

“Husbands, love your wives” by Richard K. Min

Ephesians 5:22-33 ESV

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ 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 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their 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 Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body.

³¹ "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Outline

1. Wife to submit herself to her own husband (Ephesians 5:22 – 24)

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church

2. Husband to love his own wife (Ephesians 5:25 – 33)

(1) As Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her
that (a) he might sanctify her,
(b) having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,
²⁷ so that (c) he might present the church to himself in splendor,
(c) without spot or wrinkle or any such thing,
that (e) she might be holy and without blemish.

(2) ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.
He who loves his wife loves himself.

³¹ "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,
and the two shall become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24)

3. Wonder and Mystery in the Creation: Corporate Union of Husband and Wife in Marriage

(1) Wife – Favor and Blessing of the Lord and Glory of Husband
Proverbs 18:22. He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD.

1 Corinthians 11:7. For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God,
but **woman is the glory of man.**

(2) Divine Providence and Holy Matrimony

Genesis 2:18 – 25 (v.18, v.22)

¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "**It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.**"

¹⁹ Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. ²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

²² **And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.** ²³ Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Mathew 19:3–9 (v.6)

³ And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?"

⁴ He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵ and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh' "

⁶ So they are no longer two but one flesh. **What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.**"

⁷ They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?" ⁸ He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. ⁹ And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery."

4. What does a wife want or expect from her husband? (Ephesians 5:25 – 29).

She desires her husband's (a) undivided, (b) unreserved, (c) untainted "all the Love" in Truth that her husband could possibly give to a woman. That is the only way for a husband to satisfy his wife and make her happy and blessed. Nothing can satisfy or fulfill her heart except her husband's full, living, holy, blameless love in truth.

5. Woman created after the image of God

(1) What is the most hot (burning in rage and destruction) thing in the whole creation?
Deuteronomy 4:24 For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Song of Solomon 8:6. Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death, jealousy is fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the LORD.

(2) God will never allow anyone to love or worship any other god(s) [that is, idols].
God is Love, God is Spirit, and God is a Consuming Fire – a Jealous God.
(Hebrews 12:29; Deuteronomy 4:24; Exodus 20:5)

6. My story to share with those men and women to marry in (near) future

(1) I took care of my mother in bipolar manic depression since 1985, and got married in 2000.

(2) I thought that I could (or would) not marry for a long time but kept my prayer for my wife-to-be:
My prayer for a woman of faith loving the Lord and loving me.

(3) Engagement Ring: Do your best – it is a bargain, as I was looking forward to the future in my death-bed.

(4) Wife: Blessing of the Lord and Glory of Husband

Proverbs 18:22. He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains **favor from the LORD.**

1 Corinthians 11:7. For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God,
but woman is the glory of man.