

# **“Sarah’s Daughters”**

## **And**

# **“Abraham’s Sons”**

**Opening comments: Some may wonder how this applies to women who are not married. First of all, it is a list of good qualities of womanhood. It is not difficult to apply these principles to single women, and I will try to make some applications. A little thought will do wonders.**

### **1. Qualities of a “Sarah’s Daughter.” 1 Pet 3:1-6**

In the same way, you wives, be submissive (**Pres Pas Ptc = being submissive; indicating an ongoing activity; not a command; indicates to arrange your life in conjunction with his**) to your own (**IDIOS = your own; not someone else’s**) husbands (**implies that which is a moral and legal obligation**) 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 (**there is potential, not a promise as volition is involved**), 2 as they observe (**EPOPTUW = 2x; to view attentively; cf 2:12;**) your chaste and respectful behavior (**the-in fear-pure behavior; the pure behavior with respect**). 3 And let not your adornment be merely external — braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; (**it is saying to make an effort to look good for him**) 4 but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. (**the real attitude of respect for God’s plan, whether or not there is respect for the man; guarantee: at times he will not be worthy of respect; and you won’t be worthy of honor**) 5 For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands. 6 Thus Sarah obeyed Abraham, **calling him lord**, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear (**PTO8SIS = 1x; terror; actually stronger than the word “fear.” A terror indicates that she has truly become a living sacrifice**).

### **2. The original context is Genesis 18:9-15.**

Then they said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "There, in the tent." 10 He said, "I will surely return to you at this time next year; and behold, Sarah your wife will have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door, which was behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; Sarah was past childbearing. 12 Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have become old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?" 13 And the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, when I am so old?' 14 "Is anything too difficult for the Lord (**How about being a Sarah’s daughter? Or a Prov 31 wife?**)? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son." 15 Sarah denied it however, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. And He said, "No, but you did laugh."

**A. The female sin nature desires to rule her husband, but hates it when she does. Gen 3:15**

- B. **The male sin nature has a tendency to shirk responsibility and blame others. Gen 3:12**
- C. **The battle is not against the flesh and blood of others but against the tendencies of our own flesh. Eph 6:12 cf Gal 5:19-21**
- D. **Therefore, it is not for us to judge one another, but to examine ourselves. Gal 6:4-5**

But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another. 5 For each one will bear his own load.

(Satan is a “finger pointer.” One who passes the buck to others with the blame game.)

**Lord, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. St. Francis of Assisi.**

### 3. **Five Qualities of a Sarah’s Daughter:**

- A. **A Sarah’s Daughter submits to her husband’s authority. Eph 5:24**

(The test for a wife is to arrange her life to be a helpmate to her husband. For a single woman it is to arrange her life around other authorities and responsibilities. The Lord is first. A boss. Any she has volunteered to help.)

But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. **Col 3:18** Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

**The application concerning sin: one can legitimately appeal to a higher authority. Authorities may not legitimately order subordinates to sin. If it happens, an appeal can be made. Compliance is voluntary. Bad things might happen for rejection. Not to violate principles of morality or directives of the Word of God. (Dan 1) This is not to be a “Master-Slave” relationship, but a bond of love. It is not saying all women are stupid, or less than a man (all are equal in Christ), or subhuman, but rather it is a recognition of the divine assignment.**

1). **The first submission in life is to God Himself. Jas 4:7**  
Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

2). **Submission to authority is for all people. Rom 13:1-4**  
**(Men should be a “Sarah’s Daughter” as part of the Bride of Christ. Ask how you would want to be treated.)**

Let every person be in **subjection** to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. 2 Therefore he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. 3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same; 4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do

what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath upon the one who practices evil.

**3). Submission to legitimate authority, and doing what is right is designed to silence the ignorance of foolish people. 1 Pet 2:13-15**

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, 14 or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. 15 For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.

**4). We are to submit to one another out of reverence for our Lord Jesus Christ. Eph 5:21**

and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

**5). Older women are to teach the younger women about this submission. Titus 2:3-5**

Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips, nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, 4 that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be dishonored.

**6). A shepherd does not “lord it over” those under his authority. 1 Pet 5:1-3**

Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, 2 shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; 3 nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

**William Shakespeare: But man, proud man, dressed in a little brief authority, most ignorant of what he's most assured, His glassy essence, like an angry ape, plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven as make the angels weep.**

**B. A Sarah's Daughter pays attention to her external Adornment. 1 Pet 3:3**

And let not your adornment be merely external — braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; **(It is saying to make an effort to look good for him).** It means to do the best with what you have and learn to do so without complaint. **Beauty is skin deep, but ugly goes clear to the bone. It does not mean to dress in a suggestive manner as if one were trolling for a man, but rather to be well groomed.)**

**1). Public adornment should be modest. 1 Tim 2:9-10**

Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments, 10 but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.

**2). Real beauty comes from the inside-out. 1 Pet 3:4-5**

but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. **(the real attitude of respect for God's plan, whether or not there is respect for the man; guarantee: at times he will not be worthy of respect; and you won't be worthy of honor)** 5 For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands. **Matt 23:27-28** Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

28 "So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

**3). True spiritual beauty is found by waiting for the return of the Supreme Master. Luke 12:35-36**

**Charles Wesley: May the man be saddened to leave his home and may the wife be glad for his return.**

**C. A Sarah's Daughter treats her husband with Respect, even though he does not deserve it. Eph 5:33**

Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect **(PHOBEW)** her husband. (Cutting remarks are not part of this. Men have helped bring a bad name on themselves. Ever notice commercials? The man is almost always the dunce and bad guy. Sadly it is true in too many cases, but not all.)

**1). Husbands are called to model this respect toward those in authority over them. 1 Pet 2:18**

Servants, be **submissive** to your masters with all **respect**, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable. (some men have a total disregard for the duly established authorities of life and act accordingly, then expect respect for those under theirs.)

**2). Husbands are not to be like those who demand respect but are unworthy of it. Matt 23:6-7**

They love the place of honor at banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues, 7 and respectful greetings in the market places, and being called Rabbi by men.

**3). Husbands are overseers of those under their sphere of authority, and as thus are called to a high standard. 1 Tim 3:2-7**

An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. 4 He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity 5 (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), 6 and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. 7 And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

**Respecting one's husband is about trusting God's plan, not about making him worthy of respect. Sin is not worthy of respect, and all men are sinners, so to do this requires looking for the good. Respect is a function of love, and can confront when led by the Holy Spirit to do so.**

**D. A Sarah's Daughter Adheres to her own husband, seeking to be an excellent wife. 1 Cor 7:2 (A single woman's husband is Jesus Christ Himself.)**

But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband. **Eph 5:22; Rom 12:10** Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; **Prov 31:10-31**

An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels. 11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, And he will have no lack of gain. 12 She does him good and not evil All the days of her life. 13 She looks for wool and flax And works with her hands in delight. 14 She is like merchant ships; She brings her food from afar. 15 She rises also while it is still night And gives food to her household And portions to her maidens. 16 She considers a field and buys it; From her earnings she plants a vineyard. 17 She girds herself with strength And makes her arms strong. 18 She senses that her gain is good; Her lamp does not go out at night. 19 She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her hands grasp the spindle. 20 She extends her hand to the poor, And she stretches out her hands to the needy. 21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household, For all her household are clothed with scarlet. 22 She makes coverings for herself; Her clothing is fine linen and purple. 23 Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land. 24 She makes linen garments and sells them, And supplies belts to the tradesmen. 25 Strength and dignity are her clothing, And she smiles at the future. 26 She opens her mouth in wisdom, And the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. 27 She looks well to the ways of her household, And does not eat

the bread of idleness. 28 Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband also, and he praises her, saying: 29 "Many daughters have done nobly, But you excel them all." 30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. 31 Give her the product of her hands, And let her works praise her in the gates.

**E. A Sarah's Daughter is Honorable toward her husband and toward all. 1 Pet 2:17**

**Honor** all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

**1). Honor is something we must think about, all the time. Php 4:8-9**

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is **honorable**, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things. 9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

**2). To Honor others we must look for good. 1 Thes 5:21-22**

But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; 22 abstain from every form of evil.

**3). The Institution of Marriage is to be honored. Heb 13:4-6**

Marriage is to be held in **honor** among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge. 5 Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU," 6 so that we confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"

**4). We are told to treat others the way we would want to be treated (Matt 7:12), so gentlemen are to take the lead in this area. 1 Pet 3:7**

You husbands in the same way, live with your 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.

**Practical Application for a single woman. Look for men who are willing to take the spiritual lead and assist your growth. Run from those who want the authority and reject the responsibility. Run from those who are unwilling to admit to mistakes.**

**For married women. Search, not just look for the good in your husband. Give him the same slack that you want or demand. Be an encourager. Learn to do it simply because it is the right thing to do, because God asks you to. Men. Do the same. Take the lead. Be a lover of God first and a lover of your wife.**

## Abraham's Sons.

1. **Abraham was to teach others, beginning with his children, about the Lord's promises. Gen 18:19**

For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him."

2. **Husbands help their wife become a "Sarah's Daughter" by not giving her anything to fear.** (notice what she does)

3. **It is the man's role to take the lead in the husband-wife relationship so that it models the relationship between Christ and the Church.**  
**Eph 5:23-33**

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. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. 28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, 30 because we are members of His body. 31 FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. 32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

- A. **He should seek to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.**  
**Rom 8:29**

For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

- B. **He should seek to imitate Jesus Christ.** 1 Cor 11:1
- C. **He should be a lover.** Eph 5:25

4. **A man should be an "Abraham's Son" and love his wife. Gen 24:67**

Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and he took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her; thus Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

5. **He should be an I-S-A-A-C.**

- A. **Seek Intimacy: 1 Cor 7:1-6**

Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife,

and each woman is to have her own husband. 3 The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband. 4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. 5 Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. 6 But this I say by way of concession, not of command. **The husband is to submit to his wife. Eph 5:21**

**Wikipedia: Intimacy generally refers to the feeling of being in a close personal association and belonging together. It is a familiar and very close affective connection with another as a result of entering deeply or closely into relationship through knowledge and experience of the other. Genuine intimacy in human relationships requires dialogue, transparency, vulnerability and reciprocity. As a verb "intimate" means "to state or make known". The activity of intimating (making known) underpins the meanings of "intimate" when used as a noun and adjective.**

**To sustain intimacy for any length of time requires well developed emotional and interpersonal awareness. Intimacy requires an ability to be both separate and together participants in an intimate relationship.**

1. Dialogue.
2. Transparency.
3. Vulnerability.
4. Reciprocity.

**B. Be Sacrificial. Eph 5:22-29;**

(His life is for his family, not himself. Not blame her for his failures.)

**Wikipedia: Sacrifice comes from a Middle English verb meaning "to make sacred." The Latin *sacrificium*: (*sacr*, "sacred" + *facere*, "to make") means to "make sacred." Thus, the term is also used describe selfless good deeds for others, treating them as important. To a Christian it involves the giving of oneself for another's benefit.**

**It also involves short term loss in return for a greater gain, such as in a game of chess. In the angelic conflict, it is used to indicate giving up what you cannot keep in order to gain which you cannot lose.**

**Phil 2:3-16**

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the

likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. 14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing; 15 so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, 16 holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.

**C. Be Accepting. Rom 15:1-7**

**Acceptance usually refers to cases where a person experiences a situation or condition (often a negative or uncomfortable situation) without attempting to change it, protest, or exit. In Christianity it is to realize that others have weaknesses and seek to build up others so as to have hope. It is not the modern (or postmodern) mindset that everything is valid, but that the focal point of our Christian life is to glorify God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves. 2 Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification. 3 For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "THE REPROACHES OF THOSE WHO REPROACHED YOU FELL ON ME." 4 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore, **accept** one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

**D. Be Articulate.**

**1. This starts with a humble attitude. Jas 4:11-12**

Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge of it. 12 There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?

**2. It is humble enough to listen. Jas 1:19-20**

This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

**3. It is full of mercy. Jas 2:12-13**

So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. 13 For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

**4. It speaks the truth in love. Eph 4:15-16**

But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

**5. It speaks to build others up. Eph 4:29**

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

**5. Be Considerate:** (Manners, attention)

**A. This is learned at home. Titus 3:1-2**

Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, 2 to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every **consideration** for all men.

**B. First consider Jesus. Heb 3:1-2**

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, **consider** Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession; 2 He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house.

**C. Always Consider God's ability. Heb 11:17-19**

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; 18 it was he to whom it was said, "IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS SHALL BE CALLED." 19 He **considered** that God is able to raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

**D. Consider how to motivate one another. Heb 10:23-25**

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24 and let us **consider** how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

**E. This is how a man honors his wife. 1 Pet 3:7**

You husbands in the same way, live with your 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.