

GLOSSARY

KEPHALE - head - literally, that part of the body attached to the neck.
(Greek) - figuratively, source of being, origin of being.
- in Genesis 2, the second creation story, man or husband is spoken of as the source or origin of the woman's existence. (In the first creation story man and woman are created together.)
- Paul's point here is that she "comes" from him, NOT that the husband is the wife's boss or commander or ruler. KEPHALE is used in the Greek translation of the Hebrew in Genesis 2. [The Hebrew bible was translated into Greek for the benefit of Jews who didn't know Hebrew (most of them). Paul knows Hebrew yet always quotes the older testament in Greek.]

-militarily, the front-line soldier who is first in line of fire, the shock troop, the one who absorbs assaults and enemy fire.

ROSH - head
(Hebrew)

ARCHON - This Greek word is always used for the Hebrew ROSH where the latter means "head" in the sense of chief, ruler, boss, commander, etc. Paul speaks of the husband as the KEPHALE of his wife, never as the ARCHON of his wife.

HUPAKOUO - to obey. Paul uses it frequently. (For instance, children are to obey their parents.) But nowhere does Paul say that a wife is to obey her husband.

HUPOTASSO - to be subject to. It means to give oneself (sacrificially), to renounce oneself, to surrender one's rights for the sake of someone else. But it is not to invite victimization.

- militarily, to give up one's life for the sake of platoon-mates.

AGAPAO - to love in the sense of self-renunciation, self-abandonment and self-bestowal regardless of cost to oneself.
(Greek)

Ultimately, then, HUPOTASSO ("Wives, be subject to your husbands..") and AGAPAO ("Husbands, love your wives...") have the same force.