Built In Christ Jesus:

God's Instruction To Christian Wives (Eph. 5:22-24)

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1 Wives are addressed <u>personally</u>, as <u>equals</u>

2 A Christian wife should <u>submit</u> to her own <u>husband</u>

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"Submit" -

"to arrange under, to subordinate; to subject, put in subjection; to subject oneself, to obey; to submit to one's control; to yield to one's admonition or advice: absolutely"

3 Paul doesn't focus on <u>exceptions</u>, and neither should <u>we</u>

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"... in everything..." (v. 24)

Men are emotionally vulnerable to *contempt*

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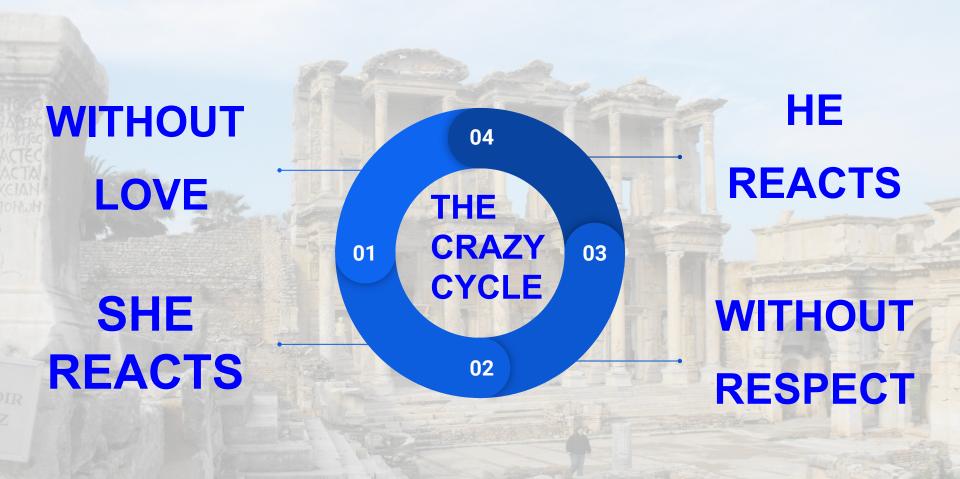
Contempt: the feeling that a person or a thing is beneath consideration, worthless, or deserving scorn

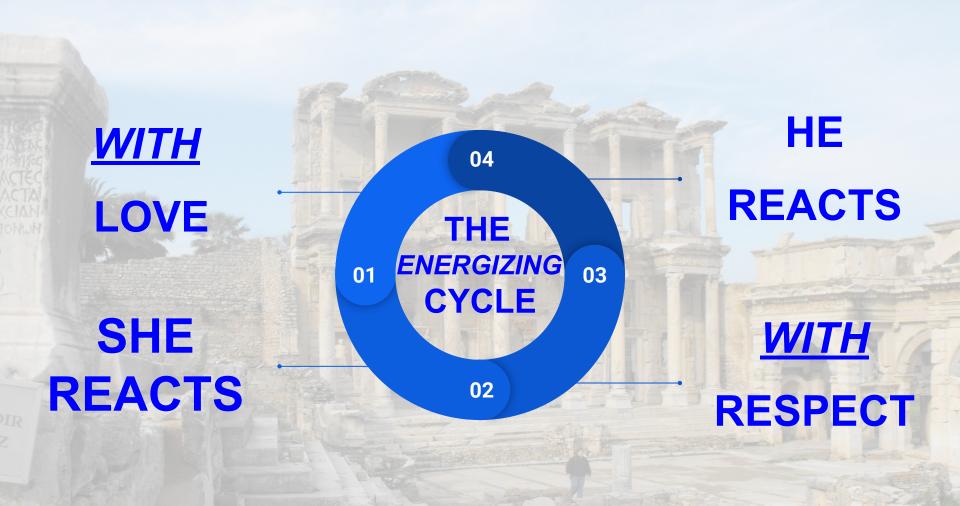
Men are emotionally vulnerable to *contempt*

"82% of men see marital conflict as as a 'lack of respect' rather than a 'loss of love'"

Men are emotionally vulnerable to *contempt*

Esther 1:16-20 – A National Crazy-Cycle





5 This relationship reflects <u>Christ</u> and the <u>Church</u>

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The church's submission to Christ is now presented as the model of the wife's submission to her husband. By using the same verb "submit" the apostle stresses the willing character of the church's submission to Christ, and thus underscores what has already been seen in v. 22 about the free and voluntary nature of the wife's subordination to her husband.

5 This relationship reflects <u>Christ</u> and the <u>Church</u>

In submitting to the Lord, God's people had 'learned Christ'. This involved submitting to his rule of righteousness and living by standards and values completely different from what they had known. The church's submission to Christ means "looking to its head for his beneficial rule, living by his norms, experiencing his presence and love, receiving from him gifts that will enable growth to maturity, and responding to him and praising him in gratitude and awe." It is these attitudes that the wife is urged to develop as she submits to her husband.

Choose a husband you can respect!

Choose a husband you can respect! If you find yourself often disappointed in him as a leader, DON'T MARRY HIM (or at least "not yet"). If you don't wholly respect him and admire him, **DON'T MARRY HIM!** If you "love" him but also feel he is in some way inadequate or needs to mature or grow up and take leadership, **DON'T MARRY HIM!**

Choose a husband you can respect! Choose respect at all times!

Choose a husband you can respect! Choose respect at all times! Think about your thoughts, and choose to discern wisely

Choose a husband you can respect! Choose respect at all times! Think about your thoughts, and choose to discern wisely (from amygdala→frontal lobe)

Choose a husband you can respect! Choose respect at all times! Think about your thoughts, and choose to discern wisely Pray for a renewed filling of the Holy Spirit