CHRIST, HUSBANDS, WIVES, & CHILDREN

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he following series of four messages is to those who are born of the Spirit; to those who are indwelt by the Spirit; to those who are led by the Spirit; and to those who are sealed by the Spirit until the day of redemption. Let the Spirit of the living God reveal to you, "<u>as unto babes</u>" (MATT. 11:25 & LUKE 10:21), the **TRUTH** of God's word.

After Solomon became king of Israel, God appeared to him in a dream, and said, "...<u>Ask what I shall give</u> <u>thee</u>" (1 KINGS 3:5). His request was "...<u>an understanding</u> <u>heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between</u> <u>good and bad</u>" (1 KINGS 3:9) because, he said, "...<u>I am</u> <u>but a little child: I know not how to go out or come</u> <u>in</u>" (1 KINGS 3:7).

Therefore, God said to him, "...Because thou hast asked this thing, and <u>HAST NOT ASKED FOR THYSELF</u> long life; neither hast asked riches <u>for thyself</u>, nor hast asked <u>the life of thine enemies</u>" (1 Kings 3:9), "...I have given thee a <u>wise</u> and an <u>understanding</u> heart; so that <u>there was none like thee before thee</u>, neither <u>after thee shall any arise like unto</u> <u>thee</u>" (1 KINGS 3:12).

Beloved, behold the wisdom of King Solomon:

"I applied mine <u>HEART</u> [THE CENTER OF MAN, WHERE THE FEELINGS, THE WILL AND THE INTELLECT ARE] to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness: and I find <u>more bitter</u> <u>than death</u> <u>THE WOMAN</u>, whose <u>HEART</u> is <u>snares and nets</u> [AS SHUTTING IN; A DOOMED OBJECT; ABSTRACT EXTERMINATION], and her hands as <u>bands</u> [LIKE HANDCUFFS]: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her [AS IF BY SLIPPERINESS]; but the sinner shall be taken [TO CATCH IN A NET, A TRAP OR A PIT] by her" (ECCLES. 7:25-26).

King Solomon <u>WAS NOT</u> speaking of <u>godly</u> women, but <u>UNGODLY</u>, a woman that "...<u>forsaketh the guide</u> <u>of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her</u> <u>God</u>" (PROVERBS 2:17), and unfortunately, the vast majority of women in the world fill this category.

The word of God declares, "<u>WHO</u> can <u>FIND</u> a virtuous woman [CHARACTERIZED BY GOODNESS, GENERAL MORAL EXCELLENCE, RIGHT ACTION AND THINKING]? for her price is <u>FAR ABOVE</u> rubies" (PROVERBS 31:10). Women posses a "<u>power of persuasion</u>" over men, which is why Satan chose to work through Eve, in order to <u>persuade</u> Adam to <u>disobey</u> God. It is because of this "<u>power</u>" that the <u>Man of Sin</u> (<u>antichrist</u>) <u>WILL</u> <u>NOT</u> have any desire for women when he comes:

"Neither shall he regard <u>the God of his fa-</u> thers [HE WILL BE JEWISH], nor <u>the DESIRE of</u> women, nor regard any god: for <u>he shall</u> magnify HIMSELF above all" (DANIEL 11:37).

Notice: the word "*women*" is mentioned in the same sentence as "<u>God</u>" and "<u>other gods</u>." Men, in a sense, <u>worship</u> women, and, the women <u>know</u> it.

Perhaps this explains how quickly Adam <u>succumbed</u> to Eve's <u>persuasive demonstration</u>, as she "...took of the fruit thereof, and



did eat, and <u>GAVE ALSO</u> unto her husband with her; and <u>HE DID EAT</u>" (GENESIS 3:6).

Because of her "*persuasive*" nature, being easily deceived herself by the devil, God said unto the woman, "...I will **greatly** multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy **DESIRE** [A STREACHING OUT AFTER; A LONGING] shall be to thy husband, **and he shall** <u>RULE OVER</u> <u>THEE</u>" (GENESIS 3:16).

In the world, *female persuasion* has *circumvented* the decisions of many men in societies, just as the wives of Solomon did; as Eve did to Adam; as Delilah did to Samson, as Sarah did to Abraham, and as Jezebel did to King Ahab.

It is because of this <u>nature</u> found in Eve, that wives are commanded in the church to <u>SUBMIT</u> themselves unto their <u>OWN</u> husbands (COL. 3:18 & EPHES. 5:22) as unto the Lord, even as God said to Eve, "and he shall <u>RULE OVER THEE</u>" (GENESIS 3:16).

IN THE HOUSEHOLD

Paul the Apostle wrote to Titus and instructed him to "...SPEAK thou the things which become <u>SOUND</u> <u>DOCTRINE</u> [TO BE TRUE AND UNCORRUPT IN INSTRUCTION]

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"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing..."

That the aged men be SOBER [CAREFUL TO CONSIDER] ALL RELATED CIRCUMSTANCES BEFORE ACTING, JUDGING, DECID-ING, ETC.], GRAVE [HONORABLE; WORTHY OF RESPECT], TEMPERATE [SELF-RESTRAINED], SOUND IN FAITH [TO BE UNCORRUPT], IN CHARITY [UNCORRUPT IN AFFEC-TION OR BENEVOLENCE], IN PATIENCE [CHEERFUL OR HOPEFUL ENDURANCE]. The aged women *likewise*, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, **not false** accusers [TO SAY UNTRUE OR MALICIOUS THINGS ABOUT], not given to much wine [NOT TO BE ENSLAVED], teachers of good things; that they may teach the young women to be SOBER [TO MAKE OF SOUND MIND], to love their husbands, to love their children, to be DISCREET [SOUND IN MIND; SELF-CONTROLLED], CHASTE [CLEAN; INNOCENT], KEEPERS AT HOME [A GUARD; A STAYER AT HOME; DOMESTICALLY INCLINED], good, obedient to their **OWN** husbands, that the word of God be not **blasphemed** [LACKING REFERENCE FOR GOD]" (TITUS 2:1-5).

IN SUBJECTION

"...ye wives, be in subjection [SUBORDINATION, THAT IS, UNDER THE POWER OR AUTHORITY OF ANOTHER to your **OWN** husbands [PERTAINING TO SELF; ONE'S OWN]; that, if any obey not the word [THOSE WHO DISBELIEVE, WILL-FULLY AND PERVERSELY], they also may without the word <u>**BE**</u> WON by the <u>conversation</u> [BEHAVIOR] of the wives; while they **<u>behold</u>** [INSPECT; WATCH; OBSERVE] your chaste conversation [CLEAN AND MODEST BEHAV-**IOR** coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning [THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE] of plaiting the hair [ELABORATE BRAIDING OF THE HAIR], and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart [THE INWARD AP-**PEARANCE**, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of *a meek and quiet spirit*, which is in the sight of God of <u>GREAT PRICE</u> [WHICH IS FAR ABOVE RUBIES - PROVERBS 31:10]. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, ADORNED themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord [SUPREME IN AUTHOR-**ITY**]" (1 PETER 3:1-6).

IN SILENCE

When the church is gathered together, Paul gave Timothy these instructions: "Let the woman <u>learn</u> in <u>SILENCE</u> [STILLNESS; DISTANCE FROM BUSTLE OR LAN-GUAGE] with all <u>SUBJECTION</u> [SUBORDINATION, THAT IS, UNDER THE POWER OR AUTHORITY OF ANOTHER]. But I <u>suffer</u> not [ALLOW NOT] a woman to <u>TEACH</u>, nor [NEITHER] to <u>usurp</u> authority [TO ACT OF ONESELF; TO DOMINATE] over the man, but to be in <u>silence</u>. [WHY?] For Adam Was **FIRST FORMED**, then Eve. And Adam <u>WAS</u> <u>NOT</u> deceived, but the woman <u>BEING DECEIVED</u> [TO FOOL, AS BY FALSE PROMISES, WRONG NOTIONS, ETC.; TO MISLEAD] was in the <u>transgression</u> [VIOLATION]" (1 TIM. 2:11-14).

Paul also instructed the assembly of believers in Corinth: "...*if they* [women] *will* <u>learn</u> any thing, <u>let</u> <u>them ask their husbands AT HOME</u>: for it is a shame for women to <u>speak</u> in the <u>church</u> [IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CALLED]" (1 COR. 14:35).

IN MARRIAGE

Within a marriage, "...they <u>twain</u> [Two] shall be <u>ONE</u> <u>FLESH</u>: so then they are <u>NO MORE</u> <u>TWAIN</u>, but <u>ONE</u> <u>FLESH</u>" (MARK 10:8), therefore, "...let the husband <u>render</u> <u>unto the wife</u> [To



GIVE...] <u>due benevolence</u> [KINDNESS; YOKE; JOIN; BE-TWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE]: and <u>LIKEWISE</u> also the wife unto the husband. The wife <u>hath not power</u> of her own body, but the husband: and <u>LIKEWISE</u> also the husband <u>hath not power</u> of his own body, but the wife. <u>Defraud ye not</u> [TO KEEP FROM HAVING, USING OR ENJOYING] <u>one the other</u>, except it be with <u>consent for a time</u> [IN AGREEMENT], that ye may <u>GIVE YOURSELVES</u> to fasting and prayer; and <u>come together again</u>, that Satan <u>TEMPT YOU</u> <u>NOT</u> for your <u>incontinency</u> [LACK OF SELF-RESTRAINT]" (1 COR. 7:1-5).

GOD'S ORDER IN THE CHURCH

"...Therefore <u>as the church is subject unto</u> <u>Christ</u> [SUBORDINATION, THAT IS, UNDER THE POWER OR AUTHORITY OF ANOTHER], so let the wives be to their <u>OWN</u> husbands in <u>EVERY THING</u>...For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, <u>AND THEY TWO SHALL</u> <u>BE ONE FLESH</u>...let every one of you in particular <u>so love his wife even as himself</u>; and the wife see that she <u>REVERENCE</u> her husband" (EPH. 5:22-33).

All those who are born of the Spirit of God, are <u>led</u> by the Holy Spirit unto the understanding of His word. He, the Spirit, "...*will guide <u>YOU</u> into <u>ALL</u> <u>TRUTH</u>: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak" (JOHN 16:13).*

"...and obtaineth favour of the Lord" (Proverbs 18:22).