

13 The “Household Codes”

- From Aristotle onward, Hellenistic treatises on household management that discuss the well-run household from the perspective of the male head of household.
- Three relationships: husband-wife, father-child, master-slave

- Two complete New Testament formulas (Col 3, Eph 5)
- speak to both sides, subordinates first
- Change the monolithic authority relationship to a more mutual one;
- progressive in their day

- Mysterious disappearance of the domestic household code in Christian literature after the *First Letter of Clement* (late first century CE)
- Subordination language gets subsumed into discussions of church authority

Not a question of history but of hermeneutics,
interpretation of biblical authority

It's all or nothing.