

A Husband's Mandate

Ephesians 5:25-33 Sunday AM, January 28, 2024

Prelude – Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-33

(NASB95) and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. 22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. 28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, 30 because we are members of His body. 31 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. 32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

Walk worthy of the calling, be an imitator of God as beloved children, live **10 trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord**. To see the holiness of God—His complete and righteous otherness helps realize the weight of these commands demanding a fixed gaze and careful attention. Hence our passage reminds us, **“be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, 16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil. 17 So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”** We saw that ALL this takes place NOT from you and your resources, but from what comes from the Holy Spirit. **“Be filled with the Spirit.”** Controlled, the same way that too much alcohol controls someone. Those controlled by the Holy Spirit will willingly live inside the boundaries of this passage, seeking His heart instead of following your own. But you will also be freed to sing, **19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;** all resulting from genuine gratitude for all you’ve been given by God and desire for His praises to spread. **20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;** This life of willing submission to such a gracious and holy God leads to an attitude of submission, starting first within the household of faith. **21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.** It’s not about you—it’s about us—why? Because the same restored relationship God has made available to you has been made available to them, and His desires for us glorifying Him lie in what He accomplishes in and through us together. Not sure what this entails? Just respond to His love by looking to Him and treasuring what He treasures.

*Hymn #280: I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Last week, we looked at what this submission looks like in the marriage relationship for the wife. Today, we look to the husbands. **Husbands, love your wives.** While some struggle to love their wives, and perhaps with seeming good cause, all might see this as an easier calling than the wives call to submission. And yet, the rub comes in the boundaries of that love. **Husbands, love your wives just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.** Do these words mean anything to you? You cannot love God OR grow in love for God without meditating on both the depth and goal of Christ’s love for His people, the church. In order to love like this, husbands, you must submit to and experience more of this love.

*Hymn (Powerpoint): Here is Love *Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Jahn Choir: Come, Holy Spirit Scripture: John 17:1-26

(NASB95) Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You, 2 even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. 3 “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. 4 “I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. 5 “Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. 6 “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. 7 “Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You; 8 for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me. 9 “I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours; 10 and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11 “I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You, Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are. 12 “While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled. 13 “But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. 14 “I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 “I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. 16 “They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. 18 “As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 “For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. 20 “I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 “The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. 24 “Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. 25 “O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; 26 and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

Offering: *Doxology:

Husbands, love your wives like Christ until you love your wife like your own body. Marriage--the two become one flesh—a unity like none other. Don’t look at marriage for this unity. Look to the author of marriage. Your only hope for this kind of unity comes from being made one with God Himself, and, while this message zeroes in on the husband’s responsibility for loving your wife this way, all those truly saved will fix their attention on Jesus’ prayer. **20 “I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 “The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as YOU have loved Me.** Husbands, your key to obeying the message today lies in the condition of your relationship with God. Does fellowship with God mean much to you? Jesus prayed that our fellowship with Him and with other believers would be as close as the Trinity was with each other so that the world would see the love that exists in the Trinity AND that God has for those who believe in Him. We need to yield to the Spirit and see the work of God the choir sang about for this to happen. Church contemplate our Husband’s great love for us!

*Hymn #490: I Am His and He is Mine

You may be seated. Sanctify them in the truth. Your word is truth. Set them apart—make them holy in truth. No truth apart from the truth that comes from the Word of God. Do you want THIS truth? Remember—God’s Word is what brought you into existence. That word is what sent His Son to earth to redeem you. That word is the one that calls you to come to Him and follow. As Pastor Jahn preaches, pray, “God, shine your word on my heart—help me hear, see, understand, and then obey that precious word.”

*Hymn (Powerpoint): Your Words Are Wonderful

Message: A Husband’s Mandate Eph. 5:25-33

*Hymn #525 (Red): A Christian Home

*Prayer