

L2: Ephesians 5:21-33 - The Pattern & Instruction of a Godly Wife

Sermon Intro: Review/Summarize

- Understanding what the will of the Lord is - be filled with the Spirit
 - Let the word of Christ dwell richly within you
- Giving thanks always for all things
- Submissive in the fear of God
 - "submit" - To let down; to cause to sink or lower; To yield, resign or surrender to the power, will or authority of another

Sermon Preview:

- The godly marriage
 - The husband's role within marriage
 - The godly pattern for the husband
 - The wife's role within marriage
 - The godly pattern for the wife
- The influence of a godly marriage on the family

Sermon:

The Godly Marriage

- **The Wife's Role within Marriage**
- The instruction to "submit yourselves" concerning the family first deals with the weaker vessels:
 - Wives to Husbands (:22 to :25)
 - Children to Parents (6:1 to :4)
- Although, submission is a godly characteristic, there are a few earthly relationships in which there is one member in a God ordained weaker position.
 - Woman to men
 - Wives to husbands
 - Children to parents
 - Servants to masters
 - Government to citizens
 - Elders & Deacons to the church
 - The Weak to strong brother

Submission Amongst the Godhead

- One thing you must understand - everything of eternal value begins with the Eternal Godhead. Amongst the Godhead there is submission, a yielding to one

another.

- Godly submission therefore has eternal value - it is why we are all to submit to one another.
- Although this be the case God has provided "ordinances" in which "submission" is to be displayed.
- Based upon these "ordinances" one party is in a more natural submissive position. In this natural "submissive" position this submission is to be done on the ground of God's Word and nothing else - not even upon the decisions, actions, and conduct of the other individual(s).

Act of Charity

- Submission is an act of charity manifesting various features of its' nature in various relationships.

Submission not Based Upon Others Actions

- Therefore, the weaker vessels are given instruction first apart from those whom they are to be submitting to.
- 1 Corinthians 11:1-3; 1 Peter 3:1-7; Acts 20:35 (1 Cor. 1:27)

Displayed by the Body of Christ

- The relationship of submission is going to be displayed within the "body of Christ".
- 1 Corinthians 12:13-26

(Ephesians 5:22) Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

- **"wives"** - the woman whom has joined to the man in union have become "one flesh".
- **"submit yourselves unto your own husbands"**
 - **"submit yourselves"** - wives you are to willingly do this based upon the word of God
 - *Submit in love*
 - Romans 12:3
 - 1 Corinthians 9:19
 - Philippians 2:3-8

- *Conscience decision in the Spirit - through the renewed mind*
 - "not to think"
 - "made myself"
 - "let this mind be in you"
 - **"unto your own husbands"**
 - You are to submit to your own husband, not another husband, not another man.
 - There is application to this regarding how this looks with an unbelieving husband compared to a believing husband.
 - This looks different from a believing husband to a believing husband whom is living by the Word of God and leading his wife in it.
 - Although, there are these variables the wife's instructions are clear, submit to your own husband. The flip-side of that coin is don't withhold submission based upon the godliness of another husband. You will always find a more godly husband than your "own."
 - The submission doesn't have a contingency upon it. It is direct in relationship to your own husband.
- **"as unto the Lord."**
 - This the most significant component to the instruction given to the wife. The wife is to submit to her own husband as she submits to Christ.
 - The submission of the wife or the lack thereof isn't first a problem with the husband, it is the wife's troubles submitting to Christ.
 - If she were submitting to Christ, she would submit to her husband.
 - This is also the motivation when your husband doesn't deserve your submission, that you do so unto the Lord, there is a greater reason or purpose other than submitting to reward your husband for his good behavior - for it is for your good.
 - For when your husband doesn't deserve it is when this godly feature that will be displayed within the body of Christ for all eternity is manifest to be the power and influence that it is within the Godhead.
 - God's character does appear in perfection, but the strength, power, and depth of His character is revealed in situations that to the human, fleshly mind would not sit fit to act in such a manner.

(Ephesians 5:23) For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of

the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

- The godly reasoning for such an exhortation and instruction.
- **"for the husband is the head of the wife"**
 - 1 Corinthians 11:1-3, 8-9, 12
 - Based upon the created order
 - Genesis 2:7 - man
 - Genesis 2:18, 21-25
 - If the general man is this to the general woman, how much more in marriage.
 - **"head"** - A chief; a principal person; a leader; a commander; one who has the first rank or place, and to whom others are subordinate
 - "of the wife"
 - Not "head over the wife" - they are one flesh, of one body thus are equal in identity, but different function within the union.
- **"even as Christ is the head of the church"**
 - "even as" - equal
 - **"Christ is the head of the church"**
 - The reason for submission is due to the one whom is your head
 - The husband is the head of the wife, and Christ is the head of the church
 - Christ is the head of both man and woman in the church, but in the marriage union the husband is head of the wife.
 - Eph. 4:14; Col. 2:19
- **"and he is the saviour of the body"**
 - Christ functions as the saviour not only justification, but in sanctification, lower case "s" because of this and in the context of the man's extension role of this with his wife.

(Ephesians 5:24) Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

- Conclusion of the instruction and reasoning for the instruction
- **"subject"** - being under the power and dominion of another

- 1 Cor. 15:23-28
- **"so let the wives be to their own husbands"**
 - Just as the church is to Christ - is the church unto Christ - so ought the wives be to their husbands
- **"in every thing"**
 - In every decision, in every action, etc
 - Matt. 3:15, 4:4, 5:18, Eph. 1:23, 4:6

The Godly Pattern for the Wife

- The godly pattern for the wife first begins with her relationship to her own husband.
 - 1 Peter 3:1-6
 - "subject to your own husbands" (conversation)
 - Direct reflection on the word of God
 - Titus 2:3-5
 - Many women honour God with their lips, but their fear of God is taught by the precepts of men, or rather women's liberalism.
 - Liberty in Christ is to be used to serve, used to submit
 - Women's liberation seeks that which is contrary to God for the woman - this is to be expected of the world, but it isn't the doctrine of the Word of God.
 - "whose adorning...outward adorning"
 - More concerned of their inner man than their outward appearance
 - Too much concern on the outward appearance to care what man thinks usually to the detriment of men, but the deep concern for the inner man cares of God thinks.
 - The crown of the woman is a "meek and quiet spirit" - this is of great price.
 - Investing time and study for the care of the inner man is of eternal value instead of investing in the outward man that perishes.
 - Prov. 9:13 - "clamorous" - Speaking and repeating loud words; noisy; vociferous; loud; turbulent.

- "meek" - Mild of temper; soft; gentle; not easily provoked or irritated; yielding; given to forbearance under injuries.
- "after then manner" - women after this manner and women after another manner
 - "who trusted in God"
 - "adorned themselves" : how?
 - Subjection unto their own husbands
 - Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord
- 1 Timothy 2:9ff
 - "adorn themselves in modest apparel"
 - "with shamefacedness" - Bashfulness; excess of modesty; Conscience is a blushing shamefaced spirit.
 - "good works"
 - "learn in silence with all subjection"
 - "suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man"
 - Adam first, woman first decieved
 - "saved in childbearing...continue in FAITH, CHARITY, HOLINESS with SOBRIETY"
- 1 Timothy 5:4-16
- Titus 2:1, 3-5
 - 2 Tim. 1:5
- Proverbs 31:1
- Relates to husband, relates to children, relates to others, role in the home, the manner of her outward appearance

- The Husband's Role within Marriage

Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize

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