

# The Beauty of Quiet Submission

1 Peter 3:1-6

Believing wives testify to the beauty of the gospel when, because of hope in God, they quietly submit to their husbands even in difficult and disagreeable circumstances.

## 1. Why should wives submit?

- a. Not because of inferiority.
- b. To testify to the gospel.
- c. To please God.

## 2. When should wives submit?

- a. When your husband is **disobedient** to the Word.
- b. When your husband is **obedient** to the Word.
- c. When the circumstances are difficult or disagreeable.

## 3. How should wives submit?

- a. By faith in God not in your husband.
- b. By clinging to the hope of God's promises.

*The Letter to  
God's Elect*



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*The Beauty of  
Quiet Submission (Part 2)*

*1 Peter 3:1-6*

# 1 Peter 1:1-4

In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.

Your adornment must not be merely external—braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.

# 1 Peter 1:5-6

For in this way in former times the holy women also,  
who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves,  
being submissive to their own husbands.

Just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord,  
and you have become her children if you do what is right  
without being frightened by any fear.

Believing wives testify to the beauty of the gospel when, because of hope in God, they quietly submit to their husbands even in difficult and disagreeable circumstances.

# **The Beauty of Quiet Submission**

Why should wives submit?

# ● Why submit?

*Not because of inferiority.*



Peter's instruction reveals that  
wives are **equal instruments**  
in the hands of God.

## 1 Peter 1:1-4

In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands  
so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word,

they **may be won** without a word **by the behavior of their wives,**  
as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.

**Your adornment must not be** merely external—  
braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses;  
but let it be **the hidden person** of the heart,  
with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit,  
which is precious in the sight of God.

His instruction also reveals  
that wives have **equal standing**  
before God.

## 1 Peter 1:5-6

For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands.

Just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear.

## 1 Peter 3:7

You husbands in the same way,  
live with your wives in an understanding way,  
as with someone weaker, since she is a woman;

and grant her honor as **a fellow heir** of the grace of life,  
so that your prayers may not be hindered.

If we tie a wife's submission to male superiority in any way, we dangerously distort the nature of God and grossly belittle the servanthood of Christ.

# Why submit?

*Not because of inferiority.*

*To testify to the gospel.*

## **1 Peter 1:1-4**

In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.

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# **Behavior testifies to gospel truth.**

## **Matthew 5:16**

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

## **1 Peter 2:12**

Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

God is able to turn a transformed life into a silent gospel message capable of converting the lost.

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braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses;  
but let it be the hidden person of the heart,  
with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit,  
which is precious in the sight of God.

This is a pattern for all  
believers to follow in  
difficult relationships!

# Why submit?

*Not because of inferiority.*

*To testify to the gospel.*

*To please God.*

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**which is precious in the sight of God.**

Would the possibility of pleasing  
God be enough for you to lay  
aside your rights and submit?

# The Beauty of Quiet Submission

Why should wives submit?

When should wives submit?



# **When should wives submit?**

*When husbands are  
**disobedient to the Word.***

## **1 Peter 1:1-4**

In the same way, you wives,  
be submissive to your own husbands

so that **even if any of them are  
disobedient to the word,**

they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives,  
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Your adornment must not be merely external—  
braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses;  
but let it be the hidden person of the heart,  
with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit,  
which is precious in the sight of God.

“Disobedient to the Word”  
most likely refers to unbelief.

# Disobedience and Unbelief

1 Peter 2:8

...for they stumble because they are **disobedient to the word**, and to this doom they were also appointed.

1 Peter 3:20

...**who** once **were disobedient**,  
when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah...

1 Peter 4:17

For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God;  
and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome  
for those who are **disobedient to the gospel of God?**

# Disobedience and Unbelief

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but let it be the hidden person of the heart,  
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which is precious in the sight of God.

Though “disobedient to the Word” refers to unbelieving husbands, it would also include believing but rebellious ones.

**In other words, a husband’s rebellion is not a reason for resistance.**

# When should wives submit?

*When husbands are disobedient to the Word.*

*When husbands are  
**obedient to the Word.***

## 1 Peter 1:1-4

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Peter is using an argument from  
the greater to the lesser.

If wives are called to submit  
to disobedient husbands,  
how much more should they  
submit to obedient ones?

# When should wives submit?

*When husbands are disobedient to the Word.*

*When husbands are obedient to the Word.*

*When the circumstances are  
**difficult or disagreeable.***

## 1 Peter 1:1-4

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be submissive to your own husbands

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which is precious in the sight of God.

Disobedience will naturally  
lead to disturbance.

## **1 Peter 1:5-6**

For in this way in former times the holy women also,  
who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves,  
being submissive to their own husbands.

Just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord,  
and you have become her children if you do what is right

**without being frightened by any fear.**

Wives, what frightens you  
most about submission?

# The Beauty of Quiet Submission

Why should wives submit?

When should wives submit?

How should wives submit?

**How should wives submit?**

*By faith in God not in husbands.*



1 Peter 1:5-6

For in this way in former times **the holy women** also,

who **hoped in God**, used to adorn themselves,

being submissive to their own husbands.

Just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord,  
and you have become her children if you do what is right  
without being frightened by any fear.

# What was their basis of hope?

## Psalm 118:5-8

From my distress I called upon the LORD;  
The LORD answered me and set me in a large place.  
The LORD is for me; I will not fear; What can man do to me?  
The LORD is for me among those who help me;  
Therefore I shall look with satisfaction on those who hate me.  
It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.

Holy women are those who  
trust in the LORD and whose  
trust is the LORD.

**A rule for single people:  
You will make better choices  
for a spouse if your trust  
is the LORD.**

# How should wives submit?

*By faith in God not in husbands.*

*By clinging to the hope  
of God's promises.*

## 1 Peter 1:5-6

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who **hoped in God**, used to adorn themselves,

being submissive to their own husbands.

Just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord,  
and you have become her children if you do what is right  
without being frightened by any fear.

As co-equal heirs of the kingdom of God, women are promised the hope of full redemption.

## 1 Peter 3:7

You husbands in the same way,  
live with your wives in an understanding way,  
as with someone weaker, since she is a woman;

and grant her honor **as a fellow heir** of the grace of life,  
so that your prayers may not be hindered.



Submission is only genuinely  
Christian when it is a product of  
identity and grounded in faith.

# **A Conclusion:**

It is our obedience that  
decorates the gospel  
and glorifies our God.