

WOMEN AND CHRISTIANITY (#1)

Request: “Could you show the Scriptural attitude and treatment of the humanity of Jesus towards the women of His day?”

An example of the attitude of Jesus Christ towards women can be seen in the treatment of the **Samaritan woman at the well:**

- (John 4:4-26) “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”) and **the Jewish woman caught in adultery**
- (John 8: 3-11) “Neither do I condemn you; go your way. From now on sin no more.”).

Because of this grace attitude of Jesus Christ towards women, Christianity is the only major religion of the world that teaches the equality of all Believers under the New Covenant – “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are **all one** in Christ Jesus.” (Gal.3:28)

Unfortunately, there are some Believers who chose to ignore this grace teaching and chose to be abusive towards Christian women in order to control and dominate. They chose to subjugate those very Christian women that Jesus Christ died to free from tyranny (Matt.11:28-30).

This lesson will give four ways God designed Christian women to be equal in Christ and how it becomes reflected glory in the Christian marriage.

1. God created women’s souls in two ways:

- tselem demuth (image according to likeness of Godhead)
 - i. [spiritual love relationship with God]
- uniquely neqebah (feminine)
 - ii. [marital love relationship with husband] (Gen.1:26-27) [bara] (Titus 2:3-5).

When a women gets married under the plan of God and is joined to her husband (tselem demuth zakar who becomes ish), her tselem demuth neqebah becomes ishah – “This is now bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman (ishah), because she was taken out of Man (ish).” (Gen.2:23)

Paul refers to this Scripture as an important doctrine in the husband’s duty to his wife:

- (Eph.5:28-31) (Note – **love** / so and as and **nourishes and cherishes** / just as and because / **members of body of Christ** and for this cause / marriage).

2. The gospel of Jesus Christ restores both women and men to the love relationship to God and this love relationship to marriage (1 Cor.12:13-14; Gal.3:26-28).

(2 Pet.1:1) “To those who have received a faith of the same kind (equality of faith / isotimos) as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ.”

(1John 4:7) “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”

(1 John 4:9-10) “By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. 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.”

(Gal.5:1) “It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and **do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.**”

How did Paul, James, and Sarah deal with those who wanted to put them under the yoke of slavery? (Gal.2:11; James 4:10; **1 Pet.2:20-3:1-6**)

3. God designed the Church and marriage to reflect the glory of God.

“For whom He foreknew, he also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.” (Rom.8:29)

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory (**doxa**) of the God.” (Rom.3:23; **1:20-23**) [vs 21- honor means glorify]

“That they might see the light of the gospel of the **glory** of Christ, who is the image of God.” (2 Cor.4:4b)

“But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.” (1 Cor.11:3)

“For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and **glory** of God; but the woman is the **glory** of man.” (1 Cor.11:7)

4. The reflected glory of marriage in two ways:

When the husband loves (agape) his wife unconditionally (he reflects glory of Christ) and when the wife submits (hupotasso) to her husband without compromise or complaint (she reflects glory of divine delegated chain of authority of husband).

The reason God created (bara) the Christian husband (ish) tselem demuth zakar is to be the image and the reflected glory of Christ.

The reason God created (bara) wife (ishah) tselem demuth neqebah is to be the image and reflected glory of her Christian husband.

The reason God created Christ tselem demuth zakar monogenes was to be the image and reflected glory of God His Father (Phil.2:6-8) [homoiomia anthropos] (Luke 1:35; Heb.1:3) (John 1:14-18; 3:16-18; 1 John 4:9).

Here are three questions that need answering:

- “How did Christ reflect the glory of God in His first coming?” (Matt.26:39; 2 Cor.4:4)
- “How does the Christian husband reflect the glory of Christ in his marriage?” (Eph.5:25-31) [just as – in this same way]; (1 Cor.13:4-8; Gal.5:22-23; 1 Pet.3:7)
- “How does the Christian wife reflect the glory of her husband in marriage?” (Eph.5:20-24) [as – so] (1 Pet.3:4-5) [for in this way]

“Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband.” (Eph. 5:33)

- Husband – love / agapao / p.a.impv
- Wife – respect / phobeo / p.m.subj means flight towards rather away or reverence or healthy spiritual respect.