

EPHESIANS 5:21-28

LESSON 33

Wives and Husbands

1. Context

- a. Before this passage: Who are you? Eph 2:10; How should you walk? 5:2, 5:8, 5:15
- b. Everything is done “in the Lord” “unto the Lord” “as Christ” “for the Lord” - 5:17-6:10
- c. Do the will of the Lord; be filled w/Spirit; one heart; thanksgiving; submit to each other
- d. What is the problem with the world - is it Gov’t? Church? Families? Marriages?... you
- e. The great mystery is you as a member of the body of Christ – Eph 5:30, 32
- f. You must first learn to who you are and how to walk in Christ before running with this.

2. Ephesians 5:22-24 – Christ the Head of the Church

- a. “*Wives*” – it is addressing wives, not husbands. This is not bondage/suppression.
- b. “*your own husbands*” – He is your husband, not another’s – 1Co 7:2, 7:39
- c. Submit ~*def.* subject, obey, be under, serve, yield, esteem/revere another over you
- d. Women do not want to submit b/c they want to be chief, in control, exert their will
- e. “*submit yourselves*” – This is willing submission (e.g. sports, school, groups, jobs, etc.)
- f. “*as unto the Lord*” – Do you submit to Christ by law/force or by grace/faith/love?
- g. Why submit? Marriage is a joining of two; and it was not ordained to be a cage match.
- h. **Christ is the head of the church** – 1 Cor 11:3, Eph 1:22-23; Eph 4:15; Col 1:18, Col 2:19
- i. Subject to your husband is helping him be everything God intends him to be – Ph 2:3-10
- j. The product of a unity of purpose, heart, will, body is greater life and joy in the Lord
- k. 5:24 – “*in every thing*” – in that your identity is now one with him.

3. Ephesians 5:25-27 – Christ Gave Himself for the Church

- a. “*Husbands*” – addressing husbands, not wives. This is not “happy wife, happy life”
- b. The husband is given the responsibility, and takes the blame.
- c. “*as Christ also loved the church*” – How? He gave himself for it – Gal 2:20, Song 8:6-7
- d. “*that he might*” (5:26-27) He had a purpose to separate, instill, glory–Eph 3:21, 1Co 11:7
- e. Marriage is an opportunity to learn to love and esteem another as Christ did the church
- f. Loving your wife is providing for her to be everything God intended her to be–Eph 2:4-7