

11 patterns of Submission and Headship in the Bible

A. Eleven patterns of submission & headship in the New Testament

| Submission | Headship | Bible Texts |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| All creation | God | Jas 4:7; Heb 12:9 |
| Christ | God | 1 Cor 15:28 |
| All Creation | Christ | 1 Cor 15:27-28; Heb 2:2; Eph 1:20-23; Phil 3:21; 1 Pe 3:22 |
| Church | Christ | Eph 5:24 |
| Church | Leaders | 1 Cor 16:16; 1 Th 5:12; Heb 13:17 (minister = servant/under rower) |
| Children | Parents | Eph 6:1-4; Col 3:20-21; Lk 2:41-52; 1 Ti 3:4 |
| Young men | Older men | 1 Pe 5:5 |
| Slaves | Masters | Eph 6:5-9; Col 3:22-24; Tit 2:9-10; 1 Pe 2:18-20 |
| Citizens | Government | Rom 13:1-6; 1 Pe 2:13-15; Tit 3:1 |
| Every Christian | To Others | Eph 5:21 |
| Wives | Husbands | Eph 5:22-24; Col 3:18; Tit 2:5; 1 Pe 3:1-7; 1 Cor 11:3 |

B. Other usage's of submission/ subjection:

1. Creation subjected to futility in hope to be set free from slavery: Rom 8:20-21
2. Christ submitted demons to the Christians of 1st century: Lk 10:17-20
3. Subjection to the word of God: Christians submit: 2 Cor 9:13. Unbelievers: will not subject themselves to God's word: Rom 8:7; Rom 10:1-3
4. Christians must bring their bodies into subjection to their spirits: 1 Cor 9:27
5. Wives of prophets within the assembly must submit to their husbands by showing special silence other women did not have to show: 1 Cor 14:34-35
6. Women must receive instruction with entire submissiveness: 1 Tit 2:11-12

C. Why must we submit to our 11 heads?

1. It is fitting and proper in the Lord: Col 3:18
2. That Word may not be dishonored: Tit 2:5
3. It pleases God: Col 3:20
4. Good and long life: Eph 6:3
5. God will reward: Eph 6:8; Col 3:24
6. Adorns the gospel: Tit 2:10
7. Win to Christ: 1 Pe 3:1

D. How must we submit to our 11 heads?

1. With genuine respect: Eph 5:33
2. In the fear of Christ: Eph 5:21
3. With obedience: Eph 6:5
4. With fear and trembling: Eph 6:5
5. from the heart and soul: Col 3:22-23
6. with a gentle and quiet spirit: 1 Pe 3:4
7. With goodwill, as to the Lord: Eph 6:7
8. Submit as though you were submitting to the Lord: Col 3:23
9. Not eye-service but sincerely from heart: Eph 6:6; Col 3:22
10. Well-pleasing and not argumentative: Tit 2:9
11. To be ready to do any good deed: Tit 3:1
12. With chaste and respectful behavior: 1 Pe 3:2
13. verbally accepting them as leader, boss, authority etc: 1 Pe 3:6 "Sarah called him lord"
14. Clothing yourself with humility: 1 Pe 5:5

E. To what extent must we submit to our heads? "all things"

1. Wives must submit to their husbands as though he were the Lord: Eph 5:22
2. Husband is head of the wife as Christ is head of the church: Eph 5:22
1. As the church is subject to Christ, wives must be subject to their husbands: Eph 5:24
2. Slaves to masters: Tit 2:9 "in everything"
3. Children to parents: Col 3:20 "in all things"
4. Must submit even when mistreated and wronged: 1 Pe 2:18-23
5. In all things not in violation or conflict to God's laws: Acts 5:29

F. "Husband is 'God on Earth?'" God says, "as to the Lord": Eph 5:22

1. When husband requires, it is as if Jesus Christ has spoken to you.
2. No, your husband is not God, you should not worship him, but if he asks you to do something, you should answer him the same way you would answer God if He asked you the same thing.
3. Don't try to dull the edge of submission, twist, explain it away or ignore. Resolve to obey your husband.

E. 10 Bible reasons why a wife must submit to her husband regardless of culture:

1. Creation order: Man was created first, woman second. "For it was Adam who was first created, *and* then Eve. " 1 Timothy 2:13
2. Creation origin: Man and all creation was created by God directly out of dust, whereas woman was created through the man's rib. "Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. " Genesis 2:7 Woman is the only creature not made from dust. Woman derives her origin from Man. "The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. " Genesis 2:22 "For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man" 1 Corinthians 11:8
3. Creation purpose: Woman created for man: "for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake." 1 Corinthians 11:9
4. Man named woman: Adam named the animals and was to rule over them. "Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought *them* to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. " Genesis 2:19 "rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28 When Eve was brought to Adam, he named her, showing he was to rule over woman as well. "The man 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 2:23
5. Delegation principle: God commanded directly to Adam alone. The prohibition to not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, was made directly by God to Adam. Adam, in turn relayed what God said

to Eve. Eve had not yet been created when God told Adam about the forbidden tree. Eve never actually heard God say this direct, but had to trust Adam's word on the matter. "The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.'" Genesis 2:16-18

6. Woman sinned first: The devil tempted Eve and she, not the man, was first deceived. Because of this, man put Eve under the headship of Adam. "And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. " 1 Timothy 2:14; "Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?'" Genesis 3:1
7. God rebuked Adam first after they ate the forbidden fruit: Although Eve was the logical person for God to rebuke first, God went to Adam, showing that God considered Adam the "head of the family" for both. "Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" " Genesis 3:9
8. Man is the glory of God, woman is the glory of man: "For a man is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man." 1 Corinthians 11:7
9. Paul pointed Christians to the Mosaic Law that was 1500 earlier and a different culture: 1 Cor.14:34
10. Peter pointed Christians to Sarah, 2000 years earlier and a very different culture: 1 Pet. 3:5-6.

Submission of Jesus

1 Cor 11:3; 14:28

Submission doesn't make a wife less human than her husband.
Submission doesn't make Jesus less God than the Father.

FATHER

JESUS

MAN

WIFE

God
Creator

Man
Creature

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