A One-Verse Marriage Manual

From the heart of the apostle Peter we learn some key principles for holding a marriage together — in just one verse of the Bible — 1 Peter 3:7.

Jim Cecy is a regular speaker at the European Leadership Forum. He serves as Senior Pastor-Teacher of Campus Bible Church in Fresno, California. Jim is also founder and President of JARON Ministries International, a training ministry for Christian leaders in the U.S. and abroad. He has a Masters of Divinity in Bible Exposition from Talbot Theological Seminary and a Doctorate of Ministry from Western Seminary. He is a conference and seminar speaker for hundreds of churches, schools, seminars, conference centers, Christian groups and denominations in U.S. and abroad. In addition to other books and materials, he is the author of *The Purity War: A Biblical Guide to Living in an Immoral World*. Jim has been married for forty years and has nine grandchildren. Information about his materials, books and seminars is available at www.puritywar.com

Our Text: 1 Peter 3:7 "You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with a weaker vessel, since she is a woman; and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."

Mini-Chapter #1 Marriage is a Two Person Event

1 Pet. 3:7 "You husbands likewise, live with your wives…" Husband and wife are a unit (Ex. 26; 2 Chron. 18; Ps. 133::1; Ecc: 4:9-12; 1 Cor. 11:3)

Mini-Chapter #2. Marriage Requires Constant Attention to Details

1 Pet. 3:7 "You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way, <u>as with</u> <u>a weaker vessel, since she is a woman; and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace</u> <u>of life...</u>"

The Apostle Peter's Three Reminder Calls to Husbands

Reminder #1. Pay constant attention to the fact that your wife is physically different.

1 Pet. 3:7 "You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with a weaker vessel..."

Reminder #2. Pay constant attention to the fact that your wife is emotionally different.

1 Pet. 3:7 "You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way, with a weaker vessel, <u>since she is a woman...</u>" The Ancient Law of Marital Bliss (Deut. 24:5 cf. Prov. 15:16-17; Eph 5:25-33)

Reminder #3. Pay constant attention to the fact that your wife is spiritually the same.

1 Peter 3:7 "...and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life..." cf. Gal. 3:28; Gen.1:26-27; cf. "one another" verses

Mini-Chapter #3. Marriage is a Highly Spiritual Issue

1 Pet. 3:7 "You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with as with a weaker vessel, since she is a woman; and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."

A Lesson From Malachi's Day (Malachi 2:13-16)

- 1. An appeal to your emotion: Stop forsaking..."the wife of your youth!"
- 2. An appeal to your intellect: Stop dealing treacherously against..."your bosom companion!"
- 3. An appeal to your will: Keep your vows to God concerning..."your wife by covenant!"