

## Ephesians 5:22-33 - Part 2

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 1-13-16

### Context:

1. New Life in Christ (1:3-2:10)
2. The New Society (2:11-3:21)
3. New Standards - unity and purity (4:1-5:21)
4. **New Relationships** (5:21-6:24)

### Summary of last session

#### The Duty of Husbands (vv. 25-27) ← Read

- Wives: "submit." Husbands: "love." What kind of love?
- 2 analogies to illustrate the loving care required of a husband:
  - As Christ loved his church (vv. 25-27)
    - He gave his life that we would become everything God ever intended us to be

#### The Duty of Husbands (continued)

Vv. 28-30 - A husband must love his wife as he loves \_\_\_\_\_

- Moves from lofty theological to extremely practical. Why?
  - Love that "surpasses knowledge" (3:19)
  - Every person instinctively \_\_\_\_\_ self-love
    - The basic essentials of care (v. 29a)
- V. 28b, 31 - "He who loves his own wife loves himself...For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."
  - Gen.: Man and wife have become one \_\_\_\_\_.
  - More than a union of bodies. A mystical union that binds together their whole \_\_\_\_\_. The physical union merely \_\_\_\_\_ this deeper reality.
  - Not one person/entity, but "one" as God is one
    - **The nature of personhood** is to be \_\_\_\_\_ without another.
    - To be is to be in \_\_\_\_\_.
      - Eve - "I am after, from, and for you."
      - Adam - Something was missing.
      - God: "I am enough for you Adam, but not all."
  - To love your wife is the same as loving yourself. The Golden Rule \_\_\_\_\_!

Fusion of concepts: Christ's bride and his body are the \_\_\_\_\_

- "I wed myself to you and make you a part of me," says **Jesus** or **husbands**? (circle)
- After quoting Genesis 2:24 he says, "This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church" (v. 32)
  - Elevated marriage to \_\_\_\_\_
  - Marriage as an \_\_\_\_\_ - something that points beyond itself to a divine reality

- Marriage symbolizes the deepest reality of what God desires for humanity from the beginning
- The marriage supper of the lamb is not the consequence of the Fall, but of \_\_\_\_\_!

### Summary

- Paul never stresses a husband's authority over his wife, but rather his loving responsibility
  - If headship means "power", it means:
    - Power to \_\_\_\_\_, not crush
    - Power to \_\_\_\_\_, not dominate
    - Power to \_\_\_\_\_ self-fulfillment, not to frustrate or destroy it.
  - Exercised according to the character of the one on the \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Five reasons why a wife's duty is a blueprint of genuine \_\_\_\_\_:
  - The requirement of submission is the duty of \_\_\_\_\_ Christians
    - Submissiveness is the universal Christian obligation
      - Jesus himself was the paragon of humility (Ph. 2; cf. I Pet. 5:5)
    - Wives have the \_\_\_\_\_ to make a responsible decision before God.
  
  - The wife's submission is to be given to a \_\_\_\_\_, not a tyrant
    - Calvin: "Their authority should rather be of a companionship not a kingship."
    - Actions motivated by self-giving love can always be trusted
  
  - The husband is to love like \_\_\_\_\_
    - The ideal and standard for his contribution is so high and so great that it can only be described in terms of the \_\_\_\_\_ and can only be achieved at the total \_\_\_\_\_ of his whole life.
    - The unspoken Gospel
  
  - The husband's love, like Christ's, \_\_\_\_\_ in order to serve
    - Christ's love was intended to free the church from spots and wrinkles (vv. 25-26)
    - So too should the husband's love have the intended end of seeing his wife liberated from anything which spoils her true identity and prevents her from growing towards her final glory.
  
  - The wife's submission is but another \_\_\_\_\_ of love
    - Love and submit = 2 sides of the same coin of \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.
    - To lose oneself that the other might find his or her self is the very essence of the \_\_\_\_\_.