

“Submission and Love in Marriage” (Ephesians 5:22–33)

Big Idea: Husbands and wives must mirror the glorious union of Christ and his church.

I. The Text’s Exposition

a. A Christian Wife’s Sacred Duty (verses 22–24)

i. The Duty of Submission to Her Husband (verse 22)

Colossians 3:18; Luke 2:51a

ii. The Correspondence between the Church’s Submission and Hers
(verses 23–24)

Ephesians 1:22–23; 4:11–16

b. A Christian Husband’s Sacred Duty (verses 25–32)

i. The Duty of Love to His Wife (verse 25a)

ii. The Example of Christ’s Dying Love for His Bride (verses 25–27)

Ephesians 5:2; John 15:3; 17:17; Song of Solomon 4:7; Ephesians 1:3–4; Colossians 1:21–22; Isaiah 61:10; 62:1–5

iii. The Pattern for Marital Union in Christ’s Union to His Body the Church
(verses 28–32)

Colossians 3:19

c. The Duties of Christian Spouses Restated (verse 33)

Ephesians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:1–6

II. The Text’s Application

a. Esteem the glorious union of a man and his wife.

- i. Honor the divine wisdom which instituted this union.

Hebrews 13:4

- ii. Honor the love and submission which exalt such a union.

1 Peter 3:7

- b. Esteem the glorious union of Christ and his church.

- i. Christ is the obedient and victorious last Adam.

Romans 5:14–21; 1 Corinthians 15:21–27a; Genesis 1:26–28;
Psalm 8:3–8; Hebrews 2:5–9; Ephesians 1:20–23

- ii. Though Adam fell with his bride, Christ redeemed his fallen bride.

- iii. Christ is his bride's perfect lover and head.