

INSIGHTS ON 1 PETER: HOPE AGAIN: WHEN LIFE HURTS AND DREAMS FADE

HOPE BEYOND "I DO": THE GIVE-AND-TAKE OF DOMESTIC HARMONY

1 PETER 3:1-7



The Heart of the Matter

All marriages are happy—it's the living together afterward that's tough! We smile, knowing how true such a statement really is. After the flowers, the candles, the music, and the vows, there inevitably follows the day-to-day reality of living as partners: the stress of financial deadlines, the demands brought on by occupational hassles, the breakdown of communication, the misunderstandings that grow from sexual disharmony, and the lingering offenses not dealt with. The list seems endless. Peter was a married man. He understood the importance of domestic harmony. Under the Holy Spirit's inspiration, he wrote words of wise and workable counsel for all to heed. In spite of the centuries that separate us from Peter's day, these principles are still appropriate. They work; so let's listen!



Discovering the Way

1. A Few Words of Review

Just prior to 1 Peter 3, the apostle discussed the importance of submission in the Christian life, a significant context for Peter's discussion of marriage in this passage.

2. Wise Counsel to Wives (1 Peter 3:1-6)

Peter offered four specific guidelines to wives: analyze your actions, watch your adornment, check your attitude, and evaluate your attention.

3. Strong Commands to Husbands (1 Peter 3:7)

Peter presented three strong commands to husbands: live with your wife, know your wife, and honor your wife.



Starting Your Journey

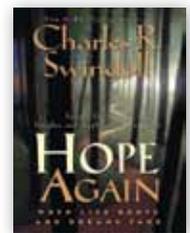
Harmonious relationships with the most important people God has placed in our lives—our spouses—will make our prayer lives and spiritual lives that much more potent.



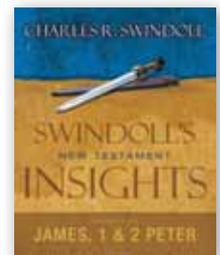
Tools for Digging Deeper



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