The Battle of the Sexes  
Genesis 3:16; 4:7

Introduction

I The Woman’s Battle
A. The biblical description of the curse:
   1. The curse: “Your desire will be for your husband”
      a. What it doesn’t mean: “Sexual drive”
      b. What it does mean: “To usurp authority” - Gen 4:7
   2. The rationale for this sinful response:
      a. A woman’s innate drive to protect her marriage
      b. A woman’s innate drive to protect her family
      c. A woman’s innate drive to protect her home
   3. The extreme responses to this curse:
      a. Aggressive: Domination of the husband
      b. Passive: Subjugation to the husband
B. The biblical evidence of the curse:
   1. Commands to submit to her husband - Eph 5:22-24
   2. Commands to respect to her husband - Eph 5:33
   3. Commands to not nag or quarrel - Judg 16:15-16; Prov 27:15-16
   4. Commands to obey her husband - 1 Pt 3:5-6
C. The biblical solution to the curse:
   1. Accept the Bible’s universal diagnosis:
      a. Stop defending your motives
      b. Stop justifying your behavior
      c. Stop rationalizing your sin
   2. Accept the Bible’s remedy:
      a. You must master it! - Gen 4:7; Rom 6:8-23

II The Man’s Battle
A. The biblical description of the curse
   1. The curse: “But he (the husband) will rule over you”
      a. What it doesn’t mean: He will be the metro-man
      b. What it does mean: “He will be prone to dominate”
   2. The rationale for this sinful response:
      a. A man’s innate drive to lead
      b. A man’s innate drive to achieve
      c. A man’s innate drive to conquer
   3. The extreme responses to this curse:
      a. Aggressive: Domination of the wife
      b. Passive: Subjugation to the wife
B. The biblical evidence of the weakness
   1. Commands to love/cherish his wife - Eph 5:25-28
   2. Commands to be considerate toward his wife - 1 Pt 3:7a
   3. Commands to not be harsh with his wife - Col 3:19
   4. Commands to treat his wife with respect - 1 Pt 3:7b
C. The biblical solution to the curse
   1. Accept the Bible’s universal diagnosis:
      a. Stop defending your motives
      b. Stop justifying your behavior
      c. Stop rationalizing your sin
   2. Accept the Bible’s remedy:
      a. You must master it! - Gen 4:7; Rom 6:8-23

III The Pathway to Mastering Sin and Winning the Battle
A. You must be born again - Jn 3:5-7; 2 Cor 5:17; Lk 9:23
B. Submit/enslave yourself to God - Jam 4:7; Rom 6:11-14, 22
C. Put the sinful nature to death and be filled, led and empowered by the Spirit - Rom 8:1-15; Eph 4:22-24
D. Renew your mind daily through the Word - Rom 12:2
E. Be transformed into Christ’s likeness - Rom 8:29; 2Cor 3:18
F. Access God’s resources: Prayer, worship, fellowship, etc.

Bob Hallman - The Epic Life
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