## Biblical Submission - What It Is and What It's Not

What is biblical submission? Well, it's quite different than most people expect it to be.

## Biblical submission does *not* mean:

- 1. A wife was made to be her husband's doormat:
- 2. A wife should blindly do whatever her husband tells her;
- 3. A wife is less valued by God.

## Biblical submission *does* mean:

- A wife will submit to and respect her husband and His God-given position over her (<u>1 Peter</u> 3:6);
- o A wife will consider her husband and his needs more important than hers (Philippians 2:3);
- A wife will lovingly and cheerfully do good to her husband, not harm, all the days of her life (<u>Proverbs 31:12</u>);
- A wife willingly and lovingly supports her husband in his endeavors for no other reason than to honor God and bless her husband—without looking for self-gain, praise or "pay-backs" for all the good she does to her husband (<u>Col 3:18</u>, <u>22-24</u>);
- o A wife is blessed and gifted by God with wisdom, strength and kindness (Proverbs 31:26).

To get a full view of what a biblically submissive woman looks like, read <u>Proverbs 31:11-31</u> and the entire book of Ruth.

I invite you to travel with me as I closely examine the Proverbs 31 woman verse by verse. Not because I have already attained the fullness of being such a noble woman, but because I greatly desire to share the immense blessings and kindness that God our Father has bestowed upon me through more than 20 years of marriage. I want you to be able to savor and meditate on the whole counsel of God so that together, as sisters in Christ, we might continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:14-18).

As you go through this study of the Proverbs 31 woman, I strongly encourage you to read *every* Scripture verse/passage in *every* lesson as well as the entire chapter the verse/passage is found in so you can read and understand our Father's Word in context (Jer 9:23-24). Women who aspire to become wives that are most pleasing to the Lord our God must have a strong resolve to press on to prevent our aspirations from becoming false piety rather than true nobility, that is very precious in the sight of God (1 Peter 3:4).

We'll begin this study by going back to the Garden of Eden to better understand how God made the first woman, and for what purpose.

Hint: it wasn't to lead the men to sin against God.

We'll briefly cover how God's original design and intent for creating the woman has been distorted by the worldview of women that has slowly crept into our churches, defiling marriages through the feminization of our men and by preying on the "knowledge" and the perceived spiritual superiority of women over men.

Why is biblical submission so important?

Because a family without it will either miserably continue prolonging agony or completely fall apart. Regardless of which occurs, one thing most certainly *will* occur: a wife who is not practicing biblical submission will become the source of one of the most horrid things–causing the word of God to be reviled (<u>Titus 2:3-5</u>).