

Duty:

Moral or legal obligation;
a responsibility



Duty is doing the right thing in spite of how you feel. When Cain was angry because his “sacrifice” was not acceptable to God; the Lord asked him, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.” (Genesis 4:6-7) Sin is always too close at hand, we must do what is right and obey God. From a different point of view, Winston Churchill wrote, “It’s not good enough that we do our best; sometimes we have to do what’s required.” We are to do what is right before God, no matter what.

Husbands and wives know what to do; they know they are to love and respect, care for, and remain faithful to their spouses for life. Yet, far too many couples experience marriage very differently than what was promised on the wedding day. Selfishness, self-centeredness, and a “me” orientation prevail in marriage. One may even betray their spouse through adultery or abuse. Even in the *good* marriages, husband or wife wrong the other too often. And then there are the spouses who justify their wrong behavior by the wrong behavior of their spouse. Duty means that we are to do what is right before the Lord our God, even if others do not.

The prophet Samuel wrote that to obey is better than sacrifice. God’s “law” for mankind is not difficult; love God, love others. What is love? 1John 3:16; the example of Christ laying His life down for us. Jesus said that if we love Him, we will obey Him. Folks, this is our *duty*: to love God and love others, giving of our selves for others. We must do our *duty* and stop being so selfish.

Are you willing to do that? Are you willing to give of yourself—to love your spouse God’s way even when he or she doesn’t deserve it? Will you fulfill your *duty* to God, even when everything in you screams differently? You have an *obligation* to obey God and love your spouse—do your *duty*!

Helpful Resources: *Fortified Marriages Resource page:* www.fortifiedmarriages.com

Articles to check out:

The Mutual Duties Of Husbands And Wives Towards by Richard Baxter www.apuritansmind.com

The Duties of Husbands & Wives by Richard Steele - www.etrnallifeministries.org

Book to check out: *Married. Happily* by Greg Laurie