

Ephesians 5:21-33 Be Subject To One Another 9/18/2022

To submit; be subject to; to defer to; another imperfect human being is tough.

Ex. It is clearly biblical that, if the boss, for example, asked you to do a certain task, you are to do it! Unless it is unchristian or immoral, you do it.

"Well, that sounds all good in theory, but since he is not perfect, I do not have to obey him. If he were perfect then I would do it." (The "NOT!" buzzer goes off.)

"Well, I can tell you that I would be a better boss than him. Since I am smarter than him and could do his job better, I do not have to obey him." (The "NOT!" buzzer goes off again)

Jesus is perfect; you call Him Boss; and you disobeyed him at times; so what happened to your original argument? You might just be a rebel without a cause! Allowing the old nature to build rationalizations, because, bottom line, you are prideful and full of the attitudes of the old nature. You obey those in authority over you in a begrudging way.

Ex. "Memphis Bell" movie. The captain was not outspoken, and mild-mannered, and a dork. One of the crew always felt that his stronger personality would make him a better fit for the job. A situation came up and the years of training the captain had, shown through in a moment! And the crewman was humiliated, yet came later and said, "Whatever you need me to do, I will do it! You are the captain for a reason!" That was the last time he made the captain miserable.

We have to show the world what Jesus being Lord means in our lives; before they will consider it in their lives.

That will take being submissive; being subject to; all the leadership heads above us; and people seeing you do that.

EPHESIANS 5:21 is the cornerstone to all that follows about being subject to others.

"And be subject to one another in the fear of Christ."

HYPOTASSO- "Be subject" - (ὑποτάσσω) Old military term- It means to "LINE UP." To place things in a functioning order.

To get any victory in the spiritual war we are in; there must be order and discipline that comes from willing, volunteer submission of one person to another.

There must be leadership in every area of life. You can lead or follow; but just standing in the road, blocking the way, till you get your way, will be displeasing to the Lord! Make it as pleasant for that leadership as you possibly can. Do that at work, at school, at home, at church. You will be surprised how much better your life will go when you do.

In the New Testament we see a servant leadership in Christ with a completely new motive for obedience to leading and to following. **Matthew 20:20-28 John 6:63**

Paul speaks of the daily application of being subject to others in leadership over you in verses 21-33. Let's take a look.

Wives to husbands / Husbands to Christ / Children to parents / Slaves to masters

TEXT: EPHESIANS 5:21-33 *****

WIVES ROLE IN BEING SUBJECT TO THEIR HUSBANDS

5:22 "as to the Lord" The Lord Himself appreciates it, even if the husband does not. He will openly bless you and the husband will see it.

Ex. A belligerent man said to me, " Everything seems to go right for her and nothing seems to go right for me! Tell me exactly what you think!"

I said, "You are not being obedient to the Lord in your role as a husband; expect more trouble!"

5: 23-24

These roles are a "functional" subordination not an "intrinsic" subordination!

All are equal in Christ, (Galatians 3) but the roles of functional headship remain.

Ex. I Corinthians 11: 3 " But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, (Not other women, but his wife only), and God is the head of Christ."

John 10: 30-33 Christ is not "intrinsically" inferior to the Father, but voluntarily surrenders His will to the Father, as a man; as the incarnate Son. (John 1: 1, 14)

"in everything" –

Ex. Tyndale Commentary- P. 156

Titus 2: 1-5 Main concern is the family

Ex. Classic Mexican Standoff

"I would submit to him if he would love me like Christ' loves the church!"

I would love her like Christ loves the church if she would submit.

These statements are independent clauses in Greek. You do the best you can to do your part; even if the partner is not doing so well with their part.

Can you really say you are, doing the dead-level best you can to submit; to defer to him; trying to give honor to him at every legitimate place you can find?

Ex. Man who tried to talk to the wife about spending too much on grandkids. She became angry and told him to shut up about it! She will spend all she wants to on them! Then 2 years later she cannot get him to talk to her very much. Well,, DUD!

Some men will not lead no matter what. They are not real men, but boys. Not wanting to grow up and be a husband, but just needing a replacement for their momma.

Some men try to be good husbands, but the wife is always impatient for action. She plans every detail of their lives; runs it all; arranges it all; does all the talking for him. He has to learn to be a husband, and that takes patience. But she hates patience! You are expecting a stallion, but then you do everything to undermine him and make him a gelding.

You do not want to miss next week! We deal with the husbands.

Best thing a sensitive, loving husband can do, when they go home today, is not discuss the sermon. It needs not reinforcement from you! Lol.