

Enlightened Husbands

1 Peter 3:7

The husband who understands God's design for marriage and who embraces his wife's equality in the gospel will cherish her as a gift and honor her as a co-heir.

- 1. An enlightened husband understands God's design for marriage.**
 - a. He understands that God designed men and women _____.
 - b. He understands God's design for a _____ relationship.
- 2. An enlightened husband embraces his wife's equality in the gospel.**
 - a. He embraces their equality of _____.
 - b. He embraces their equality of _____.
- 3. An enlightened husband will cherish and honor his wife.**
 - a. He will _____ her as a gift from God.
 - b. He will _____ her as a co-heir in Christ.

*The Letter to
God's Elect*



I Peter

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E



A white rectangular card is pinned to a dark brown wooden surface with a light-colored wooden clothespin. A piece of natural twine is stretched across the top of the card, passing through the clothespin. The card features the text "Enlightened Husbands" in a large, blue, cursive font, and "1 Peter 3:7" in a smaller, blue, cursive font below it.

Enlightened Husbands

1 Peter 3:7

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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.

The husband who understands God's design for marriage and who embraces his wife's equality in the gospel will cherish her as a gift and honor her as a co-heir.

Enlightened Husbands

An enlightened husband understands
God's design for marriage.

Young's Literal Translation

1 Peter 3:7

The husbands, in like manner,
dwelling with them, according to knowledge,
as to a weaker vessel -- to the wife -- imparting honor,
as also being heirs together of the grace of life,
that your prayers be not hindered.

What an enlightened husband understands.

*He understands that **God** designed
men and women different.*

1 Peter 3:7

The husbands, in like manner,

dwelling with them, according to knowledge,

as to a weaker vessel -- to the wife -- imparting honor,
as also being heirs together of the grace of life,
that your prayers be not hindered.

God's Design:

Genesis 1:27

And God created man in His own image,
in the image of God He created him;
male and female He created them.

By design, men and women are different.
There is an obvious difference
in bodily constitution that results
in women being physically
weaker than men.

Young's Literal Translation

1 Peter 3:7

The husbands, in like manner,
dwelling with them, according to knowledge,
as to a weaker vessel -- to the wife -- imparting honor,
as also being heirs together of the grace of life,
that your prayers be not hindered.

Vessel is a term often used in the New Testament to refer to the physical body.

2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in earthen **vessels**,
that the surpassing greatness of the power
may be of God and not from ourselves.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-4

For this is the will of God, your sanctification;
that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality;
that each of you know how to possess his own **vessel**
in sanctification and honor.

1 Peter 3:7

The husbands, in like manner,
dwelling with them, according to knowledge,

as to a **weaker vessel** -- to the wife -- imparting honor,

as also being heirs together of the grace of life,
that your prayers be not hindered.

There is a comparative physical weakness
between men and women.

It is this weakness that makes
women vulnerable to abuse.

What an enlightened husband understands.

He understands that God designed men and women different.

*He understands God's design for
a complementary relationship.*

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.

God expects husbands to live with their wives in a manner consistent with an understanding that God designed them with differences that are **complementary**.

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.

God's Design:

Genesis 2:18

Then the LORD God said,
“It is not good for the man to be alone;
I will make him a helper suitable for him.”

Suitable for him literally means *corresponding to or complementing* him.

God designed inherent gender characteristics that are meant to complement that which is “not good” in the other.

In other words, it would be
ignorant and arrogant
for a husband to believe that
he doesn't need his wife!

Enlightened Husbands

An enlightened husband understands God's design for marriage.

An enlightened husband embraces his wife's equality in the gospel.

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.

Embracing Equality in the Gospel.

He embraces their equality of need.

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.

Both husband and wife
are sinners and are **equally**
in need of grace.

A Fallen Tendency

Genesis 3:12

And the man said,
“The woman You gave to be with me,
she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”

We are all prone to blame others
because we do not want to take
responsibility for ourselves.

Embracing Equality in the Gospel.

He embraces their equality of need.

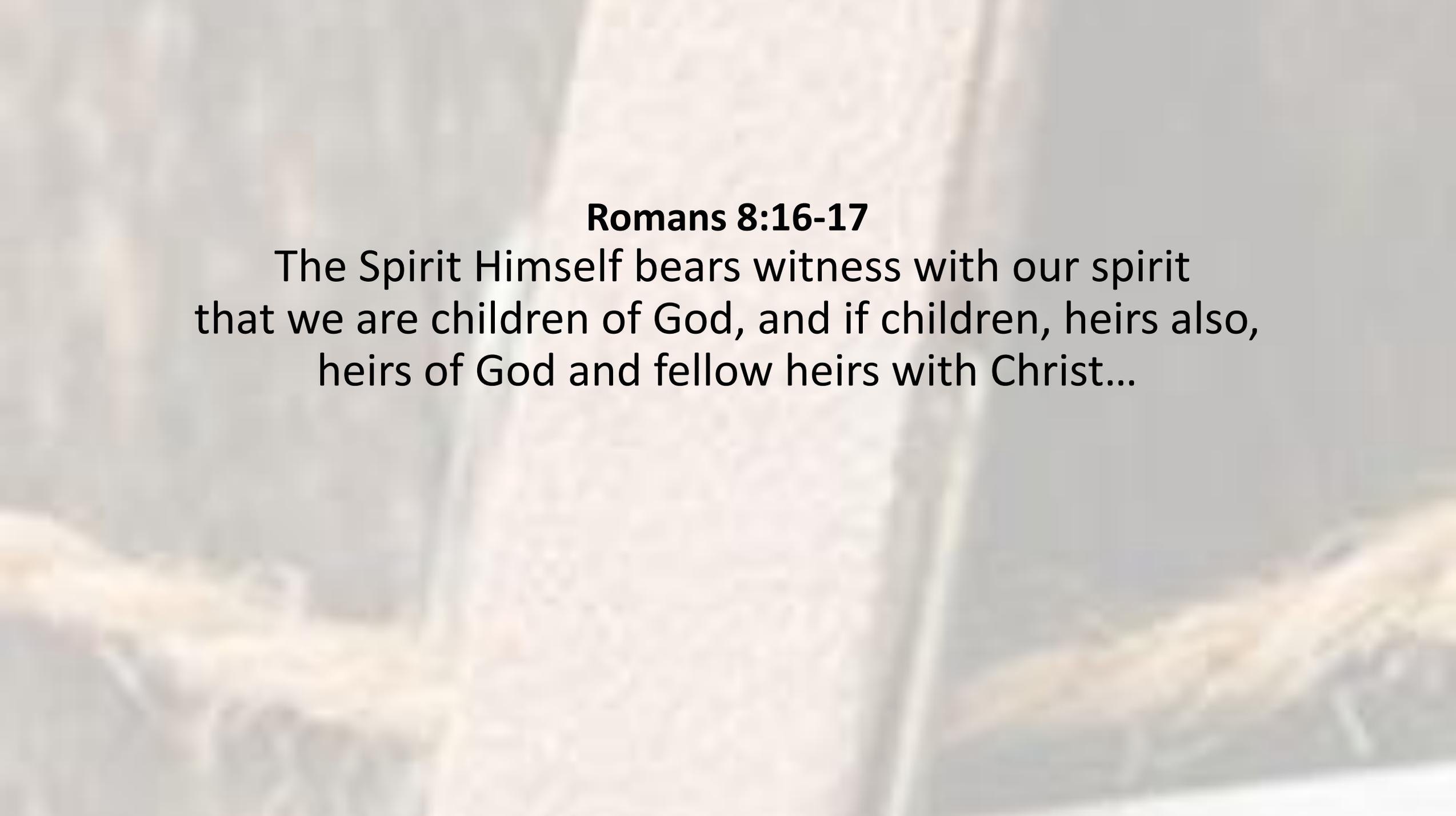
He embraces their equality of status.

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.

God expects husbands to live with their wives in a manner consistent with an understanding that they have **equal** standing and status before God.



Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ...

Galatians 3:28-29

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.

And if you belong to Christ,
then you are Abraham's offspring,
heirs according to promise.

Enlightened Husbands

An enlightened husband understands God's design for marriage.

An enlightened husband embraces his wife's equality in the gospel.

**An enlightened husband will cherish
and honor his wife.**

Cherishing and Honoring Wives

*He will cherish her as
a gift from God.*

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.

Genesis 2:23

And the man said,
“This is now bone of my bones,
And flesh of my flesh;
She shall be called Woman,
Because she was taken out of Man.”

Husbands, God has given your wife
to you as a precious gift, a part of
your own flesh for your good.

Ephesians 5:28-29

So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church.

Cherishing and Honoring Wives

He will cherish her as a gift from God.

***He will honor her as
a co-heir in Christ.***

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.

To **honor** your wife is to interact with her in ways that demonstrate to her that she is **precious** to you and to God.

A Consequence of Disobedience:

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.

Conclusion:

Husbands, apart from Christ, there should be no one in your life who receives more care and affection than your wife.