives, are committed sometimes more to control and power in the home than you would like to admit.

You too, can struggle with the same heart sins that creates both oppression and over-assertion; sinful hearts all have the potential of being violent and feminist as much as anything else!

It is true that “it is not good that man be alone” but when a wife is the shame and irritation of her husband, the Proverbs suggest that perhaps maybe it “*is good for man to be alone*” if given the choice! ☺

“But wait, Preacher! I can be submissive- -I will watch out for those sins- -BUT must I submit in EVERYTHING??!!”

### **Submit in “Everything!?”**

“Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should **submit in everything** to their husbands” – Ephesians 5:24

**“...Submit in everything??”** “In everything” means in “every area of life”.

Just as the church, the body of Christ, all believers, are to submit to the Lordship of Christ in every area of their lives, so wives are to submit to their husbands in every area of their life as God designed.

Why? Again, true and godly reverence for Christ (5:21).

But...

### **Abuse? Verbal and/or Physical?**

Wisdom. A wife put into the place where the husband does not cooperate consistently in his mutual roles of loving husband but instead abuses his wife, must seek counsel and wisdom from elders, fathers, uncles, brothers, the police, etc.

The wife is called to model Christ’s love, but this does not mean to literally suffer or die at the hands of an abusive husband. She might be advised to remove herself from danger. **This passage is not teaching about submission of wives that TRUTH AND JUSTICE should be ignored.**

**But...My husband doesn’t obey God; my husband doesn’t know God...** 1 Peter helps: Set an instructive example of love and a beautiful and quiet spirit that will point him to Christ. Trust and depend upon God in your weakness; trust Jesus to draw him through your witness.

**But...I don’t a husband...** You have a father? You have elders? You have brothers? You have older men you trust in the congregation? Then you have family.

THEREFORE, THE EVERYTHING HERE CANNOT BE EVERYTHING **HE MAY DESIRE WITHOUT CONSTRAINTS OR BOUNDARIES**, BUT EVERYTHING CHRIST DESIRES.

It is worth reminding all who are in submission to authority; if those to whom we're submitted do something or command us to do something not in accordance with Scripture and God's will (Acts 5:29), we must say:

***"We must obey God rather than men.***

You may see (No! You will see!) many imperfections and sins in your husband; the man himself is not that great- -not often- -but his position is a holy position as governor of the home.

**YOU ARE LOVED → YOU ARE VALUABLE → YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL → YOU ARE LOVED...**

**YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL!**

*God knows what he is doing.*

*God knows that your husband is not everything he should be, and will be – yet!*

*Women seek all kinds of ways to be thought beautiful; God calls them to a pursuit of godliness and inner character and strength in submission to Jesus Christ.*

*Through your willing and loving submission and respect, God will use your inner beauty to make him more like Jesus.*

*As He becomes more like Jesus, so you will become more like Jesus.*

*Even if He does not become more like Jesus, your beauty will grow and be magnified.*

God has appointed this man to learn from Christ, and for you to submit to him as the church submits to Christ.

**THIS SUBMISSION TO HIM AS GOD HAS DESIGNED IT WILL MAKE YOU MORE BEAUTIFUL WHETHER YOUR HUSBAND IS OBEDIENT AS HE SHOULD BE OR NOT.**

There may be a time where your husband is being disobedient to God and not serving Christ as he should; therefore he is not loving you.

Perhaps this has been the case most of your married life.

Christ wants you to be submissive by faith, trusting him that he will work through this man. Pray for him if he is not living as he should.

Pray that he would admit his sins before God and learn the love of Christ for himself so that he can truly love you.

An Illustration: A boss may not take care of his employees as he should, yet we are to submit to him as our boss. We do this knowing that Christ has not left us, knows where we are, and has even appointed our struggles.

Yet we are to pray for our bosses, not merely for our own sakes, but because of our reverence and fear of Christ, that they will be held accountable for their treatment of their employees (Eph. 6:5-9).

***If this is true of employers/bosses/masters, how much more true is it of husbands.***

***HUSBANDS, IF YOU ARE NOT LIVING FOR CHRIST AND LOVING AND SERVING YOUR WIVES AS YOU SHOULD, YOU MUST KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST WILL DISCIPLINE YOU AS A CHRISTIAN.***

***HUSBANDS, KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST HAS NO TOLERATION OF MEN MAKING HIMSELF GOD- -AND THAT IS WHAT YOU'RE DOING IF YOU ARE NOT SUBMITTED TO CHRIST.***

As "sons of Adam" you continue to try to be "as gods"- -and we must repent- -daily!

What does the Bible say for you to seek as wives?

BEAUTY! YOU ARE A BEAUTY IN JESUS, AND YOU ARE TO BECOME THAT BEAUTY MORE AND MORE.

*<sup>ESV</sup> 1 Peter 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 - <sup>2</sup> when they see your respectful and pure conduct. <sup>3</sup> Do not let your adorning be external - the braiding of hair, the wearing of gold, or the putting on of clothing - <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their husbands, <sup>6</sup> as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.*

***ESV Proverbs 31:30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.***

***Wives: In God's sovereignty, and because he knows what is best for you, God has willed that you learn from this man; God has willed that you grow under this man; God has willed that you become like Christ in relationship with this man...even if he fails to do what he is supposed to do.***

***As the husbands are called to a cross so that they might die to self and live for Christ; so wives are called to a cross so that they might die to self and live for Christ, and sometimes this manifests itself in the wives' rejection, and sufferings of Christ himself and His own dearly beloved Bride.***

***Jesus willingly and lovingly submitted to the Father on the cross for you!***

The Son of God emptied Himself of his glory for you!

The Son of God emptied Himself of his glory for you to die for you!

The Son of God emptied Himself of his glory in submission to the father, even when he knew he would be killed for it.

The Son of God emptied Himself in submission to the Father so that He could redeem a Bride.

***God's marriage with his people had been "on the rocks" all of redemptive-history!***

***God's wife was a wife of "whoredom" (Hosea) who constantly ran after other lovers and committed spiritual adultery against God.***

***When the Son of God became flesh to redeem His Bride, he came into a dangerous "domestically violent situation" that ended with his death.***

***Christ's beloved spouse killed him!***

***Christ willingly and lovingly submitted!***

Women as "daughters of Eve" can have certain propensities to sins such as worry, fear, anxiety, impatience and discontentment.

Remind yourself of these truths so that your husband can lead you to Christ who will help you.

Seek constantly to repent of the sins that so easily beset you; seek to honestly confess the sins before God and your husband so as to make his life easier to serve you.

You have been redeemed through God's promises so that you are not merely "daughters of Eve" but through Christ have been made "Daughters of Sarah" (another way of saying "Daughters of God" or "Daughters of Abraham") (3:6).

As "Daughters of Sarah" you are **loved, valuable and beautiful in Christ.**

Seek Christ more and more...and you'll find the love, the value, the beauty, and the submission you're called to.

For in Christ, you'll find one who lost the love of the Father for you; one who lost all value and glory for you; one who became ugly and disfigured on the cross **all for you!**

CRB