



The Necessity for Husbands to Respect their Wives' Free Will in Marriage: Problems Caused by Self-Centered Husbands & Antiauthoritarian Wives

10. It is because men do not respect the free will of the woman that so many problems are created in marriage. Some of the ramifications of this kind of neglect need to be noted:
 1. Although the woman is a responder her volition must be free to respond. To abuse a woman either verbally or physically is to severely damage her ability to respond from her own free will.
 2. A husband who is kind and thoughtful only when he is desirous of sex but mean and selfish otherwise is simply using his wife as an outlet for libido. There is no coalescence of souls or bodies in this case.
 3. The woman has a right to receive from her husband the same love and devotion that Jesus Christ directs toward His church. To not do so is to destroy a marriage while continuing the charade of physical sex but with no soul rapport.
 4. A woman's security is not found in possessions, wealth, and social standing. Some of the most miserable women on earth are those who have emphasized such things.
 5. Whether with or without the accouterments of prosperity these women are miserable simply because their husbands do not give them the attention they need.
 6. The material possessions of this life are insignificant if the privileges of marriage are not enjoyed to the fullest. Men who are caught up in career paths that demand 12- to 14-hour days loose out on the sheer pleasure of having a woman to love and have her love him back.
 7. A woman requires attention, acceptance, care, and most of all the love of her husband. But if he is not there her volition is frustrated by the absence of the one to whom she is designed to respond.
 8. Men too often force sex on their wives assuming that sex is love and assume their wives do not love them if they are not suddenly responsive to their impulsive demands.
 9. This kind of treatment damages the natural responsiveness of the woman. Over time she becomes disinterested in sex since it is only treated as a physical release by her husband with no soul rapport to sustain it.
 10. The insinuation that because the man "brings home the bacon" he is entitled to sex on demand is an insult to the woman and is detrimental to her ability to respond.
 11. The man would be rendered certifiably mad if he had the day-by-day responsibility of dealing with children and maintaining the home.
 12. A real marriage is built on real love, the kind that is demonstrated by the love Christ has for the church and that the church has reciprocally for Christ.
 13. Therefore, true love is a mental attitude. And part of that mental attitude is to respect the free will of the other. The best stimulant the husband can offer his wife is to love her unconditionally and to demonstrate that affection at all times.
 14. By the same token the woman must be responsive to the husband who devotes himself to her. It is frustrating to the man if his expressions of love and affection are constantly met by complaints, jealousy, bitterness, and the pitching of walled fits.
 15. And worst of all is the domineering woman who fulfills the Lord's prophecy in:

Genesis 3:16c - "You will lust to usurp power from your husband."

 16. The ability of a man to elicit responsiveness from this type of woman is seriously damaged and any physical relationship they have is far below the quality designed by God for a corporate marriage between believers.
 1. Therefore, it is imperative that both the man and the woman understand the importance of each other's free will.
 2. The man who intimidates his wife for sex may well get his wish but sex with a body minus soul rapport is just raw emotion for him and a household chore for the wife.



3. The marital relationship cannot function properly unless the man respects his wife's volition and the wife must understand that her husband's volition carries with it both responsibility and accountability before the Lord.
4. Therefore, the importance of sex as a unique act designed only for marriage is emphasized by the Shulammitte's advice to the Virgins: "Do not arouse or awaken my love until she pleases."
5. The Shulammitte has no desire to be "aroused" by Solomon. Her passion and desire is directed toward her Shepherd. She manages her sexual desires through imagination which enables her to restrain her sexual energy until they are married.
6. Nevertheless, although her response is to the Shepherd, she, like the female gazelle does not actively respond to his aggressiveness as a male until her "love" pleases.
7. In other words, imagination is sufficient for the moment and once the time is right she can then give herself completely and totally to him.
8. The relationship of the man and woman in marriage is dependent upon a healthy physical relationship. The physiology and psychology behind this is a biblical principle we have noted in previous studies.