MESSAGE OUTLINE



Redemption of the Universe in Your Home

SCRIPTURE - Ephesians 5:22-33

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so [let] the wives [be] to their own husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own 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 the Lord [does] the church. 30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife [see] that she respects [her] husband.

INTRODUCTION - RECONCILIATION OF THE UNIVERSE

The mystery: through Jesus the Messiah, God is redeeming the universe.

For God so loved the... world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **John 3:16**

Romans 8:21 (NET) - *The creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of God's children.*

*He made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—**to bring unity to all things** in heaven and on earth under Christ.* **Ephesians 1:9-10 (NIV)**

John the Baptist said that Jesus is, *"...the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"* **John 1:29**

Christ is seated on the throne, and His authority is inaugurated, but not yet consummated here on earth.

True reconciliation happens and can only happen by the Spirit.

For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. **Galatians 6:8**

People misunderstand the blessing of the Holy Spirit. And we need to be careful, it's quite dangerous.

1 Corinthians 12:7: *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.*

1 Corinthians 14:12: *Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.*

The gifts are not for you, they are to minister to Christ's body, the church, and to build it up.

APPLICATION I

How do you want to build the church? Is it the same way Jesus wanted to build His church?

Because if it is not, you have a problem.

Signs and miracles through the Spirit are a means of bringing people into reconciliation with God.

Do you actively serve and use your gifting to build up the church to bring a person back to God?

Colossians 1:19-20: *For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*

RECONCILIATION - *v.21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.*

v.21 is a rather unique verse as it is a transitional verse that ties together the Christian walk in the world into the Christians conduct within the home.

Ephesians 5:22-6:9 are referred to as the Household Code, (also Colossians 3:18–4:1 and 1 Peter 2:18–3:7).

Mutual submission is to be the attitude of all believers in Christ. (v.21)

When submission is within the Church, you begin to witness the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

However, we must remember that authority in our lives is placed there by God.

Romans 13:1 (NKJV) *Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*

v.21 serves as the head to the Household Code of verses 5:22-6:9 which they submit to.

WIVES - AS THE HELPER

Paul instructs the wives to submit to her husband.

The church's submission is the foundation that the wife's submission is based upon.

Just as the sovereignty of God dictates who our authorities are, it is also God who sanctions the marriage. "*Therefore what..* [who] *God has joined together, let not man separate."*

Submission does not mean to remain silent. A wife is called to be her man's helper.

Genesis 2:18, *It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.*

Offer advice, opinions, and wisdom to him and lovingly with grace, disagree with a decision.

Encourage him to pray and focus on how to live for the Lord, as a living sacrifice of worship towards Him.

The husband is the one who is ultimately responsible for any decisions that are made. It is his duty to make sure that you are provided for in every sense of the word: spiritually, mentally, and physically.

HUSBANDS - AS THE SAVIOR *vv.25-29*

The husband is called to love her. An emulation of the love that Christ has for His bride, to make her glorious.

Jesus Christ's love is the foundation of what the husband's love is based upon.

APPLICATION

Wife, find joy in your husband's joy. And husband, find joy in her joy.

Romans 12:15 - *Rejoice with those who rejoice.*

Ultimately, this is the calling of every Christian: to find our joy in loving Christ by loving His body, the church, and by extension, loving the very thing He loves: the world.

As the husband and wife love the Lord, and they grow closer to Him, their love for each other grows closer.

Some of you in your marriage need reconciliation.

If Christ would die in order to forgive such a man or woman as your spouse, where do you stand?

Everyone deserves forgiveness. It is our mission to help another person come closer to God.

1 John 1:7 (NKJV) *"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."*

1 Timothy 3:15-16
15 but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. 16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

THE NEW BODY - AS THE MYSTERY

The mystery of reconciliation, and it all points to the Holy Spirit's coming and work in our lives.

The Spirit in the Good News works throughout our lives, from our families out to ethnic and racial divides.

Ephesians 2:13-14, 3:4-6 (NKJV) *"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation." 3:4-6 "...the mystery of Christ, which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men... that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,"*

Do you know why the Holy Spirit did not fall down upon those in Samaria in Acts 8?

The apostles were under the impression that only the Jews were to receive the promise given by Isaiah, when he said: *"For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring."* **Isaiah 44:3**

There is no order of the timing of those who are baptized in the Spirit in the book of Acts.

Yet we know today that we receive the Spirit the moment someone believes in Jesus.

Galatians 3:14 (NKJV) *"that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."*

The Spirit unites Jew & Gentile today, brothers today, and husbands & wives today.

The marriage of Christ and the Church is the reconciliation of the universe.

Is there someone in your life you need to reconcile with? It may take time.. So walk in the Spirit.
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. **Galatians 5:22-25**

CONCLUSION

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. **1 Corinthians 13:4-8**

Your mission is to do it for Him. Not through your own power, but through the power of the Spirit.

INVITATION

Do you want this power for true reconciliation of all things in your life?

Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; **John 7:37b-39a**

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." **Acts 2:38-39**

Jesse Mark Cesario
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