## The Curse On the Woman

For several years, this issue of the curse on the woman as set forth by Yahweh God in the Garden of Eden has been of great interest and wonder to me. I would say this entire matter began when a man told me that the male/female aspect of God and His creation is extraordinarily significant and impacting and must be given great attention. Then in 2003 Yahweh began teaching me about the Curse of 1920; and the first and most impacting part of that curse is the Eveonian practice where the woman abandons her place and seeks to be equal to the man. This curse has its roots going all the way back to Eve and the original Garden of Eden. Another way of saying this is that the Garden of Eden was a seed testimony of what would unfold in all mankind, and has never been more encompassing and destructive than today, both in society and in the church. Because of this curse, we are at the very place foretold in Isaiah 3:12:

O My people! Their oppressors are children, and women rule over them. O My people! Those who guide you lead you astray and confuse the direction of your paths.

Given the wide acceptance of this curse, any message addressing its profoundly destructive effects is most often not welcomed, and is even rejected and ridiculed. But, they rejected Yahweh God as well, and crucified His Son; so, their response is a good indication that this message is indeed right.

Yet even with all of this increasing understanding regarding the woman, I still had a question that had not been resolved. Everyone knows what John 3:16 says. But, it was what Genesis 3:16 said regarding the curse on the woman when Adam and Eve sinned that puzzled me. Here is that verse:

To the woman He [Yahweh] said, "I will greatly multiply your pain in childbirth, in pain you will bring forth children; your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

It was the latter part of this two-part curse that puzzled me. At one time, I even thought that the woman's desire for her husband had to be good. That would be a blessing if she lovingly desired him. But, I later came to realize that that was not what this verse was saying. This will be addressed shortly, but you will see that the desire that the woman has in this curse is actually what we see in the Curse of 1920—the woman's desire for the place of the man. Recognizing this, I could then understand how this curse on the woman given by Yahweh God was consistent with all the other curses in that they were each detrimental.

But, there still remained yet another question, and that was: How would the man ruling over the woman be a curse? That actually is good for the woman. First, she then comes under the headship of the man who thereby takes or bears responsibility for the woman. And in addition, it is a protection for her; for it is written that the woman is the weaker vessel (1 Peter 3:7) and is more easily deceived (1 Timothy 2:142, Corinthians 11:3). And one could add yet a third good, and that is that this is indeed the governmental order and way of Yahweh God:

But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ [1 Corinthians 11:3].

So I could not understand or answer why the man ruling over the woman was a part of the curse. Only recently did I gain understanding.

I communicate with a number of people regarding different matters, but there has been one lady with whom the exchange has been far more than usual, for which I am grateful. She has a vast hunger for the kingdom of God and doing what is right; but on the other hand, like all of us, she has her own struggles with this flesh nature. It is not always easy to fulfill the words of Paul—"that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor" (1 Thessalonians 4:4). MOST people today, both the unbeliever and the "believer," completely fail to fulfill and uphold this injunction. This lady at least battles and seeks to discipline the flesh in hopes of achieving what is right.

One of the issues she was struggling with was the distinction between the male and the female. It is also noteworthy that on another occasion she asked me directly whether I could be taught by a woman. My reply was that I could be taught by anyone who has truth. Truth is not always gender relevant. Just give me truth and I will listen. However, though a woman may have truth and can share it with me or another individual in general conversation, she does not have the right to teach as one who has authority. (Of course the exception is women teaching other women to be godly women and mothers, Titus 2:3-5.) The Scriptures are very straightforward concerning this:

A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise the authority of a man, but to remain quiet [1 Timothy 2:11-12].

As in all the churches of the saints, the women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church. ... But if anyone does not recognize *this*, he is not recognized [1 Corinthians 14:33-35, 38].

After this lady wrote to me a string of e-mails questioning this matter of the man and the woman, gratefully before I had time to respond once again, she followed with an e-mail with the subject: "taking back some of what I said." Her own answer to her questions, which I will cover in full, was most helpful and insightful to me, providing the understanding I needed regarding the man ruling over the woman. But before sharing this, let us first examine precisely what the latter part of Genesis 3:16 is saying.

Without a doubt, this is one of the most revealing and impacting verses there is in the entire Bible. This examination previously took place in the writing, <u>Divorce, Women, and the Curse of 1920</u>, page 2, but it is entirely worthy and even necessary to repeat here as well. Here again is that subject portion in Genesis 3:16:

"your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

As noted, there are two ways of looking at this passage. First, one could say that the woman's desire would be good—that she desires her husband, and as her head, her husband rules over her. But again, this verse is a curse on the woman, and this first view is not a curse at all. So, what could the passage truly be saying? We will examine this at some length, as it is FULLY worthy of our attention, and will see exactly what is being said here.

The Hebrew word used here for "desire"—"your **desire** will be for your husband"—is "teshuqah," and is used only three times in the entire Old Testament. Of course it is used here in Genesis 3:16, and as well as in Genesis 4:7, and then later in Song of Solomon 7:10.

It is interesting that these two other places where the Hebrew word "teshuqah" is used reveals both of these divergent possibilities. On the positive side, Song of Solomon reads: "I am my beloved's, and his desire [teshuqah] is for me." This is the song of the bride, and her husband's desire is for her. This is of course the desire that Yahshua has for His bride, and is obviously quite positive and would support that the desire the woman will have for her husband is good and affords her protection as she submits to him.

But Genesis 4:7 supports even more compellingly that the desire the woman will have as a curse is to usurp her husband, who is Yahweh's ordained head over her. In Genesis 4:7 we read His warning to Cain, who ignored this and slew his brother, Abel:

"If you do well, you will be exalted. And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire [teshuqah] is for you, but you must master it."

After Yahweh declares this curse upon the woman in Genesis 3:16, only fourteen verses later we find this statement that is remarkably and unmistakably parallel, even using the identical Hebrew word, and even words. Note the clear parallel between these two.

"your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

and

## "[sin's] desire is for you, but you must master it."

Confirming this distinct parallel, we find that not only is the identical Hebrew word for "desire" used (teshuqah), but also the identical Hebrew word for "rule over" and "master" is used—mashal. Thus we have this stunning parallel:

"your desire [teshuqah] will be for your husband, and he will rule over [mashal] you."

and

"[sin's] desire [teshuqah] is for you, but you must rule over [mashal] it."

The parallel here is so unmistakable that one must conclude Yahweh was laying out repetitive identical truths—fleshly desires must be ruled over! Thus, clearly, the choice in Genesis 3:16 is: the woman can be led by her sinful desires and seek to usurp her husband, and he will rule and dominate over her; or, as instructed to Cain in Genesis 4:7, the woman can rule over her desires and conquer sin by submitting to her husband, acknowledging the place of authority wherein Yahweh God has placed him, as it is written, "Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of woman." And what is the outcome of the latter for the woman? Whether it be now in this life, or as a reward later before God, it is the same as that promised in Genesis 4:7:

"If you do well, you will be exalted."

This is of course repeated by Yahshua:

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:11).

Let us briefly look at yet another evidence that the curse on the woman is to be equal to the man. This is addressed in the writing, <u>Male and Female: The Pattern of God and His Creation</u>, under the item "<u>The perpetual sin of Eve</u>." That entire writing is well worth your reading and study.

We find that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was masculine, and the tree of life was feminine. When Adam and Eve ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Yahweh declared, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:22). Thus, when they ate from that tree, they became like the Godhead, which is clearly masculine. In contrast, "Eve" means "life," and in Genesis 3:20 she is called "the mother of all the living." Thus, the tree of life was feminine.

While masculine Adam was parallel to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, feminine Eve was parallel to the tree of life. Therefore, the sin that Eve in fact committed, and is the origin of the subject curse on the woman, is that she wanted to be like the man, in the place of the man. This is clearly evidenced in Satan's temptation, as he offered her: "For God knows that in the day you eat from it [the masculine tree of the knowledge of good and evil] your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God** [masculine], knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5). Again, the woman desired to be like and in the place of the masculine. Because of this iniquity and sin of the woman, Yahweh cursed her with the curse we now more fully understand.

Therefore, without a doubt, the true and accurate translation or message of Genesis 3:16 regarding the curse on the woman is:

"your desire will be for [the place of] your husband, and he will rule over you."

Let us now turn to that which the lady shared with me, which was so very helpful. Also, the points she presented were gleaned from a book titled, *Biblical Foundations for Manhood and Womanhood*. I have not read this book, but it evidently addresses the distinct relationships of the man and the woman. She began with the following statement, followed by six enumerated points, and afterwards concluded with by far the most compelling and revealing point of all. Here was her opening statement:

I see now how Adam was given authority even before the fall, and still had the authority after the fall based on the facts that:

We will now proceed with those six attesting facts relative to this curse on the woman. I will use my own words to present them, elaborating on them when beneficial. Of course there are many more attesting evidences regarding this than these listed here, including such passages as 1 Corinthians 11:3 and other direct instructions found throughout the Scriptures. But these are most certainly worthy points here.

#1. First is the matter of headship, and with headship comes responsibility. Adam was created first, and for this reason the Scriptures tell us that the woman does not have the authority to teach:

A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve. And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression [1 Timothy 2:11-14].

We also see here that the woman is more easily deceived, leading to transgression, providing even greater reason for the man's sole authority to teach and to govern—in the home, in society, and in the church.

- #2. Adam, not Eve, represented the whole of the human race. 1 Corinthians 15:22 does not say, "For as in Eve all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive." But rather it says, "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive." Adam is credited with us inheriting our sinful state, not Eve.
- #3. Adam was given the responsibility to name every creature, before his wife was created (Genesis 2:19-20). And when she was created, he named her as well (Genesis 2:23). Preceding this, God had authority to name His creation: "God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. ... God called the expanse heaven. ... God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas" (Genesis 1:5, 8, and 10). Then in Genesis 2:19-20 He transferred that naming authority to Adam, including naming Eve. Possessing the authority to name things, as with God, Adam thereby had authority over them as well (Genesis 1:26), including the woman.

#4. God called the human race "man." "This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man [Adam], He made him in the likeness of God" (Genesis 5:1). ALL genealogy throughout the entire Bible, beginning with Adam, is reckoned specifically through the male, clearly attesting to his governmental headship. This is attested in marriage as well whereby, appropriately, the woman takes on the surname/family name of her husband.

#5. After Adam and Eve sinned, Yahweh God called unto the man, Adam, who answered Him (Genesis 3:9). Yahweh first held Adam accountable for what happened. In most interesting and revealing contrast, the serpent spoke to Eve first, reversing the order of the government established at creation. This is the order that mankind seeks today, and is equally from the serpent.

#6. Adam leads in purpose. Eve was created to be a "helper" to Adam (Genesis 2:18), and Adam was not to be a helper to Eve. After creation, the woman was one in purpose with Adam—they were truly "one flesh," and she fully complimented her husband. Adam and Eve lived in perfection before the fall, which according to Yahweh's pattern was for seven years. During that time, there would not have been a single Adam/Eve, male/female conflict. Eve would have done nothing but the will of her husband. With the fall came the curse that the woman would desire the place of the man. Thus, it was not until after the fall and its resulting curse that Yahweh God said that the man would rule over the woman. The pain and conflict in the home and in society, including the Curse of 1920, is the result of the fall. It did not exist before the fall.

The conclusion of the lady who shared this was that the fall "warped the roles" of the man and the woman, but did not introduce new roles. Just as we saw relative to Cain, the woman would be tempted to rebel against her husband's authority, or even women would rebel against men ruling in civil governance and in the church as we see evidenced in pandemic proportions today. But the lady who shared this insight was concerned that the man would rule forcefully and harshly over the woman. She rightly stated: "I think men should be careful to treat Godly women with dignity, respect, and love; and women should treat Godly men with respect and love."

This is a just and right requirement for both the man and the woman. The man is to love his wife, "just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her" (Ephesians 5:25). Husbands are to "live with [their] wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered" (1 Peter 3:7). Wives are to "be subject to [their] own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives are subject to their husbands in everything" (Ephesians 5:22-24).

The lady continued: "When we women realize we are to be the example of the church submitting to Christ, and the men realize they are to treat us like Christ treats His church, wow, that is so eye opening. We truly do need one another, and we need to be working in harmony AGAINST the curse. ... To the extent that we obey, we

re-establish the intended original beauty of Adam and Eve's relationship." The latter here is a most worthy goal and purpose.

Now for the concluding most compelling and revealing point of all. If one wants to understand what the relationship between the man and the woman is supposed to be, all they have to do is look at the relationship between the Father and the Son. Government is government, and it is most certainly intentionally and of necessity replicable—"Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:3).

This is indeed the clearest and most compelling and wholly impacting evidence there is as to what the relationship was between Adam and Eve before the fall, and how the relationship between a man and a wife is supposed to be when resisting sin and overcoming the curse on the woman.

Let us look at just four testimonies from John regarding this relationship between Yahshua and the Father. Yahshua continually declared:

"Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless *it is* something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner" (John 5:19).

"When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him" (John 8:28-29).

"For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment *as to* what to say and what to speak. I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me" (John 12:49-50).

"Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works" (John 14:10).

Ladies, here is the example of the wife and her husband—as Yahshua did the will of and pleased the Father, so the wife is to do likewise regarding her husband. You will notice, He did not demand His "rights" for "individuality" or being His "own person" or even suggesting a "partner" relationship. But rather, His complete and total fulfillment was in reflecting and doing the will of His own head, the Father. This should be the will for every wife in relation to her husband.

Therefore, let's change these verses to reflect that replicable relationship. If wives are to "be subject to [their] own husbands, as to the Lord," how much moreso is it true that they are to be subject to their husbands as Yahshua is subject to the Father? And keep in mind here ladies, this was undoubtedly the relationship between Eve and Adam before the fall. Therefore, we read:

Truly, truly, I say to you, the wife can do nothing of herself, unless it is something she sees her husband doing; for whatever the husband does, these things the wife also does in like manner.

The wife does nothing on her own initiative, but she speaks those things as her husband taught her (1 Corinthians 14:35). The wife always does the things that are pleasing to her husband.

For the wife does not speak on her own initiative, but her husband who sends her has given her a commandment as to what to say and what to speak.

Do you not believe that the wife is in her husband, and the husband is in the wife? The words that the wife says, she does not speak on her own initiative, but her husband abiding in her does his works.

This is a MOST wonderful testimony! But you say, this is not a perfect world, and the husband is not perfect, as the Father is perfect. But even so, we are clearly instructed: "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). This which Yahshua said here was spoken in a setting much like that which a wife might find herself in with a difficult husband. Here are the verses that precede this statement in Matthew 5:48:

But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **so that you may be sons of your Father** [which is what we were just seeing] who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? (verses 44-46)

This exhortation then to be perfect is relative to doing good to those who do not deserve it, and this can most certainly be the case for some wives who have difficult husbands. But we must look at things from God's perspective—not out of selfishness or the ways of the world. Regarding ill treatment, we are equally instructed that when treated unreasonably by others who have authority over us, we are still to give them honor, and thereby receive a reward from Yahweh:

For this *finds* favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly. For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer *for it* you patiently endure it, this *finds* favor with God [1 Peter 2:19-20].

So, how does this relate to wives? In a very specific, direct, and relevant way. After the above statement, followed then by setting forth the example of Yahshua who "suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps" (verses 2:21-23), Peter therefore draws the intended conclusion:

**In the same way, you wives**, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any *of them* are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior [1 Peter 3:1].

Some wives might also object here—"But I'm not perfect!" But again, you too are instructed: "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." And let us recall as well the passage that is parallel to the curse on the woman, that "sin is crouching at the door, and its desire is for you; **but you must rule over it**." Not only is it an everlasting treasure to lay yourself down for your husband and stand in the place of Yahshua, but you are instructed to overcome the sin of Eve and the curse on the woman.

Ladies, and men equally as well, in Obadiah 1:21 we read in a literal translation: "The saviors will ascend Mount Zion to judge the mountain of Esau, and the kingdom will be Yahweh's." Do you notice here that it is "saviors," plural, who ascend Mount Zion? Not just a Savior, ... but saviors! So, how is it that these become saviors? **By laying down their lives according to the way and example of the Savior.** Wives become saviors, qualifying to ascend Mount Zion, by identifying with Yahshua, just as they are explicitly instructed in 1 Peter 2:21 through 3:1—"In the same way [as Yahshua], you wives, be submissive to your own husbands ...." The Scriptures clearly lay out not only your responsibility as a wife, but also your opportunity to become and qualify as a savior who will ascend Mount Zion.

People today do not think in this manner. Instead they think like and have become conformed to the world, taking on the ways and attitudes of the world. But ladies, your place as a godly woman cannot be—"I have my rights"; but rather—"I have my place." You stand in the place of Yahshua when you respond to your husband in the same way He responded to the Father. This is effectual replicable government, and you have the opportunity of a lifetime to conform to the Savior by becoming a savior yourself.

Equally, in John 16:7 and 15:26 Yahshua declared: "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. ... When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me." Ladies, you equally have the greatest opportunity in the world to stand in the place of the Holy Spirit—becoming a helper to your husband, and by your actions indeed testifying about Yahshua. In the creation account, Yahweh declared in like manner: "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him" (Genesis 2:18). The truth you can evidence to your husband as his helper is the example of a godly woman whose role in life is to do the will of her husband with obedience and sacrifice, just as Yahshua set forth the example for you.

Furthermore, as addressed in *Kissing, Lips, and Attesting Glory*, page 3, page 4, and page 5, we see that Yahshua came to this earth in a female role—laying down His life for us. This was not in the male role whereby He will take His place as Immanuel and have the right to rule, but in the female role as a servant—"the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). He first served, and thereby gained the right to rule.

Ladies, you have the greatest and most honorable opportunity ever to stand in the place of Yahshua as a servant, by living your life for your husband. If you do not do this, but rather seek to stand in the place of the man or reject him, you affirm and fulfill the Genesis 3:16 curse on the woman; and as Yahshua declared relative to John the Baptist, you seek to take the kingdom by force and the marriage relationship suffers violence

(Matthew 11:12). You utterly fail "to possess [your] own vessel [as a woman] in sanctification and honor" (1 Thessalonians 4:4). Your vessel at this time is that of a servant, a woman, and you fail to be faithful with the role and responsibility with which you have been entrusted. Like the angels of Jude 1:6, you abandon your proper abode and do not keep your own domain as a woman. I encourage you to watch the video, "Abandoned!"

Thus we see that wives are in a MOST important and opportune place in life: (1) to be a savior and ascend Mount Zion, (2) to be a helper and your actions thereby testify about Yahshua, and (3) to be a servant and live a life as He lived—I did not come to be served but to serve, and to give my life for others. In all three remarkable accounts, clearly the woman/wife is to walk in the role of Yahshua—occupying a most important place, one in which Satan has once again tempted her to abandon.

Where else do we see this replicable governmental truth regarding the curse on the woman? We find that the curse of the man ruling over the woman is a response to the woman seeking the place of the man. We have also seen that Yahshua demonstrated what the relationship between the man and the woman should be by His relationship with the Father, whereby He did nothing but the will of the Father. If the woman did nothing but the will of her husband (this is not to eliminate the value of the husband and the wife discussing matters), then there would be no need for the man to have to rule over her. And this is precisely what we see taught elsewhere in the Scriptures. Again, governmental truth is replicable.

In Galatians 5:22-23 we read:

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

In like message, in 1 Timothy 1:9 we read:

[The] law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious.

And adding yet another example of this, in Romans 2:14-15 we read:

For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them.

Thus we see that when one is "one flesh" with doing what is right, then the law is not even necessary. This is obviously what Romans 2:15 speaks of here about the Law being written in one's heart, and is repeated in Hebrews 8:10: "I [Yahweh] will put My Laws into their minds, and I will write them on their hearts" (Hebrews 8:10).

If the wife had the will of her husband written on her heart, even the laws of God regarding the place of the woman written on her heart, then the husband would never have to rule over her, applying the law. As it is written, the law is not for the righteous, but for the lawless and rebellious. If the wife does righteously, there is no need for law.

So, let us here repeat what the lady who shared this with me said: "When we women realize we are to be the example of the church submitting to Christ, and the men realize they are to treat us like Christ treats His church, wow, that is so eye opening."

Thus we now see and understand why the man ruling over the woman is a curse. It has everything to do with the first part of that statement—that the desire of the woman would be for the place of the man. We also see that the order between the man and the woman before the fall was that the two were in every way one. Even as Yahshua demonstrated when He came to this earth whereby He did nothing but the will of the Father, so Eve did likewise before the fall. The Father NEVER had to rule over the Son, nor did Adam rule over Eve—"against such things there is no law." But with Eve's rebellion, so came the curse of the man having to rule over the wife, the woman.

Let us then close with the promise to Cain and for every woman who chooses to walk in the ways of our example—the Savior:

"If you do well, you will be exalted."

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

## **TESTIMONIES**

It is most interesting how truth can cause such opposite responses. This was most certainly the case with the publication of the *The Curse On the Woman*. First, here was the response from a woman who has repeatedly placed herself in the position of wanting to teach and correct me. She had a very brief and pointed reply:

## TAKE ME OFF YOUR LIST !!!

On the other hand, here is the response from two other women. The first is one who has studied Bride truths for some time now, though initially could not grasp them but kept coming back. Her response is what these teachings regarding the woman are all about—the hopes of producing good fruits in people's lives, in establishing righteousness and wholesomeness. In clear contrast to the other lady, she replied:



As always, this writing is amazing. Within the last couple of months I have been working on submitting to all things concerning my husband, more so than ever realizing that it is the smallest of things that become most valuable in helping to submit to the "big things." Actually, the big things become quite natural now without even a second thought on how to do so. It has also made me take one giant step backward to review my heart's only desire throughout my entire life to be a godly wife, and realized it cannot be a partial submissiveness but a complete giving of myself in order to truly become one flesh with him. This

writing has not only confirmed what I have made my number one priority to achieve in this life, but again as always gives me solid guidance in how to do so.

As always, I thank you again and again and again.

I replied to her and asked if I could share her comments with others. She was most glad for this, adding this wonderful and affirming truth and encouragement:

You may absolutely share my response. I pray other woman receive the blessing rather than the curse. Being a woman, I myself would much rather receive the blessing, and cannot understand why any woman would choose the curse by not staying in our place, as you clearly point out. I fully understand humility as you shared straight from the Scriptures, and again don't understand what is so terrible about that. So to choose to be equal and/or greater and pay such a horrific price? Mind boggling!

She then replied once again with such wonderful revealing, exemplary, and certainly profound truth:

I'm sorry, I have to add one more thing that I think all women should know. In walking this submissive walk much more seriously of recent, I found that it was not about handing over my "power" to my husband where it would be abused by him. Actually, quite the opposite has happened. He now has a deep appreciation for me, a respect I did not anticipate, and a love that has grown so deep. There are no other words to describe it but as godly and true. I wake up every morning actually excited to do more for him, because what I am feeling I so want to share with him. Bottom line, I have found a great respect and honor for the man's proper place, and there truly is no blessing outside of this governmental order. Humility should first come with realizing Yahweh has our best interest in mind. Why would we fight Him or think we are any wiser? In fact you are 100% right—it's as bad as usurping the place of the Almighty, and is exactly what we do when we usurp the place of the man!

Her reply is indeed filled with incredible truth and is well worth every woman reading, and most certainly practicing. It is the way of Yahweh God. The woman has the greatest opportunity in the world to identify with Yahshua and be pleasing not only to her husband but to the Father as well, following in the ways of Yahshua. Oh what a privilege and opportunity for reward that every woman possesses! As this lady so well pointed out, set forth before every woman are the blessing and the curse. As stated in Deuteronomy 30:19, so is the choice: "I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants."

Ladies, choose life, ... not the curse!



Here is the second lady's reply. She is married to an alcoholic husband, and others have encouraged her to leave him. But she is not going to, which I have supported and encouraged. Here she refers to being "a 'savior' and meet Yahshua upon the Holy

Mountain" by keeping her place as a wife and making sacrifices in supporting her husband. What she is referring to here is of course addressed in *The Curse On the Woman* and comes from Obadiah 1:21, which literally reads: "The saviors [plural] will ascend Mount Zion to judge the mountain of Esau, and the kingdom will be Yahweh's." I have encouraged her to become a "savior" to her husband by serving and honoring him, even as it is written in 1 Peter 3:1-2. We all have this opportunity of laying our life down for others, even as we are instructed and given the example in the Savior. Our greatest identification with Yahshua is in sacrificing our life for the sake of others; and we have that opportunity all the time, in one form or another, and to one degree or another. If we are indeed a follower of Yahshua, our life will be a living sacrifice for others.

I read and spiritually digested your new article, *The Curse On the Woman*. It is truly amazing to me the church has never realized these important links in Scripture. They are so very essential to kingdom living. I will most certainly ask for the Holy Spirit's strength to "be perfect" and apply them to my marriage.

Gary, it is so exciting that I can become a "savior" and meet Yahshua upon the Holy Mountain by keeping my place as a wife and making sacrifices in the way of supporting my husband. It is not easy to shut out the cries of the "women of the world" who have it so very wrong.

In the past two years I have lost two of my very best friends, Beth and JoAnn. Let me tell you about each of them. My friend Beth was 65. She married young and had two girls. When the girls were in their early teens, Beth's husband committed adultery with her best friend. Then he began to drink, and finally left the home. Beth was 30 when this happened. Although Beth and her husband remained separated, she refused to get a divorce. She made a vow before God, and meant at all costs to keep true to it. Five years later, her husband's relationship fell through. He remained single, struggling with his alcoholism and trying to forgive himself for the hurt he caused Beth and his two children. Beth encouraged him, though it was long distance. For over 30 years she turned down possible relationships, and struggled to financially make it on her own and to successfully raise her two girls, which she did. She forgave him. At her funeral, her husband came forth to speak. He said if it had not been for Beth's devotion, encouragement, and love, he would have lost all hope. Although they never got back together, she had remained faithful to him. Some of her friends thought she was nuts not to have divorced her husband, but Beth was determined to keep her spoken vow. She died a virtuous wife, still fully devoted to her husband over thirty years after the infidelity.

My friend JoAnn was a "manly, worldly" woman of absolute compromise. After devoting her life to doing a man's career, she met Bob at work. They married, and JoAnn was the one who "wore the pants." She made it very clear to Bob that she would run the house. And she did. But at a high cost! Her life was draining away with each high paycheck. Each weekend she bought costly supplies for art, knitting, musical instruments, and things her inward woman was calling her to do. The sad thing was she never had time to do any of it, due to her 50-hour-aweek career, with training on the weekends. She and Bob had a six-bedroom house (just the two of them) filled to overflowing with things, things, and more

things like expensive knitting machines, looms, crafts, woodwork, etc. You could hardly walk around in their home. Soon, JoAnn realized she was compromising her heart. She was losing control. But, it was too late. She developed a tumor on her ovary. It grew and grew and grew.

JoAnn went to so-called "new age witch doctors" who gave her herbs, and she refused to remove the tumor, as she "wanted to have control over it." After all, her career had told her that, yes, she was in control. But finally, after four years of bleeding and growing, the tumor morphed into cancer. When they finally removed it the cancer had spread, and three days later JoAnn was dead. Her husband, Bob, was left with not knowing what to do with all her "stuff." He became so overwhelmed that he just left. Nobody knows where he is. What a sad end for both of them.

I loved both of my friends very much. They taught me a lot. I saw Beth's steadfast devotion; one that the world could never appreciate. I saw JoAnn compromise her heart as a woman who wanted to stay home and knit, crochet, work with yarn, do art, etc. But she was a slave to her job, wearing pants and donning a man's haircut. She even wore man's shoes! She tried to run the house and marriage, but in the end ran herself to her own death; and nobody, not even I, could save her. Each time I told her to have the tumor taken out, her reply was always the same: "I am in control over it." But the tumor ended her life.

Gary, as I read your article I thought about these two women who were dear to my heart. I think they were both strong women, but one was strong in the wrong way, as the roles were all mixed up. And look what the final cost was—JoAnn's very life. Beth was the "hero," and I am sure she is a savior who will show up on Mt. Zion. She sacrificed much by staying true to her vow and being supportive to an impossible man, but she died in virtue. She was meek and lead the life of a poor woman, but happy in her little abode. People called her a "radiant woman," and this she was, until a sudden stroke took her life in an instant.

Well, I just wanted to share this with you, as my heart remembered these two friends who are no longer with me. I reflected upon both while reading your article.



I am most grateful for these comments. Very interestingly and encouraging, the more I address this matter regarding the woman, the more contact I receive from women affirming this truth. Why should I be surprised? There are many women like these two ladies "in whose heart are the highways to Zion" (Psalm 84:5).

If you would like to share an encouraging story as a woman, or about a woman, send it to me. I will consider publishing it as well for others to read. Send your story/testimony to me at <a href="mailto:gary@remnantbride.com">gary@remnantbride.com</a>. I look forward to hearing from you.