As of late I've heard of several young brides struggling with the concept of including "obey" in their wedding vows, all of them concerned what the guests would think.

In addition, I've heard of several more who report having to spend their entire wedding reception explaining to other women why they would choose to promise such a thing.

Even after my own wedding where the pastor spoke extensively on Ephesians 5:22-33 and I promised to obey my husband, I was accosted by a woman I did not even know, a wife of one of my husband's co-workers.

"You don't really believe that stuff, do you?" she asked.

"What stuff?" I asked, seriously confused.

She blinked and shook her head. "All that obey and stuff."

"Well.... yes..." says I, "um... it is in the Bible."

"But it's so... ancient!"

Ancient? I'm sure my eyes betrayed my thoughts because she abruptly changed the subject. I guess I had lead a sheltered life, but I'd never heard God's word called Ancient. I'd always been taught... correctly taught... that God's word was alive and relevant for today. And it is.

Young brides should not have to decide whether or not to promise to obey their husbands when the Bible commands they do so anyway. They should not have to feel ashamed or agonize over it, and they certainly should not have to spend their wedding reception defending their decision. It is in God's word... period. Enough said.

Besides, the feminists have had their chance. They have tried things their way for a number of years and look where it's gotten us. Nearly half of all marriages... even Christian marriages... end in divorce. There's obviously something wrong with their philosophy.

Maybe if more brides stood strong and promised to obey their husbands, more marriages would stand rather than fall.