

Harmony in the Home

Is it still possible?

Introduction:

What is Harmony?

The definition of harmony from dictionary.com is:

an agreement; accord; harmonious relations. a consistent, orderly, or pleasing arrangement of parts; congruity. the simultaneous combination of tones, esp. when blended into chords pleasing to the ear; chordal structure.

I love good music. The Lord created music. There is nothing more pleasant to the ear than perfect harmony of musical notes. We find that King Saul “was refreshed” (I Sam 16:23) by the music David played. Harmony is the creation of God. He originated it and thus He is the only one who can give the instructions on how to obtain it. Just like notes on the piano, so are relationships in the home. When placed in their proper order, beautiful harmony resounds forth. I was blessed to grow up in a large family. Many times during our childhood, we took on the learning of musical instruments. There was one point when between us children, we were learning to play the flute, trumpet, and the clarinet all at the same time. I am not sure how my mother was able to keep her sanity let alone our neighbors as we attempted to obtain harmony between our new instruments. For the first several months maybe even years we were not making music or harmony, we were making noise, very unpleasant sounding noise. I am afraid that the home we know today is satisfied with just making noise and not achieving harmony. This book attempts to use the Word of God to guide the family towards perfect harmony. We live in a society in which the dysfunctional home is not only acceptable, but it is the standard. Each generation the family and the home gets further and further from the way God intended it to be when He first created it in the garden. By the way, as we note the declining of the family, notice that it follows the declining of music too. It is just like Satan to ruin what God created.

Too many frustrated husbands, wives, parents, or even children have bought into the lie the harmony in their home is no longer obtainable. Before we are going to obtain harmony we must first recognize that harmony in the home is possible. God created the family and thus we can know that God has a plan for each family and instructions in His word on how to obtain it.

Matthew 19:5-6 *“And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”*

Marriage or the home has a purpose: “For this cause”. There is a reason for the home and a purpose for it. The average spouse or parent today has forgotten that the home actually does have a purpose and should not be placed lower than your career or ministry. The home as it is today is not what God created. In order to understand how to have

harmony in our home we must turn to the Bible and follow its instructions. We are going to use Colossians 3:18-21 as our outline for this book *“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.”* We will look at the family in the order found in our text. Wives, Husbands, Children, and lastly Parents. When placed in their proper order, harmony is reached. Each of these roles in the home are of equal importance and with just one out of place you will go from having harmony to having unpleasant sounding noise.

I. Words to the Wives

1 Peter 3:1-7

“Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.”

We find here in this text three words that describe a Godly Wife –

A. **Submissive** (1,5) *“Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands”*

Eph 5:22-24 *“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, **as unto the Lord**. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands **in every thing**.”*

A wife living in Submission brings:

1. **Guilt to the Lost**– *“...that, if any obey not the word, they also may **without the word** be **won** by the conversation of the wives.”*
2. **Glory to the Lord** *“which is in the sight of God of **great price**”*
3. **Grace to your Life** – *“and as being heirs together of the grace of life”*

B. **Serving** *“Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord...”* **Proverbs 31:10-31**

A Wife that will Serve her family brings:

1. **Humility to the Heart**

A Servants heart is required for humility - *“God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the lowly.”*

Titus 2:5 *“To be discreet, chaste, **keepers at home**, good, **obedient to their own husbands**, that the word of God be not blasphemed.”*

2. **Harmony in the Home** – Harmony from a properly function family with the wife in subjection willing serving her husband and family.

C. Separated

A Separated Wife will bring:

1. Honor to Her Head (the Man)

1Co 11:5-6 *"But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven. For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered."*

The woman whose head is covered (with hair 15) Honoureth her head (the man 3)

Pro 12:4 *"A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones."*

2. Honor to Her House

Pro 31:22-23 *"She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates..."*

The people talk of her clothing and it reflects on her family

3. Honor to Herself

Prov 31:28-31 *"Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates."*

II. Help for the Husbands

I Peter 3:7 *“Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.”*

According to the Scripture the Godly Husband has Three Basic Duties:

- A. Portraying Eph 5:25** *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it”*

A Husband who Portrays Christ will:

1. Selflessly Love

Eph 5:25 *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church... 5:28-29 “He that loveth his wife loveth himself.”*

2. Spiritually Lead

Eph 5:23 *“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.”*

1Co 14:35 *“And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.”*

3. Sacrificially Live

Eph 5:25 *“...and gave himself for it”*

- B. Providing Ephesians 5:28-29** *“So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:”*

A Husband who Provides for his wife will:

1. Supply the Essentials

Eph 5:28-29 *“So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth...”*

2. Spoil the Emotions

“...and cherisheth it”

A good husband is more than just placing food on the table. He must care for the emotional needs of his wife.

1Co 7:3 *“Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence...”*

- C. Protecting - (7)** *“...giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel,”*

As the wife is the weaker it is up to the husband to protect her and the home.

A Husband who Protects will protect:

Against Sin

It is the responsibility of the Husband to keep the home free from sin – not the wife's. **1Ti 2:14** *“And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”*

III. Commandments for the Children.

Ephesians 6:1-3

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.”

Col 3:20 *“Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.”*

A. Heed your Parents

Why should you Heed?

1. **It's Right** (1)
2. **It's Refreshing** (Col 3:20)
3. **It's Rewarded** (3)

How should you Heed?

1. **In ALL Things** Col 3:20 *“Children, obey your parents in all things*

A child will answer to God for how he obeyed his parents.

2. **With ALL Thoroughness** - Obey as unto the Lord

Ephesians 6:1-3 *“Children, obey your parents in the Lord”* As you would obey the Lord – Obey your parents

B. Honor your Parents *“Honour thy father and mother;”*

Honoring your parents goes further than just obeying. It is obeying from the heart!

IV. Promises to the Parents

Now we arrive to the part of the family that is suffering the most. Satan has deceived too many parents into thinking that their job as a parent is not longer possible. Raising good Godly children seems to be impossible these days, but we will look at some promises found in scripture for parenting.

A. Promise of Schooling

Pro 22:6 *“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is **old**, he will not depart from it.”*

Deu 6:7 *“And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up”*

Deu 11:19 *“And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”*

B. Promise of Spanking

1. Spank

Pro 22:15 *“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”*

Pro 29:15 *“The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to *himself* bringeth his mother to shame.”*

2. Spare not

Pro 23:13 *“Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.”*

Pro 13:24 *“He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.”*

3. Spare

Pro 29:1 *“He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth *his* neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.”*

C. Promise of Sheltering

Pro 29:15 *“The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to *himself* bringeth his mother to shame.”*

Conclusion: Isn't it amazing how that Satan has convinced the average family that these very three things that God promised would help our children would harm them? Schooling, Spanking, Sheltering are mocked at today, but we can rest in the promises found in the Word.