

THE MAJESTY AND MYSTERY OF MARRIAGE

Ephesians 5:22-33

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Ephesians 5:22-33 ESV

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, His body, and is Himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that He might present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of His body. ³¹ "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

In what ways are both the husband and the wife to submit to each other?

Wives:

Indicatives:

1. The husband is the head of the wife | Christ is the head of the church
2. The wife is subordinate to the husband | The Church is subordinate to Christ

Imperatives:

1. Husbands are to love as Christ loved His Church | Christ laid down His life for us His body
2. Wives submit to and respect their husbands | The Church submits to and honors Christ

What does the language "*as to the Lord*" convey about a wife's submission to her husband?

The word for submit is *Hupotasso* in the Greek which simply means to place in an orderly fashion under something.

1 Corinthians 11:3-9

Why was Paul applying the principal of a headship to head coverings?

What does Paul say is the basis of this order of authority?
(vss 8-9)

Genesis 2:18-23

- God sees that Adam's lack of a suitable partner was not a good thing.
- God takes initiative in resolving this by making him a helper suitable or fit for him.

I. Marriage is God Ordained. (*Genesis 2:18-22*)

Husbands:

II. Marriage is missional. (*vss 25-27*)

Marriage is meant to be a living picture of the Gospel.

We are to love our wives in a sacrificial way.

Our love can and should have a purifying effect. (*vs 26*)

We are to not only be protective about her physical beauty and well-being, we are also to be protective of her inner or moral beauty as well.

- *Hebrews 13:5*
- *John 14:27*
- *John 16:33*

Our love should be in a manner that expresses care and provision. (vs 28-29)

What kind of picture is your marriage painting? What is it saying about Christ and His church?

The Mystery of Marriage -

III. Marriage is Transformational. (vs 26, 31; *Genesis 2:24*)

- *1 Corinthians 6:15-19*

IV. Godly Marriage is meant to be Replicate-able.

(vs 31; *Malachi 2:15*)

Other Resources:

Reforming Marriage by Douglas Wilson

The Meaning of Marriage by Tim Keller

The Exemplary Husband by Dr. Stuart Scott

Created to Be His Help Meet by Debi Pearl

Liberated through Submission by P. B. Wilson