



# Marriage: Husbands

By Willie Alvarenga

# MARRIAGE: HUSBANDS

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All Scripture quotations have been taken from the ASV 1901 version.

## INTRODUCTION:

1. Marriage is under attack today!
2. Satan is trying his best to destroy God's divine institution, even from the beginning
  - a. Sin had its beginning with Adam and Eve, the first couple God created (Genesis 2-3).
  - b. After this couple, hundreds more fell into sin because of our enemy—Satan.
  - c. As you can see, from the beginning, even to our present time, Satan has been trying to destroy God's divine institution.
3. As we consider the world today, we can appeal to God's Word to describe it (1 John 5:19; Jeremiah 51:5).
4. **Why is Satan trying to destroy the family?** Well, if he gets to destroy the family, then, he can hurt the society in which we lived, and, even the church.
5. **In the years of experience that I have, I have noticed how Satan has destroyed many marriages:**
  - a. Divorces, parents killing their children, children killing their parents, etc.
6. This enemy has been successful in many times.
7. If the church and society are to survive the attacks of Satan, we **MUST** stay close to God (James 4:7-8).
  - a. We must stay informed as to what God would have us to do in order to survive!
8. The central theme for this lectureship is indeed so needed today.
9. The topic that has been assigned to me has to do with the responsibilities that husbands have towards their wives.
10. **We will consider what the Bible teaches, not what man says.**

- a. We must remember that the power of God is in His gospel (Romans 1:16; Hebrews 4:12; Jeremiah 23:29; Deuteronomy 4:6; James 1:22-25; Luke 11:28).
- b. This is the reason why we must preach only that which God authorizes in His Word (1 Peter 4:11).

11. **Let me encourage each of you to please search the Scriptures** so that you can make sure that what I am saying is the truth of God (Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; 1 John 4:1).

- a. We must acknowledge that there are several out there who are perverting God's Word to their own destruction (2 Peter 3:16).
- b. Many people today are not being exposed to what God teaches in His Word. This happens because people only preach their opinions, and not what the Word says.

12. Let me also encourage you to please put to practice the things we learn (James 1:22; Luke 9:44).

13. I would like to encourage all husbands present to please consider following God's instructions concerning our responsibilities as the head of the home.

**14. Let us consider in this lesson the following points:**

- a. Our present condition in relation to our topic under consideration.
- b. We will also consider the pattern husbands must follow.
- c. We will also emphasize the kind of love husbands must have toward their wives.
- d. We will consider briefly a survey related to husbands and wives.
- e. Practical advises concerning how husbands can love their wives.
- f. A word of advice for gospel preachers.

15. With this in mind, let us consider God's Word in this important topic.

**I. OUR PRESENT CONDITION IN RELATION TO OUR TOPIC UNDER CONSIDERATION.**

A. What is our present condition on marriage today? This is what I have seen throughout my preaching ministry:

- a. Most husbands have forgotten their responsibilities towards their wives.
  - b. Most husbands today have no respect for their wives.
  - c. Most husbands today live together with their wives but there is no love present in their marriage, no affection. They sleep in separate beds.
  - d. Others live in the same house, but only because of their children.
  - e. Husbands cheating on their wives.
  - f. Wives cheating on their husbands.
  - g. Husbands who physically and psychologically abuse their wives. The “macho” attitude.
  - h. Husbands who blame their lack of love on how their parents raised them. “This is just the way that I am” Is God please with this?
  - i. Husbands who do not care about their wives’ spiritual growth.
- B. All of these and more have contributed to the destruction of marriages today. Marriage does not have to proceed to a divorce to be destroyed.
- C. If we are not careful, we will fall into the same mistakes (**1 Corinthians 10:12, “take heed,” present, active, imperative**).

**II. OUR FIRST RESPONSIBILITY IS TO CONSIDER GOD’S PATTERN TO FOLLOW: LOVE FOR YOUR WIVES.**

*A. God has given us a pattern to follow in His Word!*

- a. The apostle Peter tells us that God has given us everything that pertains to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).
- b. His inspired Word can equip us unto every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17; cf. James 1:25).

- c. His Word can guide our steps in the right direction (Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 6:23).
- B. Husbands must listen to God and follow His pattern (2 Timothy 1:13).
- C. **We have a clear pattern to follow concerning our responsibilities as husbands.** God has not left us without any information.
  - a. Ephesians 5:21-33; Colossians 3:17-19; 1 Peter 3:1-7; Matthew 5, 19; Genesis 2; Hebrews 13:4 (read them all)
  - b. The reason why many marriages fail is because they have not been listening to God's Word!
- D. Is your marriage built on sand or on the rock (Matthew 7:25-27).

### III. **OUR SECOND RESPONSIBILITY IS TO CONSIDER THE KIND OF LOVE HUSBANDS NEED TOWARD THEIR WIVES.**

- A. Sadly to say, many husbands have not considered God's instructions on how to love their wives. They have put God's Word aside and have followed their own ways.
  - a. God condemns the following of our own thinking and ways (Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12).
- B. *Consider God's Word concerning your love towards your wives:*
  - a. **Ecclesiastes 9:9**, "Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of thy life of vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all thy days of vanity: for that is thy portion in life and in thy labor wherein thou laborest under the sun"
  - b. **Proverbs 5:18**, "Let thy fountain be blessed; and rejoice in the wife of thy youth"
  - c. **Ephesians 5:25**, "Husbands, love your wives, **even as Christ also loved the church**, and gave himself up for it"
    - i. How much love did Christ have for His church? He died for the church!
    - ii. This is the intensity by which husbands must love their wives.

**iii. The Greek grammar: Love (Imperative mood, present tense). We may be guilty of sin if we violate this teaching, and our prayers will be hindered (read 1 Peter 3:7).**

- d. **Ephesians 5:28-29**, “Even to ought husbands also to love their own wives as their own bodies, He that loveth his own wife loveth himself; for no man ever hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as Christ also the church; because we are members of his body”
- e. **Ephesians 5:33**, “Nevertheless do ye also severally love each one his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see that she fear her husband”
- f. **I Corinthians 13:4-8**, Read (this is the love husbands need toward their wives)

C. Is this the kind of love we are practicing today with our wives?

**D. Blessings of practicing this kind of love?**

- a. Our wives will be treated with honor (1 Peter 3:7).
- b. Our prayers will not be hindered (1 Peter 3:7).
- c. Our marriage will be strong, and capable of facing any difficulties.
- d. Our wives will respect and love us (Ephesians 5:33).
- e. We will show God that we love Him by keeping His Word (John 14:15).
- f. God will be honored by our good works we do towards our wives (Matthew 5:16)
- g. We will be doers of His Word (James 1:22).
- h. We will all live happy lives in Christ!!

**E. We must understand HOW to love our wives:**

F. There is a misunderstanding of what love is towards our wives:

- a. Some believe that just providing a house for the wife is all we have to do.

- b. Others think that just providing material things is what love is all about.
- c. Some husbands provide all of these things, but they have no love for their wives. In many cases, it is like if the wife does not exist. There is no affection from the husband toward his wife.
- d. Some say, “Well, the reason why I have no affection is because this is the way God made me, or this is the way my parents raised me.” Friends, this is non-sense!
- e. We must learn how to love our wives!!

G. Please consider the following survey:

**IV. OUR THIRD RESPONSIBILITY IS TO CONSIDER A SURVEY THAT SHOWS WHAT WIVES REALLY NEED.<sup>1</sup>**

A. In the following survey, wives were asked the following question: **If your husband would agree to give you ANYTHING you would ask of him, what ONE thing would you ask for?** Here are some answers these women gave:

- a. “I wish he would give me more time.”
- b. “I wish he would be more understanding”
- c. “I wish he would have a stronger leadership”
- d. “I wish he would show more affection in public”
- e. “I wish he could just teach me like he teaches others” (a preacher’s wife).
- f. “I wish he wouldn’t think he has all the answers.”
- g. “I wish that he doesn’t always have to give an answer”
- h. “I wish he would pass the salt to me first” (they had been married thirty-four years)
- i. “I would like for him to fix the car lights”

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<sup>1</sup> The original source of this information is unknown to this author.

- j. "I wish he would give me a weekly allowance and not have to give an account for what I do with it."
  - k. "I wish he would listen to me more instead of making me feel like I'm talking to a hollow tree."
  - l. "I wish for him to like me fat and gray."
  - m. "I wish he would care more about my feelings when those feelings are not the same as his own."
  - n. "I wish he would pay more compliments and notice me more."
  - o. "Be more forgiving" (They had been married thirty-eight years).
  - p. "I wish he would need me more."
- B. I don't know about you, but none of these women ask for dresses, cars, houses, jewelry, etc.
- C. They asked for something you and I can give them. But, why don't we give them these things: The answer is simple; we are so focused on ourselves, than on our wife, friend, and sister in Christ.
- D. Let me challenge you husbands to love your wife the way God teaches in His Word, and not the way WE think!

**V. OUR FOURTH RESPONSIBILITY IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE SOME PRACTICAL ADVICES ON HOW TO LOVE OUR WIVES.**

- A. God has blessed me tremendously with the opportunity of being a gospel preacher. And as such, I have the opportunity from time to time to counsel marriages and families who are in trouble.
- a. Example of members who were about to get a divorce and who called me right after the morning service.
- B. This is what I tell marriage couples to do:**
- a. Take God's Word seriously concerning your responsibilities as husband and wife (cf. James 1:22-25).
  - b. Be patient and kind to one another for you are not perfect (cf. Ephesians 4:32; Colossian 3:13).

- c. Pray for one another at all times (cf. Ephesians 6:18)
  - d. Help one another get to heaven.
  - e. Remember that you are brother and sister in Christ, and thus, you must have brotherly love one for another (cf. John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9; Philippians 2:3-4).
  - f. Continue to love your wife the way you did when you were courting her (cf. 1 Corinthians 13:8).
  - g. Protect your wife from in-laws (cf. Ephesians 5:25; John 13:1).
  - h. Be the head and the spiritual guide of the home (cf. Ephesians 5:23). Be a good example to your wife (cf. 1 Timothy 4:12).
  - i. Appreciate everything your wife does in the home (cf. Romans 13:7) *“honor to whom honor is due”*
  - j. Be humble enough to admit your mistakes and apologize for them.  
***How many times have you said sorry to your wife?***
  - k. Never embarrass your wife in public. I have seen this done many times by men.
  - l. Always be faithful to your wife. ***Be faithful with your eyes, and with your thoughts. An unfaithful preacher looking at a woman.***
  - m. Do not let your wife do everything in the house (cf. Galatians 6:10).
  - n. Provide for the physical, as well as the spiritual needs of your wife (cf. 1 Timothy 5:8).
  - o. Show affection to your wife (e.g. bring her roses, send her an e-mail, text message, smoke signals, remember your anniversary, her birthday, tell her you love her, etc.)
- C. I can assure you that if we, as husbands, practice these things; our wives will support us at all times.
- D. Are we doing these things?

**VI. FINALLY, LET US CONSIDER A WORD OF ADVICE TO GOSPEL PREACHERS.**

- A. As gospel preachers we have a great responsibility to preach the gospel to the whole world.
- B. We also have a million things to do within the work of the church: home Bible studies, counseling, gospel meetings, lectureships, visitation, elders meetings, bulletin, teaching Bible classes, and preaching, evangelism, radio or television work, etc.
- C. All of these things are great, but let us not forget one thing: Do not neglect your family.
- D. I know of a lot of preachers who:
  - a. Have gone through a divorce because they neglected their wives.
  - b. Have lost their children to the world because they were busy saving others, that they neglected their children (illustration of brother who came to my office)
  - c. Another one lost his wife to another man because he was never there for his wife.
- E. I have a great privilege to train gospel preachers on a daily basis. These are some of the things that I emphasize to our students.
- F. Great gospel preachers from the past have encouraged me to never neglect my family: George Bailey, Avon Malone, Hardeman Nichols, Perry Cotham, Johnny Ramsey and many others. I have tried to follow their instruction to the best of my ability. But, above all of these, I have tried to follow what God says in His Word!!

**CONCLUSION:**

- 1. God's Word is clear and precise concerning our responsibilities as husbands.
- 2. Therefore, let us remember those things we have considered in this lesson:
  - a. Our present condition

- b. The pattern to follow
  - c. The kind of love husbands need toward their wives
  - d. The practical advises we can consider to show our wives that we love them.
3. May God continue to give us the courage and the wisdom necessary to consider His Word on our responsibilities as husbands!

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