

God's Plan For Wives

Text: Genesis 2:18-24

Introduction:

- A. Today's society in the greater part both ignores and rebels against God's design for women." - "Women come out of the house! You have everything to gain!" ("The New Feminism," **Ladies Home Journal**, August, 1970, pp. 64-65)
 - B. This stands in stark contrast to God's plan. - Titus 2:4-5
 - C. What is God's plan for wives?
 - I. Woman was created for a peculiar purpose: to be a "help meet" for man .All the woman's peculiar responsibilities are the result of this special purpose. - Genesis 2:18-24
 - II. Because of her purpose, the wife is to be in subjection to her husband. - Ephesians 5:22-24
 - A. She should "revere" (show respect to) her husband. - Ephesians 5:33
 - B. There is only one exception to her submission; she must obey God rather than man. - Colossians 3:18
 - III. Because of her purpose, the wife is to love her husband. - Titus 2:4
 - A. She should try to please him rather than herself. - 1 Corinthians 7:34
 - B. She should not "nag" him. - Proverbs 19:13; 21:9,19
 - C. She will recognize that she belongs to her husband, not to herself. - 1 Corinthians 7:2-5
 - D. She will keep herself pure from defilement with other men. - Proverbs 12:4
 - E. If her husband is an unbeliever, she will lead such a pure life as to influence him toward the truth. - 1 Peter 3:1-4
 - IV. Because of her purpose, she is to be a "keeper at home."
(In 1890 4.6% of American women who were married worked outside the home. The divorce rate was 6%. In 1986 59% of the women in the labor force are married. The divorce rate is 48%.)
 - A. The wife is a queen in her home, with the guidance of everyday domestic affairs in her hands.
 - 1. "keepers at home" - Titus 2:4-5 (older women to teach the younger)
 - a. "home-workers" (Marshall)
 - b. "working at home" (Vine. 2:228)
 - c. "keeping at home and taking care of household affairs" (Thayer. 442)
 - d. "take proper care of their families" (MacKnight. 490)
 - 2. "guide the house" - 1 Timothy 5:14 ."house despot (ruler.); the management and direction of household affairs" - Vine. 2:185); cf. Genesis 39:1-6
 - B. She should exercise intelligence and good judgment in the affairs of the home. - Proverbs 11:22; 19:14; .1:16,24,26
- Conclusion:
- A. Wives, strive to be a virtuous woman. - Proverbs 31:10-27
 - B. The rewards of such a life are truly great. - Proverbs 31:28-31