

THE BIBLICAL DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE

Part 4

The Roles In Marriage

(A Man)

1st Co. 11:3

INTRODUCTION

The doctrine of self-esteem has served as a corrosive agent to the execution to God's plan and purposes. Embracing of the self-esteem doctrine has turned the American culture from one of yielding and respecting authority figures to open rebellion of anything or anyone outside of self.

The result of the self-esteem doctrine has led to both, the insanity of men and the crumbling of the American society. No where has the effect of self-esteem been as devastating as in marriage. Today, we will see that God has established particular roles in marriage to which self-esteem is in opposition.

I. MEN ARE ESTABLISHED BY GOD AS THE LEADERS IN A MARRIAGE.

A. God has an established order in the execution of His plan and purposes.

1. There is an order with the Godhead in the outworking of God's plan and purposes. 1st Co. 15:24-28 cf. Phil. 2:6-7
2. There is an order in the fallen world for the outworking of God's plan and purposes. Cf. Rom. 13:1-2

B. Christ is seen as being the head over every man (the word "man" is andros which is often used for a believer, or husband) 1st Co. 11:3; Eph. 5:23

C. Man is given headship over "the woman" in God's order. 1st Co. 11:3

1. The word "head" is kephale which notes **that which is the operating part of the body; the top part of a thing; a position of authority**. 1st Co. 12:21 (used literally); Eph. 1:22; 4:15; 5:23 (of Christ being the head over the church)
2. The husband as head of his wife pictures Christ as head of the church. Eph. 5:23

II. MEN HAVE OBLIGATIONS TO THEIR WIVES AS HEAD OF THE WIFE.

A. Believing men are exhorted to love their wives. Eph. 5:25

1. The word for love is agape (pres. Act. imper.) -- to sacrifice the things of self for the purpose of meeting the needs of another. John 13:34 (of the command to love one another); 1st John 3:16 (of sacrificing things of biological life)
2. Love of one's wife prevents embitterment against them. Col. 3:19 cf. Rev. 10:9,10 (used figuratively of the Word)
 - a) "Embitterment" is from pikraino which means **to be caused to have a**

distaste or disdain for one due to persistent behavior.

b) Love counters embitterment.

3. Men are under an obligation to love their wives as their own bodies.

4. Love for one's wife prove love for oneself. Eph. 5:28

B. Believing men should dedicate themselves to their wives. Eph. 5:25

1. The word for "gave" is from paradidomi (aor. Act. ind.) which means ***to surrender one's self for the benefit of another.*** Cf. Eph. 5:2; Rom. 1:24,26,28; Eph. 5:25;

2. The husband's love for his wife is similar to Christ's love for the Church.

CONCLUSION