

# Sexist? We depict Christ and his Church

## Part 3 of 3



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*All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.*

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**Summary:** *Part 3. We're not of Satan's kingdom but of the Kingdom of Heaven and God's values. Let's stand up for God's values and fight for our marriages and relationships. We're supposed to be picturing the marriage of Christ himself to his Bride. What God says about happy marriages, bringing joy to the wife, what he says to husbands and wives. But will we heed him and do what God says?*

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Hello – I'm SO glad you have come to our website.

**We'll conclude the 3-part series that started with "Are God and his word sexist?" today.** We talked about that a lot in part 1, and then part 2 talked about Yeshua and how he treated women, and now part 3 – what it is we are supposed to be depicting in our marriages especially – and the WAR going on to destroy our marriages and relationships and how we must GO on the attack against that war against us having decent marriages and relations.

**So hello everyone. I'm Philip Shields ... and welcome to our free website – Light on the Rock.** This is a very, very important sermon and much is at stake with it.

**IS God "sexist"?** I hope in the last sermon – where I focused on how Yeshua/Jesus treated women in his day 2000 years ago – that the WORD, who was GOD with God, and came to live among us as Jesus Christ (John 1:1-2, 14) – clearly was NOT sexist.

It's clear Yeshua shattered all the taboos of 2000 years ago about how women were to be treated. He treated them with fairness, respect, honor, with

kindness and gentleness. He elevated their stature. He met them where they were – many of his friends were “broken people”, cast-offs of society.

- He let women be disciples and learn from him, sitting at his feet – just like the men.
- He let a woman who had had 7 demons cast out, be the first witness of the resurrected Messiah! Not a man – but a woman was the first witness. Unheard of in that day to let any woman be a reliable witness.
- He praised women in many of his parables.
- He met even with several who had “been bad” – the woman caught in adultery (John 8), the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4), and the woman who had many sins who wept at his feet and anointed his feet with oil (Luke 7).
- WOMEN were the ones who stayed by his side during his final hours of agony on the cross – and I think he appreciated that. Most of us don’t like dying alone. Women, thank you for being there for him.

Meanwhile some of the men were standing in judgment of him. All this and much more is in the Part 2 of this series.

**Today in the final part, part 3 – I want to remind you all what is at stake as we talk about men and women as well as husband and wife.** I alluded to it last time briefly. After talking about marriage – and a wife’s function and the husband’s function – Paul concludes the section in Ephesians like this:

**Ephesians 5:32-33**

“This is a great mystery, but **I speak concerning Christ and the church.**

33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so ***love his own wife as himself***, and let **the wife see that she respects her husband.**”

He says he’s not even just talking about human marriage but the fact that we are supposed to be depicting the holy union between the Son of God and the Church – his bride. Our lives are supposed to bring *glory* to God, in all respects and at all times – and especially in our marriages, for that depicts Yeshua and His Bride.

In case you haven’t noticed – Satan and his evil spirits:

- have been violently attacking marriage, which is the bedrock of all relationships – so people of all ages just shack up now and live together without marriage. The sanctity and importance of marriage is ridiculed. Don't buy in to that.
- Satan's instigated divorce after divorce – which God says he HATES (read all of **Malachi 2:14-16**)! It creates havoc with children and family. I know. As a 12 year at the time, watching mom and dad divorce, without them knowing – I fell asleep each night for months, on a tear-soaked pillow. Folks, read what God says about the children in Malachi.

God himself actually eventually divorced Israel too (**Jer. 3:7-8; Isa 50:1**) – but only after thousands of infidelities against. In fact, God offered many times to forgive them if they would repent and acknowledge their sin. So God hates divorce. There are, of course, legitimate reasons for divorce such as adultery (Matthew 19:4-9). If you have had a divorce, move on but understand God hates divorce and says do not split in two what God has brought together.

- Satan has attacked **the sex genders**, male leadership – especially so-called white male “toxic masculinity”. Satan's doing everything to get our minds off of the glory of the marriage of Christ and his church – which we are supposed to be depicting.
- He's having children being born and raised without a father in the home.
- Satan has attacked unborn babies via **62 MILLION** deaths by abortion in the USA alone. Abortions involved cutting an unborn baby girl or boy into little pieces in many circumstances. See the movie “Unplanned”.

*Warning, warning: have you just accepted all this and gone to sleep? Be honest with yourself! Are you speaking out against it? Are you doing anything? Are you part of the fight FOR your marriage and for God's values?*

**Our relationships, families and marriages**, the loving unions of the children of God and of good people everywhere – **are what's keeping families, communities and the CHURCH – together!** The CORE of our families and harmony is having a happy, solid marriage – so that's where Satan is attacking, especially in the church of God. *And too many of God's own children are cooperating instead of fighting back at Satan.*

**I've been attacked too.** In our own 45-year marriage, we've struggled at times, to be honest with you, but we've worked at it; we've both done a lot of repenting, and coming back together, realizing that **God wants us to be HAPPILY married.**

Let's go back now and read some of the joyful scriptures about marriage the way GOD had intended it . Feel the JOY God intended:

**Proverbs 5:18-19**

"Let your fountain be blessed,

And ***rejoice with the wife of your youth.***

19 As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let HER breasts satisfy you at all times; And **always be enraptured with her** love."

**Ecclesiastes 9:9**

**Live joyfully with the wife whom you love** all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun.

**Deuteronomy 20:7**

"And what man is there who is **betrothed to a woman** and has not married her? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man marry her.'

**Deuteronomy 24:5**

"When a man has taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war or be charged with any business; **he shall be free at home one year and bring happiness to his wife** whom he has taken.

Men, it is clear: God wants us to do our best to have a happy wife, to be happy with her and bring her joy.

Standing up for our marriages is so important that I'll quote what MORDECAI said to Esther, one of the super-greats of the Bible, Esther a powerful leader and woman made in God's image. What he says to her applies to us and our own very existence at this time in the House of God: "You and I ***were born and put her, right now, for such a time as this.***"

**Esther 4:14**

"... Yet who knows whether you have **come to the kingdom for such a time as this.**"

**We were called to be a part of something much bigger than ourselves.** Let's rise to the occasion and stand up for our marriages and turn them around to be to the glory of God. Let me say it again: you were BORN for such a time as this. Posterity will long remember what we do here in this life as the last generation before Messiah came back -- and how we

preserved the right view of the opposite sex, repented where we failed (and I have too), and rededicated our marriages to God – to his honor and glory.

**We've been called to fight back against Satan's attacks on us** and our marriages! To fight FOR and defend our sacred union that we covenanted in our wedding vows before many witnesses and— before God -- to love and protect each other and stay together for as long as we lived.

And when we put on the Armor of God and go on the attack against the Gates of Hell, because we've had it with his attacks against US, we will overpower Satan and his gates of hell will not stand against us, who are empowered by Christ himself and the Holy Spirit. (**Matthew 16:18**).

So Satan's kingdom does say the Bible is out of date, is not with the times, and is sexist by saying things like the husband is the head of the wife and we are to serve one another, and love as Christ does, and the wife to respect and submit to her husband. And too many of you have BOUGHT into this world's conclusions instead of obeying the function to which you've been called and been assigned.

So we don't care how Satan's kingdom defines "sexist" – as we're not a part of Satan's kingdom. We're a part of the Kingdom of Heaven, the Kingdom ruled by holy, holy, holy God Almighty. We live by HIS standards, HIS thoughts, HIS ways.

God's word says he is not partial to anyone – men or women (Romans 2:11) We are all one in Christ (Galatians 3:28) – the same salvation and eternal life (1 Peter 3:7) but we serve different functions in this life. That's what I believe. And in the kingdom when God hands out awards, many who are now women in this life, I believe, will receive very high awards and responsibilities – because they fulfilled very well their function today as God decrees. And men who led like Christ leads, will also receive high awards. But any who refuse to properly live out their function – well, will be in trouble.

So by the world's standards, sure, they'd say it would be sexist to say the man is the head of his wife, and that wives are to be submissive to their husbands and other things the Bible does say about men and women, husbands and wives. But again – we're not of that world that dismisses God's words.

*So frankly I don't CARE if the Bible APPEARS sexist to some. What matters is to embrace God's thinking about man and woman!*

***Frankly our lives are meaningless unless and until every person being called out by God – is willing to live out his/her role and function as GOD DIRECTS, as God wills, regardless if our spouse or associates do or not. (Read it again). Yeshua set a perfect example of that.***

Women of God have to comport their thinking to what HE tells us, and MEN of God have to comport our thinking to what He tells us. We have an equal calling into salvation, but different FUNCTIONS, which we'll discuss.

**Why spend 3 sermons on this? Why is this topic important? 2 main reasons!**

- Because my goal is to make it clear to everyone that ***we're in the fight of our lives to win back all our male-female relationships***, our marriages and how we view God's word on this vital subject. If Satan can get us all thinking God really is sexist, then he is successfully attacking the very CORE of human relationships.

**Too many no longer fight FOR their marriages and relationships.** Our fight is largely done on our knees in fervent prayer, rebuking the inroads of SATAN and his spirit in our marriage, in Yeshua's name! --and then we implement what we are told in God's word. Too many give up on their marriage or relationships too soon.

- **AND – we children of God are tasked with REPRESENTING the ultimate marriage in the universe's history**, as Paul says in Ephesians 5:32. Few marriages rise to that level in this life. I know perhaps 15 couples whom I feel strongly are very happily married. Many others appear OK but I wonder if they are truly blissfully happy.

**Ephesians 5:32**

“This is a great mystery, but **I speak concerning Christ and the church**”.

Are we going to fulfill that task and calling – to picture Christ and the church in our relationships?

**Our whole lives are – more and more – supposed to bring GLORY to God.**

**1 Corinthians 10:31**

“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, **or whatever you do, do ALL to the glory of God.**”

People are supposed to see less and less of US, and more and more of the Risen Yeshua in our lives (as John the Baptist also said – **John 3:30**). Our whole lives include our marriages and relationships: do people increasingly see the Messiah in you? Paul said in **Gal. 2:20** -- “I died. I no longer live, but the life I live is Christ living in me...” People should see our marriages and praise GOD – as HE is clearly seen in the way we interact with each other.

**And think of this too:** The early disciples loved to say they had personally witnessed the risen son of God. We can say that too! Not because we met him after his resurrection outside the tomb, but we witness that he LIVES because he is living again in each of us and is CHANGING you and me to be someone we never were before. **Our lives that are drastically changing and looking more and more like Yeshua, should be a living WITNESS that the Messiah rose from the dead and lives now in US.**

**This HAS to be happening in our marriages too! We witness to the risen Christ by people seeing HIM living in our marriages** – both in we husbands and how we lead as a spirit-led servant leader, and in the wives, in how they are submissive as Christ was totally submissive to HIS head – God the Father.

This is what Paul was saying when he said he really is talking about Christ and his church, after he wrote all that he did in Eph 5 about marriage! Are we demonstrating the risen Messiah in our entire lives?

**Today we'll cover a lot of points that I hope will make everyone THINK deeply about this topic – male- female, and the definite instructions God gives each of us.**

So quick review first then we continue:

- In the body of Christ, there is no male or female (**Gal. 3:28**). We're all one in Christ. And God IS the one who made the 2 sexes – male and female.
- We are heirs together of the grace of life (**1 Peter 3:7**). Equal future, different functions in this life. The concept of “TOGETHER” is all through the Word. They were to reign over the earth together. They were to have a marriage and become as one flesh again. Together. Like a **man-woman world class dancers** – moving as one, in harmony.

Apostle Paul reiterates this in 1 Cor. 11:9-12.

**1 Corinthians 11:9-12**

“Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man. 10 For this reason the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels. 11 Nevertheless, ***neither is man independent of woman, nor woman independent of man, in the Lord.*** 12 For as woman came from man, even so man also comes through woman; *but all things are from God.* “

- Many scriptures make it plain, that God shows no favoritism or partiality – and I’ll explore that even more today. (**Romans 2:11**).
- Both men and women have been **created equally in God’s likeness** and image (“...*in the image of God created he them*”). That was covered in detail in Part 1. *Women are made as much like God as men have been.*
- When we really come to know and **see God (1 John 3:1-2), we will see as many “female” traits in him as we do male traits**, even though we see him as “Father” and Jesus (Yeshua) as brother and husband. God certainly has the **so-called masculine** traits – strength, power, leadership, “manliness”, or thundering his voice when need be.

But God also has the **so-called more female traits such as** gentleness, kindness, times when **he speaks gently and softly like in a whisper** as he did to Elijah in the cave on Mt Sinai, forgiveness, listening and understanding times of hurting and nurturing.

- God intended husbands and wives to share their lives together; to look forward to being with each other; with lots of conversations and good times; with each helping the other.

**HELPER (“ezer” in Hebrew): The fact that God made Eve to be a “help meet” to Adam upsets some.** Don’t forget, *God himself is also called OUR “helper” – same root word.* God is my help. God is your help. It’s not a demeaning description or else you’d have to conclude that God is demeaned somehow by being OUR help. In fact Moses called one of his sons “**Eliezer**” – and said it was because the God of his fathers had been his help (**Exodus 18:4**). Other scriptures are - **Psalm 121:1-2; 70:5; 94:17; 63:7; 40:17.**

**THE kind of LEADER/HUSBAND Yeshua IS**

**Matthew 20:25-28**

But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles **lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.**

**26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your SERVANT.**

**27** And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave —

**28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.**"

**We** husbands should honor and respect our wives with truly listening to what they're saying. We respect their time. We respect their opinions. And we listen to them? Isn't that what our husband Yeshua is doing when we pray to him? It's our Husband Yeshua and our Father listening to us! They want to know what's on our hearts.

**Ephesians 5:25-29**

"Husbands, **LOVE your wives, just as Christ** also loved the church and **gave Himself for her**, 26 that **He might sanctify and cleanse her** with the washing of water by the word,

27 that He might **present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle** or any such thing, but that **she should be holy and without blemish.**

28 **So husbands ought to love their own wives** as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself."

Love is the focus here. Some men have a hard time showing love or saying "I love you". (Story of man who just couldn't admit in words that he loved his wife.)

Submission to their husband is the focus for the wives – as that is so hard for some women to do too. But submitting is hard for anyone. But we've been called for that.

**Men, we're told to love our wives as Christ loves the Church**, giving himself for her.

Peter says we are to love our wives *with understanding*. Find out what makes your wife feel loved. Become an expert about her. Love her the way that makes her *feel* loved. Maybe ask her what that would be – then do that.

- Some wives feel loved by **flowers**. But others wonder why you wasted the money on something that will wilt so soon.

- Some wives feel loved by **hugging**, cuddling and marital sex. Other wives? Maybe not so much as others... or maybe we men aren't building up the mood and focusing on her.
- Most wives will feel very loved by husbands who are **KIND** to them, or who are listening intently when they speak, considering their opinions, or husbands valuing their time, and who live GENTLY with them – even as the husband protects and serves her needs too.

I'm still learning all this myself too, even after 45 years of living together in marriage.

But again, we MEN are to also serve and submit, according to Ephesians 5:21. Find ways to bring joy to your wife. Bring her the cup of coffee. Make your bed and pick up your socks. Ask her what she would like to do... then do that more often. **Ephesians 5:21** tells us all to submit to one another. All of us.

Our Master also admonished men not to lust or have improper thoughts towards other women but to honor them. (**Matthew 5:27-28**) Timothy was told to look upon young women as sisters, with all purity.

**The Atlanta Journal** printed this single's ad once:

*"SINGLE young black female seeks male companionship, ethnicity unimportant. I'm a very good looking girl who LOVES to play. I love long walks in the woods, riding in your pickup truck, hunting, camping and fishing trips, cozy winter nights lying by the fire. Candlelight dinners will have me eating out of your hand. I'll be at the front door when you get home from work, wearing only what nature gave me. Call (xxx) xxx-xxxx and ask for Daisy."*

Over 15,000 men found themselves talking to the Atlanta Humane Society about an 8-week old female black Labrador retriever. LOL.

**MEN, let's do our BEST to make it easier for our wives to be submissive** to us by we MEN being so kind, so gentle, so loving – even as we lead and protect our families. It's so much easier to submit and obey a kind and appreciative leader, gentlemen, like the Proverbs 31 husband.

It starts by stating clearly that her husband trusts her. Men, do we trust our wife?

**Proverbs 31:11**

"The heart of her husband trusts her.

"She does him good and not evil all the days of her life".

**Proverbs 31:28-31**

Her children rise up and call her blessed;

**Her husband also, and he praises her:**

29 "Many daughters have done well, **But you excel them all."**

30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing,

**But a woman who fears YHVH, she shall be praised.**

31 Give her of the fruit of her hands,

And let her own works praise her in the gates."

Men, are WE that kind of man who trusts, praises, honors and loves his wife? Do we regularly assure them of their beauty – even in their 60's, 70s and forever? **Song of Solomon (Song of Songs) 1:15-16** – he assures her of her beauty. This is important for many women, especially after having children and getting older. One way to cement that fact, that we find our wives beautiful, is to quit ogling the much younger women.

And the whole purpose of Yeshua as the husband to the church is that Yeshua is *looking for* ways to let His wife shine ... ***that he might present her to himself as a wife without FAULT, without spot or blemish.*** In fact, when we fail, he covers us with his righteousness (**Philippians 3:9-11**).

Men, do our wives feel you nit-pick at them, catching every failing or misstep? Or do we see our wives as without fault or blemish? Does your wife feel you aren't just catching her every mistake – but commenting on her many good things? Does she feel *you WANT to be with her, listen to her, etc.?*

For a couple years now, my wife and I spend the last minutes at night sitting on our back lanai and just listening to each other. She loves these times. I find when I go for walks with her, or sit on the lanai, that she opens up and it's good for me to just listen and take it all in and let her express herself. **But also lead even as you give her honor and respect.**

MEN, are we picturing that kind of loving leadership that Yeshua has? Women – wouldn't it be so much easier to be around men like that?

Women, encourage your men to be leaders. More on that in a minute. Let's see how Peter describes the husbands:

**1 Peter 3:7 (CJB)**

"You husbands, likewise, conduct your married lives **with understanding.** Although your wife may be weaker physically, you should **respect her** as a **fellow-heir of the gift of Life.** *If you don't, your prayers will be blocked.*"

**Men, husbands – you are the head of your family.** You don't have to make a big deal of it, don't have to "call rank" on your wife, **but do lead.**

**Just a thought:** It's hard to be the head of the house if your First Mate, your wife, won't back you up and encourage your leadership. So to you wives and women who go by God's word: support your husband as leader. Encourage him to lead. Let him lead by getting behind him.

**BUT WHAT to we see in TV shows, commercials and the like?** We see dads being humiliated and laughed at. We see kids who act like they know more than their stupid behind-the-times dads! We see masculine men being derided. We hear about "TOXIC masculinity" and white male privilege. We see white male presidential candidates apologizing for being a white male!

**But men and husbands have been tasked to lead, protect, guide – like it or not, that's what God's word says.**

### WIVES

Now WIVES: Wouldn't it be a lot easier to submit to that kind of husband who leads, but is gentle, considerate, patient, kind, helpful and attentive? But just as a converted husband has to love and give himself even to an unsubmitive wife, wives have to do your part in obeying God's instructions to be submissive *whether your husband is perfect or not.*

So now the wives' scriptures. Let's let YHVH himself speak to us about wives.

#### Proverbs 12:4

**"An excellent wife is the crown of her husband,  
But she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones."**

#### Proverbs 18:22 NIV

**"He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from YHVH".**

#### Proverbs 19:13 NIV

**"A foolish son is his father's ruin,  
and a quarrelsome wife is like a constant dripping."**

#### Proverbs 19:14 NIV

**Houses and wealth are inherited from parents,  
but a prudent wife is from YHVH".**

**Ephesians 5:22-24 NKJV**

**“Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.**

23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.”

Even Abraham was told by GOD to submit to Sarah on the issue of sending Ishmael away. **Read it in Gen 21:12.**

**1 Peter 3:1-6**

**“Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear.**

3 Do not let your adornment be merely outward — arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel — 4 rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with **the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit**, which is very precious in the sight of God.

5 For in this manner, in former times, **the holy women who trusted in God** also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 **as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him “lord”**, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.”

**Go back to verse 1. Peter says, wives – “likewise”.** There were no chapter breaks when Peter wrote this. It goes back to what he just said at the end of **1 Peter 2:21-25**, the perfect submission of Christ himself to what he was called to do and go through. He didn't shout back at those who were slandering him at his execution. He didn't call down fire from heaven on them. Our Example (Yeshua) submitted to what he was called to do – though it was so painful and even seemed so unfair.

There are also several commands to wives to honor and respect their husband. Many men, especially husbands, crave respect.

In a godly marriage and union, we see over and over again the concept of TOGETHERNESS, loving and trusting and respecting one another; of needing one another – like a perfectly matched championship **dance couple**.

*I just hate it when I'm in a group of married couples or men and women and we see men joking about their wives or wives putting down their husband – and thinking it's funny, but so disrespectful. It's not what's depicted here.*

**Then in Proverbs 31**, and I need a whole sermon just on it, surely – but what I mostly take from it is a description of the saints of God as the Woman of Valor, or bride of Christ. They're busy, active, they're working hard for the family. She's a "Wife of Valor" (the real Hebrew meaning of the English word "Virtuous").

This wife is a strong, brave and active woman **who is capable of making decisions**. She's not lazy – she's busy. So many of these verses indicate that. She can make decisions – including buying real estate (V. 16) and plants a vineyard. Our husband is the VINE in the vineyard (**John 15:1-5**). She's investing herself into the Kingdom and spiritual things. This should also be describing those of us who hope to be the Bride of Christ!

And once again, **Yeshua the Messiah set the example for us ALL and for WOMEN – in how to SUBMIT to our head**. Look how *Christ* submitted to HIS head, who is GOD (1 Cor. 11:3).

**So neither men nor women will ever be totally happy about being a man or woman, or a HAPPILY married husband and wife, until we SUBMIT TO GOD HIMSELF** and act *as we're supposed to act*, as we're led by God's spirit. I say both men and women have a lot of repenting and changing to do here. We all have to come to accept and submit to our ultimate Head – God the Father and what HE has ordained for us.

Frankly I suspect this subject *has NOT been well covered from the pulpit recently*. I think ministers are afraid to handle this hot potato. Too many preachers want to be relevant, "woke", and sensitive to the modern culture – instead of obedient in teaching the unvarnished word of God.

I hope this has been helpful and thank you for coming to our free website. Please tell others about us -- and thank you for your prayers and encouragement.

**Closing prayer and blessings.** (included: We repent.... Want to bring you glory in our relationships and marriages. Let us men look more and more like Christ in how we lead and serve our bride. Let the women look more and more like Christ as well, in how they humbly submit to their calling too. All to your glory and honor, dear Father and our wonderful Savior. Help us FIGHT the attacks against us and our marriage and win!)