

Real World Graduation: Question 75: Marital Responsibility

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Question 75

If a married couple makes a decision about something, and the decision turns out to be wrong, which is the best method to determine who takes the responsibility for it?

- a) Whoever yells the loudest gets to blame the other one.
- b) The one who feels the least guilty about it has to take the blame.
- c) Neither should have to take responsibility for it.
- d) The couple should agree to blame someone else.
- e) The couple should discuss the situation rationally and mutually agree on who should take the responsibility.

Answer to Question 75

This is a trick question; all of the answers are wrong.

It turns out that the responsibility for an incorrect decision in a marriage always falls upon the husband; there is no need to debate it. The husband is designated per the Bible as having the final say on decisions affecting the family. Since he has the final authority (whether he uses it or not), he gets the final responsibility (whether he is willing to accept it or not).

So, does that sound like a good deal, ladies? You get to blame him for everything? You get to screech and whine because he has to take the responsibility? Not so fast. The reason he takes responsibility is because he gets to make the final decision. That means, ladies, your husband has the final word on every important issue (except abortion). Not prepared to defer to his judgment? Well, then ladies, you will make a lousy wife, and everyone will know it. Therefore, choose for a husband a man you respect as a leader and can trust to make good decisions (even if you are smarter), and who owns up to his mistakes.

How about you, gentlemen? Do you like the idea of getting the final say, thinking you can yell louder and intimidate her into take the blame when things go wrong? Being the husband means being the leader of the family. Leaders take responsibility for their mistakes; they do not go around blaming their subordinates, or in this case, their wives. So if you think you can do as you please and be as irresponsible as you like, then you will be a lousy husband and everyone will know it. Therefore, choose for a wife a woman who has confidence in and will respect your judgment, and not spend all her time second-guessing you (even if she is smarter).