

Ephesians 5:21 – 6:9 Walking Worthy in the Home, Family, and Work

 What does Galatians 3:26–28 teach us about our individual standing before God?

 Understanding that we are equal before God because of Christ, what does it mean to submit or subject ourselves to one another in the church?

- How does mutual submission happen?
- Does the fact that all believers have equal standing negate the need for structures of authority in the Christian life?

1 Corinthians 11:3

 1 Corinthians 11:3- But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. (NASB)

 What does 1 Corinthians 11:3 teach us about the authority structure within the Godhead and the church?

 What does this passage teach us about the structure of authority in the home?

Ephesians 5:21 – 22

 Ephesians 5:21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. 22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. (NASB)

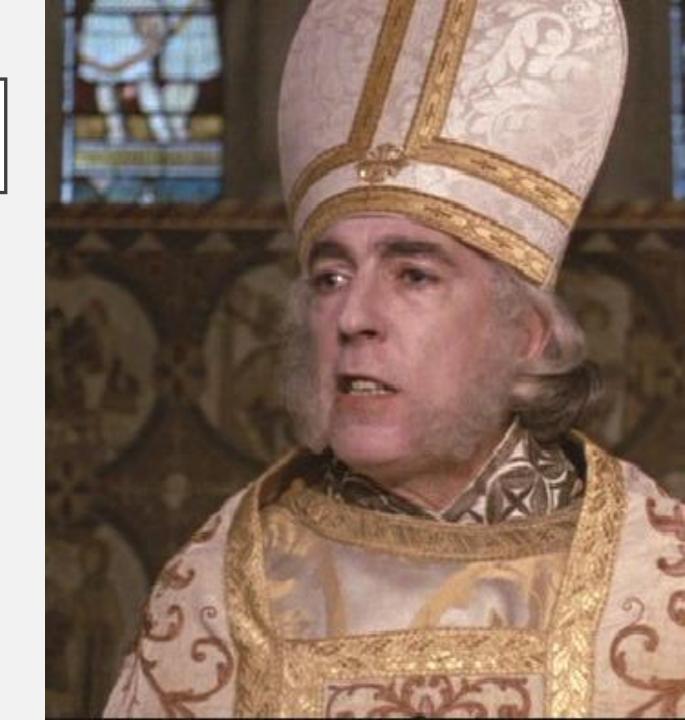
Why, depending on your translation, is a word in italics in the scripture?

• Where is the verb for this passage?

Marriage - A Blessed Arrangement

What do you think when you hear the word marriage? What is your attitude toward marriage?

- Happiness
- Fulfillment
- Joy
- Pleasure
- Contentment
- Dreams



Marriage - A Blessed Arrangement

What do you think when you hear the word marriage?

- Conflict
- Stress
- Confinement
- Despair
- Alienation
- Unhappiness
- Slavery



What is your attitude toward marriage?

Does your attitude about marriage agree with writer of Proverbs?

Proverbs 31:10

An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.

Proverbs 18:22

He who finds a wife finds a good thing
And obtains favor from the LORD.



Ephesians 5:22 - 33

- Can we build a complete theology of marriage on this passage?
- What is the purpose of Christian marriage?
 - "Though the man is created from dust and the woman from man, and though 1 Corinthians 11 shows us that in some specific way, the man reflects God uniquely and the woman is said to reflect the man, it is clear from this first account that in God's mind, the male and female combination together reflect to the world something of what He is like."
 - John Morrison Biblical Pillars for a Family Foundation reflection on Genesis 1:26 28

Marriage passages in Ephesians!

- Ephesians 1:3 Blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.
- Ephesians 2:10 We are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works.
- Ephesians 4:2 Showing tolerance for one another in love.
- Ephesians 4:3 Preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- Ephesians 4:15 Speak the truth in love.
- Ephesians 4:22 24 Lay aside the old and put on the new self.
 Remember the laying aside and putting on was accomplished for us at the cross.

Marriage passages in Ephesians!

- Ephesians 4:25 26 Speak truth and do not sin in your anger.
- Ephesians 4:28 Work hard.
- Ephesians 4:29 30 Don't degrade with your mouth. Use your words to edify.
- Ephesians 4:31 32 Put away bitterness, wrath, anger, slander and be kind.
- Ephesians 5:1 Be imitators of God as beloved children.
- Ephesians 5:2 4 Cease immorality, including in your speech. Use your words for giving thanks,
- Ephesians 5:8 10 Walk as children of light trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

Marriage passages in Ephesians!

- Ephesians 5:11 12 Don't participate in the deeds of darkness.
- Ephesians 5:17 Don't be a fool. Understand the will of the Lord.

- How? How can I accomplish this?
 - Walk in the Spirit! Ephesians 5:18 21
 - Walk in the Spirit! Galatians 5:16, 24
 - Walk in the Spirit! Romans 7:21 8:8, 8:14
 - I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.
 - Galatians 2:20, Romans 6:1 14

Ephesians 5:22 - 33

- Biblical Submission What it isn't.
 - Male domination.
 - Accepting physical, verbal, and emotional abuse.
 - Never sharing an opinion or thought.
- Biblical Submission What it is.
 - A unique command to wives. Wives are called to submit to their husbands as to the Lord.
 - Greek hypotassō to place yourself under.
 - It is a subset, or outworking, of submission to Christ.
- If a wife is called to submit in everything (v.24) does that include sin?
 - NO! Acts 5:28-29

Ephesians 5:22 - 33

- Husbands love your wives. What is Biblical love?
 - Sacrificial

- Spiritual
- Sensitive

Ephesians 6:1 - 4

Submission as children. Parent's loving their children in the fear of Christ.

 How should our individual relationship with Christ work itself out in our daily relationships with our parents or children?

What is the most important concept? The child's obedience or the father's command not to provoke to anger but to train the child?

Ephesians 6:5-9

Submission in work.

- How should our individual relationship with Christ work itself out in our daily relationships with our bosses?
- How do we work as to the Lord? How is our attitude toward our bosses?

What does eyeservice mean?

Final Thoughts

- Christ is perfect, and He perfectly loves His bride.
- Men, we are not perfect. In our flesh (Romans 7.18) we don't have the ability to love our wives as Christ does the church.
- Women, in your flesh you won't submit to or respect your husband.
- As parents we will often fail in adequately training our children and we will occasionally provoke them.
- As employees we may have times of discouragement, and we may even find ourselves laid off or fired through our own or others wrong behaviors.
- Forgiveness is available and God is sovereign.
- We've been given everything we need for life and godliness through Christ Jesus.
- As we fail it is a reminder that grace is available, as we succeed in faith glory will be brought to Christ.

Final Thoughts

- So the degree to which we are able to love our wives as Christ loved the church will simply be the degree to which we allow him to live his life through us.
 - Dave Anderson, Position and Condition: An Exposition of the Book of Ephesians (p. 325).

- Christian missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot said this: "... a woman cannot properly be the responder unless the man is properly the initiator. He must take the lead in order that she may follow, as in a dance. The willingness of each to perform the 'steps' that have been choreographed gives the other freedom."
 - Elisabeth Elliot, Passion and Purity: Learning to Bring Your Love Life Under Christ's Control.



abuse policy and plan

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