

“Blessed Home”

1 Peter 3.1-7

- Today’s passage is about wives, husbands, & submission, So...
Thanks for showing up anyway!
- Peter’s interest/emphasis is not so-called "marriage roles" *per se* (Contra Paul), but one application of a bigger topic...
- **Topic of 1Peter:** Living as Elect Exiles [1.1]
- Q: How to live in this dark & broken world when you are a citizen of heaven?
A: Don’t battle, blend, bunker...But BLESS!
- **Topic: Chap 2-3:** Living as Elect Exiles without power
(domestic w/ difficult master, citizen w/ difficult government, etc)
- Q: How to impact your world when you feel powerless
A: Don’t battle, blend, bunker...but BLESS!
- 1 Peter 3.1-7 applies this principle at home
Q: How to transform your home when you feel powerless

Big Idea: To transform your home seek to bless rather than control.

- **Specific context:** family member doesn’t share your commitment to Jesus
Broad application: how to transform any living situation when you have/don’t have power?
- Following is words to 1) **wives**, 2) **husbands**, 3) **everyone**...
- **Issue:[1] if some [husbands] do not obey the word...** (“Remain un un-persuadable regarding the message about Jesus”)
- **Goal [1]: they may be won...** gained/won-over, (comes to faith so all win)
- **Means [1-2]:** (not manipulating, nagging or even talking about the Word) BUT...

1. Wives: Be a restorative blessing in your home with purity and respect. [1-6]

- In antiquity it was assumed that the husband was the overt power-player in the relationship. So, what could a wife do if she wants to follow Jesus but her husband with power legally, culturally, and by sheer strength says “Not gonna happen!” She could battle/bunker/blend... but a better way: BLESS...by **your respectful and pure conduct**...
- Peter adds further instruction on winning over husbands...[3-4]
- You won’t win him over by going on shopping sprees, spa days, and salons. BUT simply focus on inner character - **the hidden person of the heart**...
- A few quiet moments with Jesus in preparation to interact with spouse will do more than a few more minutes in front of the mirror. **“Seek to be a treasure not a trophy”**
- Peter concludes comments to wives w reference to some OT “holy women”, before addressing the men...

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- There is hope for those who feel powerless - you have the power to be a transforming blessing! BUT what if the roles are reversed and the one who holds more power/sway wants to transform the home with the gospel?
- In 1st century Roman empire - Husbands had the uncontested power in the home. But instead of leveraging their power, Christians are called to a different way (otherly)

2. Husbands: Be a restorative blessing in your home with understanding and honor. [7]

- V2 **Two WAYS** to be a blessing in the home, **1 REASON, 1 RESULT**
- **HOW: *Seek to understand***
- Instead of compelling her to accept your way > Seek to **understand** her situation, struggles, thoughts, reservations, etc.
- **HOW: *Show her honor***
- “Weaker vessel” [v7] Vessel: something that is useful for something (tool, vase, fixture)
- **“Husbands, you and your wives are both useful fixtures in the home; be careful to treat her as immensely valuable taking into account her unique difficulties.”**
- **“Treat her as a treasure not a trophy”**
- As a **treasure** - highlight her gifts, intelligence, etc.- her worth as a human and worth to you!
- NOT a **trophy** - something you earned, acquired, display for your ego and ‘shelf’ at will...
- **REASON: she is a co-heir of this grace of life...**
- **Grace of life?** [JMac, NAC] married life: “Marriage is meant to be equally a gift to both of you!”
- **RESULT: *your prayers may not be hindered***
- **Perhaps you’ve been praying for a transformed home - that your wife or adult children
- Preview of next week, Vs 8...
- **All of you...** married/single, men/women, CEO/housekeeper, powerful/powerless
...IF you want to transform the place you live/work > don’t battle/blend/bunker....

3. Everyone: Be a restorative blessing with humility and love. [8]

- The world clamors to gain and leverage power to get their way BUT the way of Jesus is to transform with **humility** and **love**.
- Jesus’ way is counter-cultural, counterintuitive, otherly....And works.
- **Everyone: Be a restorative blessing with humility and love. [8]**
- **Big Idea: To transform your home seek to bless rather than control.**