

Ephesians Bible Study Notes

Tyrannus Korean Baptist Church EM – Arlington Heights, IL

04/07/2021

Ephesians 5:22-33

Recap – Literary Context

What was Chapter 1 about?

- Spiritual blessings in Christ
 - o Adoption as children through Jesus Christ (v.5)
 - o Redemption through his blood, forgiveness of sins (v.7)
 - o Obtained an inheritance (v.11)
 - o Sealed with the Holy Spirit (v.13)
- Prayer of Paul
 - o He does not stop giving thanks (v.16) and does not stop praying for them.
 - Because of their faith in Jesus and their love for the saints (v.15)
 - o He prays for God to give them the Holy Spirit (v.17), who will
 - Open the eyes of their heart (v.18) to understand
 - the hope (v.18)
 - the riches (v.18) of his glorious inheritance
 - the greatness of his power (v.19)
 - o This same power that was in work in Christ.
 - Who is far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion.
 - Who has been...
 - given all things under his feet.
 - become the head of the church
 - o church, who is the body of Christ.

What was Chapter 2:1-10 about?

- Spiritual condition apart from Jesus Christ (v.1-3)
 - o We are dead in our transgressions
- Spiritual condition in Jesus Christ (v.4-10)
 - o Made alive in Jesus Christ

What was Chapter 2:11-22 about?

- Before the cross
 - o Foreigners
- Through the cross
 - o Unites us (Jews and Gentiles) as one people/humanity to God.
 - o Fellow heirs

- Temple – dwelling place
 - Worship.

What was Chapter 3:1-13 about?

- The Message (v.1-6)
 - Administration of God's grace – to make the known the mystery (this is known by revelation)
 - Mystery of Christ is...
 - Gentiles are fellow heirs through Jesus Christ
- The Messenger (v.7-13)
 - Paul has been given the gift of God's grace/privilege to be the minister of this mystery.
 - The mystery that was hidden through all ages to all people. (v.9)
 - But he can preach to everyone. (v.9)
 - This mystery that reveals the manifold wisdom of God in the church. (v.10)
 - Through Jesus Christ, which was his eternal purpose. (v.11)

What was Chapter 3:14-21 about?

- Paul's Petition (v.14-19)
 - God's power so that Christ would dwell in their hearts
 - God's strength to comprehend the love of Christ
 - The fullness of God to fill them.
- Paul's Praise (v.20-21)
 - Praise God for his infinite wisdom.
 - Praise God for his glory in the church and in Christ Jesus.

What was Chapter 4:1-6 about?

- Walk in a manner worthy of the calling
 - Characteristics of a Christian (v.1-3)
 - humble
 - gentle
 - patient bearing in love
 - **unity** of the Spirit.
 - The reason (v.4-6)
 - Because we are one...
 - body
 - Spirit
 - hope
 - call
 - Lord
 - faith
 - baptism
 - God and Father of all.

What was Chapter 4:7-16 about?

- Part 1 – Christ Gave Gifts to Men
 - Christ was victorious and gave the church gifts.
 - apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers.
- Part 2 – The Building Up of the Body of Christ
 - Work of ministry
 - Spiritual maturity
 - Not wavering by deceit and human philosophies and human cunning.
 - Instead, when every member is functioning properly, building itself up in love.

What was Chapter 4:17-32 about?

- Part 1 – Put Off/Put On
- Part 2 – Characteristics of the Old Self vs. the New Self

What was Chapter 5:1-21 about?

- Part 1 – Two Principles of the New Life in Christ (v.1-2)
 - 1) Be imitators of God (v.1).
 - 2) Walk in love (v.2).
- Part 2 – Be Who You Are (v.3-21)
- **Main idea - We as Christians should live/walk like who we really are in love, holiness, and wisdom, because we are children of God, children of the light, and servants of Jesus Christ.**

Part 1. Instruction to Wives (v.22-24)

- What is the main exhortation to wives (v.22)?
 - To _____ to their own husbands.
- What is the basis for this exhortation (v.23)?
 - For the husband is the _____ of the wife.
 - Even as Christ is the _____ of the church.
 - **v. 24 – The wife’s submission to the husband is to resemble the church’s submission to Christ. (This model is based on Christ and the church.)
- Question: What does it mean for wives to submit to their husbands as the church submits to Christ?

Part 2. Instruction to Husbands (v.25-30)

- What is the main exhortation to husbands (v.25)?
 - _____ your wives *just as* Christ _____ the church.
 - **v.25b – The husband’s love for the wife is to resemble Christ’s love for the church. (This model is based on Christ and the church.)
 - Question: What is striking about this when related to the exhortation to the wives?
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- What was the result/purpose of Christ’s love for the church (v.26)?
 - that he might _____ her.
 - v.27 – so that he might present her _____
 - that she might be _____ and without _____.
 - Question: Knowing the above (result of Christ’s love)... What might Christ’s love for the church refer to?
 - ***Hint – v.25, 28**
 - **IN THAT SAME WAY – husband’s love for the wife is to resemble Christ’s giving himself for the church.
- Not only did Christ sanctify the church by giving himself up for her, what else does Christ continually do for the church (v.29-30)?
 - Christ _____ and _____ the church.
 - Argument from common sense – “no one ever hated his own flesh, but cares for and cherishes it.”
 - The *opposite* of this would be *neglect*.
- Question: What does it mean for husbands to love to their wives as Christ loved the church?

Part 3. The Great Mystery (v.31-33)

- What passage is Paul quoting in v.31?
 - v.31 – Paul refers all the way back to God's initial design for marriage and calls this a "great mystery".
 - **Exclusive fidelity.
- Mystery
 - μυστήριον – mystery
 - He is saying that from the beginning, marriage had a deeper meaning.
 - This deeper meaning of marriage was revealed in Jesus Christ and the church.
 - **Christ gave exclusive fidelity to the church.
- **Marriage exists/was instituted to show us the beautiful picture of Christ and the church.

Main Idea

Wives should wholly submit to their husbands, and husbands should sacrificially love their wives, because the marriage union between man and woman reflects the union between Christ and the church.

- What does this "accomplish"?
 - The Christian marriage can be a witness to others what kind of love/fidelity Christ shows to the church and what kind of honor/fidelity the church shows to Christ.

**All of the relationships are "Christ-informed" but only marriage is "Christ-resembled".

Applications for Life and Faith

1. How is this Christian view of wife-hood and husband-hood different from the world's view?
2. How have/can I *not* be a godly wife/husband to my spouse?
3. How have/can I be a godly wife/husband to my spouse?
4. How can we pursue a marriage which reflects the relationship between Christ and the church?