

Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

When Husbands Embrace the Lasting Hope -- Ephesians 5:22-33

Sermon Outline

- Introduction - The principle of biblical patriarchy
- Five things that happen when husbands live out their lasting hope in Christ
 1. They lead lovingly, not lazily. (v.25a)
 2. They live sacrificially, not selfishly. (v.25b)
 3. They seek God's purpose, not their plans. (v.26)
 4. They bear with their wives as pilgrims, not demanding perfection. (v.27)
 5. They are driven by unity, not individualism. (v.28-30a)
- Conclusion - Our only source of lasting hope is the loving leadership of Jesus Christ, the only Bridegroom and Head of the church

Scripture References

- Mark 10:45 - For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.
- 1 Corinthians 11:3 - For I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.
- Genesis 2:23 - And Adam said, 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.'
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3a - For this is the will of God, your sanctification.
- 1 Peter 3:7 - Husbands, likewise, dwell with your wife with understanding, giving honor to her, as the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.
- Colossians 3:19 - Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

Discussion Questions

- What is wrong with, "Happy wife, happy life"?
- How does Christ being our representative before God help us have lasting hope?
- What does it look like for a husband to take responsibility for his wife? How should that shape how we respond to conflict in our marriages?
- John Calvin, speaking on this text, commented, "Every man, by his very nature, loves himself. But no man can love himself without loving his wife. Therefore, the man who does not love his wife is a monster." Strong words! How do they sit with you?
- Wives are called to "submit" to their husbands, which necessitates action. When God commands husbands to "love" our wives He is also commanding action. What actions might demonstrate love for your wife this week?
- Christ sanctifies His church by washing her with His word. What are 2-3 practical ways that you can wash your wife in the word on a weekly basis? If not a husband, what are some ways you can receive cleansing from Christ through the word?