

The Husband's Role in the Home

What does the Bible teach about a husband's role in the home? Let us begin with creation. In Genesis 1:26-31, God created man in His image and gave man dominion over all living creatures. Then, in Genesis 2, He placed the first man, Adam, in the Garden of Eden to dress (or till) it and gave Adam instructions concerning the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Notice! After this, He said that it was not good for man to be alone; "I will make him a help meet," Genesis 2:18. In Genesis 2:19-20, He formed all living creatures from the dust of the earth and told Adam to name them. In Genesis 2:21-23, God took a rib from Adam's side and formed Eve. Adam said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man." Genesis 2:24 instructs, "Therefore shall a man leave father and mother and cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh."

By these principles we see that from the beginning God set the husband, or man, to be the head or leader of the family unit. As further proof, read God's command to Abraham in Genesis 17:9. He was instructed to keep his covenants and give them to his descendants after him throughout their generations such as Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and many others, as confirmed in the New Testament by the Apostle Paul in Hebrews 1:1-2. "God who in various times and in various ways spoke to the fathers by the prophets has in these last days spoken to us by His Son."

What is wrong in America today is that men have left God's teachings and have failed to be leaders of the home and family.

First, men have failed to accept God's plans of marriage. Over the last two decades the United States marriage rate has fallen by about 20%. The most recent survey of birth records show that as many as 46% of children are born to unwed mothers and among some ethnic groups that number jumps to as many as 70% of children born to unwed mothers. Men are not marrying the mothers of their children.

In I Corinthians 11:3-4 God's plan for the home is set forth in scripture with Christ as the husband's head and the husband as the head of the wife. Matthew 19:4-5 says God made them male and female. "For this reason man is to leave father and mother and be joined to his wife. The two are no longer two but one flesh." The husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it.

Second, read Ephesians 5:22-23. According to this reading, the husband has the second responsibility to love, protect, and respect the wife. This is a great failure in most homes today.

Third, the husband has the responsibility to love and guide his children. Ephesians 6:4 teaches the husband is not to provoke his children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. 1 Timothy 3:4 says he must rule his house well and have his children in subjection. In Titus 2:6-7, Titus was instructed by the Apostle Paul to teach the young men "...to be sober-minded, to show a pattern of good works, in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, and sound speech."

In conclusion, it is our belief we have proved through the scriptures that without godly husbands the home cannot function as God would have it!