

"male and female He created them." (Gen. 1:27)

God's Grand Design

The Beauty of Biblical Complementarity (pt. 17)

1

The Mystery of Marriage

Ephesians 5:22-33

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Ephesians 5:22-33

²² Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body. ²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also 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 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless.

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Ephesians 5:22-33

²⁸ So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; ²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also *does* the church, ³⁰ because we are members of His body. ³¹ FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL CLEAVE TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. ³² This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. ³³ Nevertheless, let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself, and the let wife *see to it* that she respects her husband.

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Ephesians 5:22-33

➤ Context

- Paul declares that God's overarching, end-time goal is to bring all things back together under the headship of Christ (1:9-10, 21-23)
- As those now reconciled to God in Christ and filled with the Spirit, our relationships include proper submission to authority (5:18-6:9)

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Mystery of Marriage

➤ Analogy of Christ and the Church

- as Christ is the head of the church (v.23)
- as the church is subject to Christ (v.24)
- as Christ loved the church (v.25)
- as Christ nourishes and cherishes the church, His body (v.29)

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Mystery of Marriage

- Analogy of Christ and the Church
 - (1) This analogy only applies in a complementarian understanding of marriage
 - (2) In Christ biblical headship and submission are restored not overturned

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Mystery of Marriage

- Typology of Marriage
 - (1) Christ and the church is the ultimate reality of which marriage is but a temporary metaphor
 - (2) The beauty, joy, love and satisfaction of this unending relationship will far exceed that of human marriage

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Mystery of Marriage

- Practical Outworking
 1. Wives submit to your own husband
 - support, respect and follow your husband's leadership and authority
 - "as to the Lord" – out of obedience and ultimate submission to Christ

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Mystery of Marriage

- Practical Outworking
 2. Husbands love your wives
 - model – the sacrificial, sanctifying, nourishing love of Christ for the church
 - commitment to the total well-being of your wife, especially her spiritual well-being

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