

# L10 | Divine Institutions | Institution of Marriage Pt. 7 | Eph. 5:22-33

## I. Intro/Review:

- The Works and Responsibilities in the Wife's Role
  - Submission and Helpfulness
    1. Reverence
    2. Obedience
    3. Assistance
    4. Modesty

## II. Preview:

- The Works and Responsibilities in the Husband's Role
  - Authority and Love
  - Love
    1. Foundation of Love
    2. Pattern of Love
    3. Fruit of Love

## III. Sermon:

- The godly husband, that is, one that isn't just joined in marriage or some husband indifferent to God in marriage, but one although not sinlessly perfect has affection and is bent toward God His thoughts and instructions for marriage and how he is to live therein to the glory of God.
- Authority and Love - Ephesians 5:25, 23
  - The husband is to dearly love his wife (:25)
  - The husband is to humbly and wisely manage his headship over her (:23)
    - The husband is to ever be mindful of sin in his body and the lusts of the flesh as to identify temptation to exercise his God-given authority rigidly lest he be a austere head, merciless leader unreflecting of the gospel that is to be dear to him and his Head, Jesus Christ.
  - Obedience to God as a godly husband requires both authority and love, love and authority
    - The two must be joined, they must be united
      - The husband ought not love where there is no authority, nor
      - Possess authority without love
      - Rather he is to have a governing love and loving commands.
        - Matthew 20:25-28

- Authority is one effect of love
  - If the husband's rule is too heavy-handed, his love is destroyed
  - The husband is given headship to love as God Himself
- Love although united to authority tempers authority - the exercise of loving headship sweetly works in the wife's spirit a due reverential love and esteem of his person and headship.
  - In other words, Christ condescension, meaning the free exercise of love from His headship, shines in our hearts and works to fill us with admiration for His authority used for His love toward us.
- Love - first focus on the godly husband's responsibility to love his wife
  - Love is to be without dissimulation - Rom. 12:9
  - Love worketh no ill to neighbour - Rom. 13:8-10
    - You do what you ought or owe
    - You treat as you should
    - You are kind, gentle, and understanding instead of bitter (Col. 3:19)
  - 3 Aspects of this love the godly husband is to have toward his wife
    1. The foundation of his love
    2. The pattern of his love
    3. The fruitfulness of his love

## 1. The foundation of his love

### 1. God requires it - bound from above

- Col. 3:19; Eph. 5:25, 28, 33
- When everything else fluctuates the husband's love remains
  - Romans 8
- If his wife is ungodly he loves her still
  - 1 Cor. 7:14

### 2. Husband's vows require it - bound here below

- Mal. 2:14 - the wife of thy covenant before God
- Love and cherish not because of anything in her
- Love not by feeling, but by commitment and purpose

### 3. Her nearness requires it

- Rom. 13:8-10 - she is most near
  - She shares home, bed, estate, children, etc
  - She left father and mother and cleaved to you
  - God made of you twain - one flesh

4. Comfort and happiness depend upon it

- Love is a union of all excellent things such as comfort and happiness
- Without which uneasiness and hinderance result - 1 Pet. 3:7

5. Other duties require it

- She is should be able to distinguish your care, instructions, reproofs, authority, and protection from all others.
- Hence, men are not to think of the headship in marriage as a woman's husband lightly and ought not enter without careful consideration to the godly husband's calling of God.

2. The pattern of love - 1) sacrificially, and 2) as he loveth himself (:25, :28)

1. **As Christ loved the church - :25**

1.1 - Sacrificially - Jn. 15:13 (Eph. 5:25 - gave Himself)

- Spare not cost to himself to do the church good - Rom. 8
- Preferring her to himself - Rom. 12; Php. 2
- Putting her interest before his own - 1 Cor. 10; 2 Cor. 8; Php. 2

1.2 - Heartily - Col. 3:23 (gave Himself for it)

- That which Christ did heartily unto His Father we are to heartily love Christ by heartily loving our wife
- Not in word only - 1 The. 1:5
- By word and deed - Rom. 15:18
- Not from your teeth - 1 Cor. 9:6-7

1.3 - Freely - Rom. 3:24; 5:15

- Seek nothing from her and honored if she so fulfill that which she is responsible for - the fulfillment of her responsibilities shows first her love to Christ than her love to you
- Such free love rises wholly and solely from the husband as Christ's love rises from himself
- The husband loves her because she is his wife, not what she gives him or doe for him, but because of his promise.
  - As for Christ in the church at first there was nothing to warrant his love and nothing in the church to sustain His love.

1.4 - Holily - Eph. 5:26 - "that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word."

- He seeks her sanctification, her spiritual welfare - use the water of the word to cleanse her
- He is undefiled by lust and undivided by hypocrisy
- Although, the godly husband is not Christ that sanctifies and cleanses His body, the godly husband can be an instrument of Christ.

1.5 - Enduringly - Eph. 5:27 - "that He might present it to Himself a glorious church..."

- Forever looks to be joined to her
- Through all struggles and setbacks
- He is not put off from her shameful coldness, stubborn hard-heartedness, or perpetual backwardness to his ways.
- Although she may behave uncomely he does not cast her off as hopeless, but readily and purposefully endures in loving her.
- Moreover, he delights to show her mercy and manifest the perfections of his love in her weakness.
  - Jer. 31:20; 2 Cor. 12:9
- The godly husbands love is steadfast in which no provocation can alter and bears all her infirmities with patience, meekness, understanding, and sympathy - overcoming any evil with good then correct what he can and accept what he cannot knowing the Christ is her preeminent Lord.

1.6 - Fruitfully - Eph. 5:29 - "...but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:"

- "nourish" - to provide substance necessary for life and growth
- "cherish" - to treat with affection and tenderness; to keep fondly in mind; treasure
- He notes what she lacks and supplies it from his own store - 2 Cor. 9; Rom. 8
- You are to be better than a friend when she needs support and encouragement; better than a nurse when she is sick.

## 2. **"He that loveth his wife loveth himself."** (Eph. 5:28-30)

- What we know well is how we love ourself - if we don't understand how to love like Christ, draw upon this.

2.1 - Tender

- You hurt or uncomfortable you attend to your physical infirmities, pamper your body, and relieve yourself from discomfort.
- You patiently bear your own infirmities and weaknesses
- You prioritize and labor to acquire
- You endure in failures
- You fail over and over again yet reconcile with yourself and move on

#### 2.2 - Cheerfully

- Provide for yourself gladly - may even have a tune when you take care of yourself
- Endanger self to serve your own interests.

### 3. The fruitfulness of love

- Love unlocks all responsibilities and makes them light
- The manifestation of love toward wife

#### 3.1 - Delight in thy wife - Pro. 5:18-19

- Delight in her company than any others
- Ravished with her love
- Chastity doesn't come from simply having a wife, but loving a wife

#### 3.2 - Speak affectionately - Col. 3:19

- Be mindful of your tongue - Jas. 3:6-8
  - The closer we are to someone the deeper our words can penetrate
- Tender and gentle speech
  - How crushing are harsh and cruel words from the lips she loves to kiss?
- Not to demean - admonish with gentleness - advise with sympathy, correct with sweetness
- Brawlings and contentions wholly embitter the state of life, diminish comfort, and takes away peace
- Speech is the soil in which she feels your love spring - motivating her to return her love to him

#### 3.3 - Open heartedly

- Don't treat her as a stranger - she is not the strange woman - the wife of thy covenant
- Love doesn't keep secrets - but pour his heart into hers - bosom friends who share

thoughts, hopes, fears, desires, and dreams

- He welcomes her into his mind and be glad to know hers
- He seeks her insight and wisdom in making decisions.

#### 3.4 - Live tenderly with her weaknesses - 1 Pet. 3:7

- The godly husband doesn't demand what she cannot give
- Considers her labor to support you, keep the home, raise the children, and more to see to her rest, support, and assistance
  - Not behave as if her work is not work at all
- Your presence is welcoming
  - Touch soothing
  - Words pleasant
  - Help comforting - comfort under crosses - tenderness you look for from Christ you give to her

#### 3.5 - Love to protect her from danger and harm

- 1 Sam. 30:4
- Protect reputation, guard purity and sincerity - like Boaz did to Ruth

#### 3.6 - Love to provide faithfully

- 1 Tim. 5:8 - a man that provides not for his widowed mother is worse than an unbeliever how greater the husband not providing for wife
  - If not reject God's instruction and deny the love of a husband, faith of Christian, nature of man.
- She leaves the provision of father - she chooses to be and do all for his sake he is to provide

#### 3.7 - Love to promote spiritual welfare

- First priority
  - Husband and wife are fellow-heirs of salvation
  - Aim to honor God in marriage
  - Will walk a co-heirs in the future
  - Piety, charity, wisdom, and goodness will be the most constant lecture you can provide
- His discourses direct hers

- His prayers teach her to pray
- His justice, temperance, and charity becomes the law, rule, and motive of her being just, sober, and charitable.

#### **IV. Conclusion:**

- Impossible to do all these things
- Must first be saved, must first be bound and joined to God
- Secondly, must be led of the Spirit to know your sufficiency is in Christ
- The more you behold Him - the more you will be changed - the more you changed, the more your wife will be changed!