

TRIUMPHANT SUBMISSION EPHESIANS 5:21-6:9

THIS WEEK WE ENTER INTO THE LAST PART OF THE LETTER TO THE CHURCH IN EPHESIS. PAUL THE APOSTLE, THROUGH THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS LAID OUT THE COMPLETE CHRISTIAN WALK. FROM OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST TO OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS CHRIST FOLLOWERS TO LIVE A CHRISTLIKE LIFE. IN CHAPTER 1, WE ARE REMINDED THAT WE GENTILES ARE PREDESTINED FOR ADOPTION INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD. REDEEMED BY THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS. CHOSEN BY GOD FOR GOOD WORKS TO BRING GLORY AND HONOR TO HIM. IN CHAPTER 2, WE ARE REMINDED THAT WE WERE SPIRITUALLY DEAD AND HAVE BEEN MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST, BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN THE FINISHED WORK OF THE CROSS. NOW ALL WHO PUT THEIR FAITH IN CHRIST HAVE BEEN RECONCILED TO GOD BEING FELLOW CITIZENS IN THE KINGDOM. IN CHAPTER 3, WE ARE REMINDED OF GOD'S MARVELOUS PLAN FOR US AND PAUL PRAYS FOR US. THAT WE MAY BE STRENGTHENED WITH POWER IN OUR INNER BEING SO THAT CHRIST MAY DWELL IN OUR HEARTS. THAT WE, BEING ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE MAY GRASP HOW TALL, LONG, DEEP, AND WIDE THE LOVE OF CHRIST IS. IN CHAPTER 4, WE ARE TO BE UNIFIED IN THE SPIRIT AND ARE TO LIVE A LIFE WORTHY OF THE CALLING WE HAVE RECEIVED. PAUL EMPHESIZES THAT THE CHURCH CONTINUE TO GROW SPIRITUALLY IN UNITY AND MATURITY THEN BEGINS THE INSTRUCTION OF CHRISTIAN LIVING. WE ARE NOT TO LIVE LIKE WE USED TO BEFORE WE WERE BORN AGAIN. THIS KIND OF

THINKING IS FUTILE. NO MORE LYING, CHEATING, STEALING, IMMORAL BEHAVIOR, ANGER, BITTERNESS, FIGHTING, OR SLANDER. WE ARE TO PUT OFF THE OLD SELF AND PUT ON THE NEW SELF EVERYDAY. CHAPTER 5 REMINDS US THAT SEXUAL IMMORALITY, IMPURITY, AND GREED HAVE NO PLACE IN OUR LIVES. WE ARE TO PAY ATTENTION TO HOW WE LIVE AND REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE BEEN SET APART BY GOD TO LIVE A LIFE OF SPIRITUAL WISDOM, REPENTANCE, GRATEFULNESS, AND THANKSGIVING. WE ARE TO LIVE SPIRIT-FILLED LIVES, GIVING GOD THE GLORY IN EVERYTHING. TODAY, WE PICK IT UP AT THE END OF CHAPTER 5. PAUL NOW SHIFTS TO THE IMPORTANCE AND POWER OF SUBMISSION.

Ephesians 5:21 NIV

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

SUBMIT/HYPOTASSO/TO PLACE UNDER IN AN ORDERLY FASHION

WE SUBMIT TO GOD'S AUTHORITY, WE ARE TO SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER WILLINGLY

Philippians 2:1-4 NIV

2 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above

yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

WE ARE TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER
THIS GOES AGAINST THE FLESHLY DESIRES TO BE
INDEPENDENTLY RIGHT

THIS CAN ONLY BE DONE BY BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY
SPIRIT (A GLASS IN A RIVER WITH NO BOTTOM)

NOW PAUL LISTS 3 GROUPS OF PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR WHEN
IT COMES TO SUBMISSION

Ephesians 5:22-24 NIV

²² Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

THIS VERSE IS TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT BY MEN AND WOMEN
MEN USE THIS TO DOMINATE AND WOMEN READ THIS AND
BECOME RESENTFUL AND REBELLIOUS

AS WE SUBMIT TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER, THERE IS A GODLY
ORDER THAT IS BLESSED BY GOD

WOMAN WAS CREATED FROM MAN, MAN IS BIRTHED BY WOMAN

WHEN A GODLY WOMAN SUBMITS TO GOD, SHE WILL HAVE NO PROBLEM SUBMITTING TO HER HUSBAND

SUBMISSION DOES NOT IMPLY INFERIORITY, THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT ARE ALL EQUAL YET IN FUNCTION THE SON SUBMITS TO THE FATHER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT SENT BY THE FATHER TESTIFIES OF AND GLORIFIES THE SON

THE HUSBAND IS THE HEAD AND THE WIFE IS THE NECK THAT TURNS THE HEAD

WIVES ARE TO SUBMIT TO THEIR HUSBANDS IN EVERYTHING UNLESS IT EXCEEDS THE PARAMETERS OF THE WILL OF GOD

Genesis 3:16 NIV

¹⁶To the woman he said,

“I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children.

Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

HEBREW WORD FOR DESIRE HAS A ROOT IN THIS CONTEXT THAT MEANS TO SEEK CONTROL OVER OR TO MASTER THE HUSBAND

ADAM WAS THE ONE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE FALL, NOT EVE EVEN THOUGH BOTH WERE CURSED

LADIES, LOOK UP PROVERBS 31:10-31 FOR INSPIRATION

Ephesians 5:25-27 NIV

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

CHRIST LOVED HIS CHURCH SACRIFICIALLY, SO A HUSBAND SHOULD LOVES HIS WIFE, PUTTING HER NEEDS BEFORE HIS OWN

MARRIAGE IS MEANT TO SANCTIFY THE MAN AND THE WOMAN. IT IS A PICTURE OF CHRIST AND THE CHURCH

A HUSBAND'S CONDUCT TOWARDS HIS WIFE SHOULD BE HOLY, GENTLE, KIND, AND LOVING. LEADING HER CLOSER TO CHRIST

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 NIV

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

HUSBANDS, IS THIS THE WAY YOU LOVE YOUR WIFE?

Ephesians 5:28-33 NIV

²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” ³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³ However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

A COVENANT OF CARE BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN
LOVE AND RESPECT IN OBEDIENCE AND SUBMISSION TO GOD

SUBMISSION IS A POWERFUL FORM OF LOVE THAT CAN'T BE
BEAT. GOD'S FAVOR RESTS ON THE INDIVIDUAL WHO SUBMITS

Ephesians 6:1-3 NIV

6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² “Honor your father and mother” —which is the first commandment with a promise— ³ “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

PAUL IS QUOTING DEUTERONOMY 5:16, THE FIRST OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THIS IS IMPLIED TO ALL NO MATTER WHAT YOUR AGE IS
WILLINGLY HONORING YOUR PARENTS IN SUBMISSION TO GOD

Ephesians 6:4 NIV

⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

FATHER'S, DON'T BEAT YOUR CHILDREN DOWN VERBALLY OR PHYSICALLY, TRAIN THEM WITH LOVE AND PATIENCE IN THE WAYS OF THE LORD

Ephesians 6:5-8 NIV

⁵ Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. ⁶ Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. ⁷ Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, ⁸ because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.

THIS APPLIES TO AN EMPLOYEE OF ANY KIND, WORK TO PLEASE GOD. TREAT THOSE WITH AUTHORITY OVER YOU WITH RESPECT. THE GODLY PARAMETERS EXIST IN THIS CASE AS WELL

Colossians 3:23-24 NIV

²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

AND FINALLY, PAUL SPEAKS TO THOSE IN AUTHORITY

Ephesians 6:9 NIV

⁹ And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.

EARTHLY AUTHORITY DOES NOT IMPRESS GOD, TREAT PEOPLE UNDER YOU WELL. RESPECT, PATIENCE, AND ENCOURAGEMENT GO A LONG WAY WHEN YOU'RE A LEADER

SUBMISSION GOES AGAINST EVERY FIBER OF THE SIN NATURE
THIS IS WHY IT IS SO POWERFUL

GOD PREFERS OBEDIENCE OVER SACRIFICE AND GOD WILL NOT STOP ANYTHING THAT WILL SANCTIFY YOU AND MAKE YOU MORE LIKE JESUS

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