

All Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

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**The Snare
of the Devil
Part 1**

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Introduction

In 2 Timothy the Apostle Paul is writing to Timothy, instructing him of things he should avoid, and how to minister to those who have been taken captive by the devil. In 2 Timothy 2:26 it says, **“...that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.”**

The Devil has a snare by which he takes many captive at his will. Christians need to have wisdom and knowledge, that the Devil does not take them captive with his snares.

There was a woman many years ago who got married. A few years after their marriage, her husband was drafted into the military service and sent over seas.

While her husband was in the service he got involved in having sex with women of the country where they were serving. This wife knew what was happening, but did not know what to do. She lived with that knowledge all the time her husband was in the service.

After her husband returned home following his time in the service, she found out that he still went and got involved with other women here in the United States. The woman and her mother went to church, but her husband would not go. The two of them began to seek the LORD for help. They would pray and attend Church often.

One day when this woman was almost at her end with her husbands actions, she cried out to the LORD for help. The LORD answered her, telling her if she would trust Him, He would get her a new husband. She thought that the LORD meant something would work out and she would get married to someone else.

The LORD impressed upon her to keep going to Church, and invite her husband to come also. When she did, he usually would not come. But, one day he agreed to come to church with her, but would only sit in the back of the church. She agreed to sit in the back with him.

That day the Pastor made an altar call, and her husband went up for prayer. Shortly after that her husband started attending Church regularly with his wife. After some time, her husband fully dedicated his life to the LORD and the two of them are now in the full time ministry. Her husband is the Pastor of a church and she is working with him in the ministry.

What man cannot do, the LORD can do. If we trust in the LORD and do not lean unto our own understanding, He will work things out in the spirit, that we could not work out in the natural.

THE SNARE OF THE DEVIL

Satan knows the Scriptures. Satan knows how to use the Scriptures for his advantage. Many Christians in the ministry do not know the snare of the Devil concerning marriage.

Many men teach that the woman must be subject to her husband in everything. They even quote Scripture verses such as Ephesians 5:22-24, which says, **“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord...For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body....Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.”** This is only one of the many verses they use to tell women they must submit themselves unto their husbands in everything.

What would happen if men in the ministry knew the truth concerning women submitting unto their husbands in everything? When the truth is known, Satan’s snare would be loosed and the body of Christ would prosper in everything. The greatest snare of the Devil is a lack of knowledge of the written Word.

Simple intelligence would have Christians to understand, if you want to know something in detail start in the beginning and continue until the end. In studying the Scriptures we must study everything it says about any subject we are studying, starting in Genesis and continuing on through Revelation.

When studying the Scriptures there are many things to consider. Is God speaking of our earthly time or His heavenly time? Is God speaking about the past, the present or the future? Is God using types and shadows or speaking literally? Is God speaking from His point of view, or our point of view? Is God speaking the end from the beginning (calling things that be as though they were)? Is God bringing to pass that which He already declared as finished from the foundation of the world?

The next thing to consider is what language did God use when the Scriptures were written? Most of the Old Testament was written in Hebrew (by which the Hebrew dialect changed many times between Genesis and Malachi). Some of the Old Testament is written in Chaldees. At the same time, the Hebrew language is a unique language, in so much as “word for word translations will not always work” Many of the words used in the Hebrew change their meaning according to their usage in that particular subject. Many Bible scholars do not take this into consideration: Is a word a root word, or not? If it is not, what is the root word that it came from and what does it mean? What is the Stem and what is the Mood? When all these things are considered, then the greatest challenge is “How did the Holy Spirit use that word, both in its context and in other verses”?

In most cases the same applies to the New Testament Greek. The Greek is not quite as complicated as the Hebrew, but we cannot overlook all the ways the Holy Spirit used different words. We cannot overlook the context and the many other ways the Scriptures are written. We cannot overlook the re-writings of the Scriptures by Scribes. Some transcripts do not agree with other transcripts. Therefore, the key to all studying of the Scriptures is in the witness of the Holy Spirit Who inspired the writing of the original manuscripts.

Next of importance is, what is the purpose of the Scriptures? Are they to establish doctrine or correct error? Most of the Epistles are mainly to correct error that had come in from Exodus on. The true Gospel was preached and taught in the New Testament Gospels, but error had come in and needed to be corrected. The Epistles were not for establishing doctrine, but mostly for correcting error. See Galatians, Chapters One and Three especially. The Apostle Paul, especially, first preached

the Gospel, then wrote Epistles to correct error that had come in. See 1 Corinthians, Chapter Fifteen.

Lastly, and very important is, what language translation are we using. Very few Christians can understand the Hebrew and Greek. Are we using English translations, and are they word for word, paraphrased, or thought for thought? All three of these are the works of men, not of the Holy Spirit.

How do we know if what we read is truly of God? The Bible tells us in 1 John 5:8, “**And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water (Word), and the blood: and these three agree in one.**” If anyone of these do not agree, what we may think is true is not true.

Many have been caught in the snare of the Devil, not considering everything God has given us to know the truth from His Written Word. When everything is considered, and everything agrees from Genesis through Revelation, we will know the truth and the truth will set us free.

Husbands and Wives

In Genesis 1:27 it says, **“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”** It did not say God created Adam. Read what it says, **“So God created man...male and female created he them.”** The word **“man”** could have been translated **“mankind”** instead, and then Christians would have a better understanding of what God said. Adam was not bisexual. Adam was not male and female at the same time. If that had been the case Adam would not have needed to have **“an help meet”** to replenish the earth (Gen. 2:18). Some Christians need to know what the Scriptures truly say.

In Genesis 2:20-24 it says, **“And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him...And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof...And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man....And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man....Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”**

The words **“help meet”** mean **“help, or helper.”** A helper is someone who helps in whatsoever needs to be accomplished. An help meet is not a slave, but rather one of an equal partner in whatsoever needs to be accomplished. Each one contributing their ability to fulfill all that needed to be done.

Notice also, it says in Genesis 2:24, **“...they shall be one flesh.”** One flesh means, **“two in total agreement with each other,”** not one ruling over the other. But two in agreement at all times. How can this be done? It can only be done by God being involved in everything they do for Satan has a snare to take those who are not in agreement with God into captivity at his will.

Now notice something of importance in Genesis 3:14-16, which says, **“And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life...And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel....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.”**

Notice, there was **“no curse”** upon mankind until after Adam and Eve ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The first time a curse is mentioned is in Genesis 3:14 and the second time is in Genesis 3:17. The curse came because of **“the law of sin and death”** whereby Genesis 2:17 says, **“But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”** Romans 5:12 tells us, **“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”** Romans 8:2 calls it **“...the law of sin and death.”**

Notice in Genesis 3:14 the LORD informed the serpent as well as the woman of the curse that came because of sin. The LORD did not curse the earth. The curse was already there when the LORD spoke to the serpent and then to Eve (Gen. 3:14-16).

To the woman, **“because of the curse”** the LORD said two things.

1) **“I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children...”** The words **“I will”** are poorly translated from the Hebrew to English. The LORD **“Himself”** was not the One who would do the multiplying of the sorrow in conception. Satan is the one who does the multiplying of the sorrow. The LORD only permits what Satan does because of sin, which brought the curse.

Sin separates us from receiving God’s blessings. God still loves us, but because of sin, God must be righteous and permit Satan to cause or inflict pain and sorrow rather than God’s blessings. Sin needs to be overcome for God to work freely and do His good pleasure in our lives.

Women can have children without pain and sorrow if they will believe the Word of God. In Mark 9:23 it says, **“Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.”** All things includes everything and anything. It is all dependant upon what people believe, regardless of what is involved.

The main thing that allows Satan to inflict anything upon anyone is **“not believing the Word of God.”** Sin and death came because Adam and Eve did not fully believe what the LORD God told them in Genesis 2:17. When Christians do not believe the Word of God, the LORD sometimes permits the Devil to get involved. The LORD is not the destroyer, the Devil is the destroyer, and the LORD at times must permit the Devil to destroy when people do not believe the Word of God.

2) The LORD God also informed the woman **“...and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee”** (Gen. 3:16). The LORD God said, **“and,”** which is in addition to the sorrow, **“...thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.”** Notice, ***“the husband ruling over the wife was a part of the curse”*** that came upon mankind in the garden of Eden. This was a part of the curse of **“the law of sin and death.”**

Because **“the law of sin and death”** came into effect upon mankind in the garden of Eden, it remained in effect all throughout the world. It still remains in effect for all who do not believe the Word of God.

The Law of Moses is not a new law concerning sin and death. It is only a schoolmaster to teach us the effects of the law of sin and death that came in the garden of Eden.

This is where most Christians make their mistake in understanding the Word of God. They try to separate the law of sin and death from the law of Moses. They did not study their Bibles from Genesis through Revelation to see what the Holy Spirit was inspiring to be written.

Look at Romans 5:13, 14 which says, **“(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law...Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.”**

Concerning the law of Moses Galatians 3:24 says **“Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”** Therefore, Romans 8:3,4 says **“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh...That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”**

Now let us see what the Scripture says about **“the curse of the law”**? Galatians 3:13 says, **“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.”** How did He do it? Colossians 2:13-15 says,

“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses...Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross...And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”

If Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law and all its effects, what does that tell us about the woman, who under “the curse of the law of sin and death the husband would rule over her”? Is she free or is she not free? Is she under the curse of the law or not?

If the woman is not free of the curse of her husband ruling over her then what good did it do for Christ to redeem us from the curse of law? O, how Satan has blinded the minds of men who believe the wife is to submit to whatsoever the husband demands. The snare of the Devil has taken a lot of Christians at his will, and they have counted the Cross of none effect over “the law of sin and death in this area.” What Christ did for wives, is null and voided by the teachings of men. The gates of Hell are wide open for those who count the Cross of Christ as not taking away “the curse of the law of sin and death.” Woe to those who do not believe the gospel of Christ (the good news), that Christ has redeemed us from “the curse of the law of sin and death.”

Husbands, who demand authority over their wives are not walking in love. Love never forces anyone to do anything. Husbands, it is not worth it to rule over your wife here on earth and miss heaven. Walk in love as God is love. Let the peace of God rule in your life, and God will establish the family according to His eternal plan.

Any husband that believes he has rule over his wife needs to repent and receive forgiveness of sins before he comes before the throne of God. Jesus said, **“...that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem”** (Luke 24:47). Never count the Cross of Christ as of none effect for anyone, not even for ourselves. God’s Word has been given for all who will believe. We must believe the complete Word of God, not only the parts we want to believe.

In Ephesians 5:20-33 it says, **“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God...Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord...For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body...Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing...Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it...That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word...That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish...So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself...For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church...For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones...For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh...This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church...Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.”**

In all of this, the Apostle Paul is telling husbands and wives, go back to the way it was with Adam and Eve before sin entered into this world. Live like God planned for husbands and wives to

live from the foundation of the world.

Wives Married to Husbands Who do not Believe

First of all, who is a husband that believeth not? He could be Christian even an Apostle, who does not believe everything the Word of God says. Many Christians only believe what they want to believe. In the things they do not believe they are an unbeliever.

What to do if your husband believes “he has rule over you”? The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 7:13-16 **“And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him...For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy...But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace...For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?”**

If you obey the Word of God in 1 Corinthians 7:13-16 the LORD will work on your behalf. Your children will be blessed because of your obedience. Your husband will come to the LORD and repent and be saved because of your obedience to love him when he did not love you.

Your first commandment is that **“...thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment...And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these”** (Mark 12:30,31).

Love is the greatest commandment of all. We must first love God with the same love He first loved us. God loved us even when we did not love Him. Jesus gave His life in the flesh for us, even when we did not love Him. Wives, love your husbands even when they do not love you.

God is love (agape) (1 John 4:8). If God is love, we should show forth the same love to one another (husbands, wives, children and neighbors). When we walk in love, God can change the situations in our lives that we will be blessed in whatsoever we do.

God can change the way people treat us in this life. With God, nothing is impossible. When we walk in love, we make it possible for God to change the attitudes of people around us. In the families, in neighborhoods, in the Churches. Love, is the most important fruit of the Spirit that any Christian can have. Walk in love one to another, even when they do not love you. God will move upon others because of your love one for another.

Always walk in love, that God can bless you in everything you do. Be willing to give everything you have that others may know the one and only True God.

Jesus said, **“He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal...If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour”** (John 12:25,26).

Deny yourself and serve the LORD and follow Jesus. Then God the Father will honor you. In following Jesus, be willing to suffer for others the same way Jesus suffered for us on the Cross of Calvary, then the Father will honor you, and bless you with everlasting life in heaven.

God is love (1 John 4:8). If we are born of God we must walk in love one to another. **“Love suffers long and is kind...does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil...bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things”** (1 Cor. 13:4-7,

NKJV).

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