

Colossians – The Christian Home
Col. 3:18-4:1

Thesis: To give us a better understanding of what God expects in our homes.

Introduction:

I. Paul gives commands to the wives and husband (3:18-19).

A. Paul's command to the wife is to submit to their own husband (3:18).

1. The term “submit” literally means “to obey” (Strong’s).
 - a. To help understand the direct meaning of this word, notice other key passages where this word was used.
 - 1) **Lk. 2:51** (Christ submitted to His parents) - Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart.
 - 2) **Rom. 13:1** (We are to submit to the government) - Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.
 - 3) **Eph. 1:22** (We, in the church, are to submit to Christ) - And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,
 - 4) **Js. 4:7** (We are to submit to God) - Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
 - 5) **I Pet. 3:21-22** (everything is submits to Christ) - There is also an antitype which now saves us-- baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, {22} who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.
 - b. God has always made it clear that the wife is to submit to her husband.
 - 1) **Eph. 5:22-24** - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. {23} For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. {24} Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.
 - 2) **I Pet. 3:1-2, 5-6** - Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, {2} when they observe your chaste conduct

accompanied by fear. {5} For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, {6} as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

- c. For the wife not to submit to her husband is sinful.
2. Paul says that they do this because it “is fitting in the Lord.”
 - a. This is the command of God.
 - b. God has made it very clear that this is what He has always wanted for the home.
 - c. While this may not be the most popular subject, it is the word of God.

B. Paul’s command to the husband is to love their wife (3:19).

1. The Greek word for “love” is “agapao,” which is the strongest of the types of love that we could have for one another.
2. It was this kind of love that God has for us.
 - a. It was because of this love that God sent Jesus to die on the cross for us.
 - b. **Jn. 3:16** - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
 - c. **I Jn. 4:10** - In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
3. Husbands ought to love their wives in the same manner.
 - a. A husband ought to be willing to give himself for his wife.
 - b. **Eph. 5:25, 28-29, 33** - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, {28} So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. {29} For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. {33} Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.
4. Incidentally, the reason we spend more time on the submission of the wife than we do on the love of the husband is simple.
 - a. There is no controversy about the husbands command to love their wife.
 - b. There is, however, a great controversy concerning the submission of a wife to her husband.

II. Paul gives a command to children and parents (3:20-21).

A. Paul commands children to obey their parents (3:20).

1.

B. Paul commands parents to not provoke their children (3:21).

It is important to note that the word translated as “father” could also mean “parents” (Strong’s).

III. Paul gives commands to servants and masters (3:22-4:1).

A. A servant is to obey their master (3:22-25).

1.

1 Tim 6:1-2

1 Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed.

2 And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

(NKJ)

B. A master is to treat his servant fairly (4:1).

Conclusion: