

Titus 2:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

Analysis

To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands—five qualities: σώφρονας (sophronas, self-controlled/discreet), ἀγνάς (agnas, pure/chaste), οἰκουργούς (oikourgous, working at home/domestic), ἀγαθάς (agathas, good/kind), ὑποτασσομένας τοῖς ἴδιοις ἀνδράσιν (hypotassomenas tois idiois andrasin, submitting to their own husbands). This isn't universal female subordination but wives to their own husbands—authority in the marriage covenant, not gender hierarchy outside it.

That the word of God be not blasphemed (ἴνα μὴ ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ βλασφημῆται, hina mē ho logos tou theou blasphēmētai)—the ultimate concern: God's reputation. When Christian wives live counter-culturally godly lives, critics can't mock Christianity. When they conform to worldliness, they give occasion for slander (βλασφημέω, blasphēmeō). Gospel witness requires lived demonstration.

Historical Context

Greco-Roman household codes emphasized wifely submission, making Christianity's teaching unremarkable culturally. But Christian theology transformed pagan duty into joyful gospel obedience. The household (οἶκος, oikos) was the basic economic and social unit; godly homes provided visible gospel apologetics to watching pagan neighbors.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. Does your marriage adorn the gospel or provide ammunition for critics to blaspheme God's word?
2. How do you navigate cultural opposition to biblical complementarity without either compromising Scripture or unnecessarily offending?
3. In what specific ways does your life as a Christian woman demonstrate gospel transformation to watching unbelievers?

Interlinear Text

σώφρονας ἀγνάς οἰκουρούς ἀγαθάς ὑποτασσομένας τοῖς

To be discreet **chaste** **keepers at home** **good** **obedient** G3588
G4998 G53 G3626 G18 G5293

ἰδίοις ἀνδράσιν ἵνα μὴ ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ

to their own **husbands** G2443 G3361 G3588 **the word** G3588 **of God** G2316
G2398 G435 G3056 G987

βλασφημῆται

be

G987

Additional Cross-References

Colossians 3:18 (Parallel theme): Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

1 Timothy 5:10 (Good): Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.

Genesis 3:16 (Parallel theme): Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

Ephesians 5:33 (Parallel theme): Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Acts 9:36 (Good): Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

Proverbs 7:11 (Parallel theme): (She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house:

1 Timothy 6:1 (References God): Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed.