

MESSAGE THREE

SUGGESTED PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 11:8-10 (NASB)
8 For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man; 9 for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake. 10 Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

MESSAGE GOAL:

This sermon will help people understand what God's role for women should be within the family unit.

INTRODUCTION:

Perhaps you have heard the story of a husband who was very upset with his wife. She had accidentally left the car running and he was livid. He bolted into the house and said, "I don't know how God could have made someone so beautiful and yet so dumb." Of course that made his wife angry so she said, "I'll tell you why God did that. He made me beautiful so you would love me but he made me dumb so I would love you."

I know many women feel unappreciated and unrecognized for their contributions to the home, family, and society. But women must have a kingdom view of what it means to be a wife. If women adopt the view of the culture, they open the door to Satan who will come into the family and bring disharmony. When God made Eve, He did so as part of His covenant for the outworking of His plan in history—His kingdom agenda. God created Adam first and then He designed Eve because Adam was to be responsible for the marriage. But Adam was not to be alone. God fashioned Eve as Adam's helper—someone who came alongside him with all of her gifts, skills, and abilities, to be recognized and appreciated, but to be under Adam's legitimate authority. Let's explore what it means to live as a kingdom wife.

SERMON POINTS:

1. WOMEN, GOD HAS A PURPOSE FOR YOU. (EPHESIANS 5:22)

- Biblical submission means that a woman willingly places herself under her husband's authority because of her submission to the Lord.
- A woman has a greater obligation to the Lord than to her husband.
- When a husband leaves the Lord, he loses his

legitimate authority over his wife.

- God's design for marriage has nothing to do with the equality and worth of the man and the woman, but it has to do with a differentiation in their roles and responsibilities.
- In the garden of Eden, Satan tempted Eve to become the leader of the marriage and got Adam to become the passive responder. When their roles got reversed, chaos and sin entered the picture.

2. WIVES, REALIZE THAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO SUBMIT TO YOUR HUSBANDS. (1 CORINTHIANS 11:10)

- "Wife" is a role designed by God, not just a title.
- The wife must submit to her husband "because of the angels."
- Angels have the role of assisting and supporting mankind according to God's will.
- When the roles in marriage get reversed, it interferes with what God wants to do in the marriage and it prevents the angels from providing their supernatural assistance.

3. WIVES, FOLLOW SARAH'S EXAMPLE OF SUBMISSION. (1 PETER 3:6)

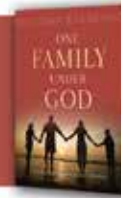
- Sarah recognized Abraham's God-given authority even though Abraham didn't always follow God or put Sarah's best interests first.
- God honored Sarah's faithfulness by blessing her with a miracle baby, Isaac, at the age of 90 (Genesis 17:17).
- When kingdom wives place themselves under the legitimate authority of their husbands, they open themselves up to God's blessing.

SERMON ILLUSTRATIONS:

BIBLICAL SUBMISSION: When you get onto the onramp for the freeway, you have to follow some rules. If there is a Volkswagen driving down the highway and an 18-wheeler is entering the highway from the onramp, what happens? Even though the 18-wheeler is stronger and bigger and has more tires, it has to yield to the tiny Volkswagen because it

our society's problem
is not solely our *government's* problem.
it is **the church's** problem.
it is *our* problem.





has the right-of-way. As a wife, you may feel like you are the 18-wheeler and your husband is the Volkswagen. Yet God has given you the yield sign as long as your husband is exercising legitimate authority.

MARITAL MISALIGNMENT: There was a businessman who had a demanding day ahead of him and was already late for work. He turned on the car, put it in reverse, and punched the button on the garage door opener. Nothing happened. He hit it again and again. Still nothing. Frustrated, he put the car in park and called the garage door repairman. The garage door repairman told the businessman to walk over to the garage door and find what looked like canisters at the bottom left and bottom right of the door. The repairman asked, "Are the red lights at the center of the canisters pointed exactly at each other?" The business man noticed that the red lights in one of the canisters were not in alignment. The repairman said, "That's your problem. When the red lights are not in perfect alignment, the door can't receive the signal to open." After the business man shifted the canister a little bit, the red lights matched up, the door opened, and he was off to tackle his busy day.

One of the reasons many marriages are characterized by chaos is because many women push and push and push to try to get their husbands to move. But as a kingdom woman, you've got to determine if you're in alignment with the role God has given you. Husbands have to answer their own questions before God. But if Christian marriages are going to function as God intended, wives must operate under their husbands' headship and they must affirm that they recognize the authority God has given them.

QUOTES ATTRIBUTED TO DR. TONY EVANS:

"When God made woman, He did so as part of His covenant for the outworking of His plan in history."

"You can't rewrite the Bible because people have misused the Bible. We've got to give it its right interpretation."

"The Greek word for submission means to willingly place yourself under the authority of another."

"Just as the man is not to overrule Jesus in his life, the woman is not to overrule her husband in her life."

"When Satan can reverse roles he can create chaos and keep God out of the way and demonstrating his power in the family."