

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 6:11-14

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 means: "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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