Sunday, October 10, 2021

Called as God's Family, Pt. 1 Foundational

Ephesians 5:18-30

David H. McKinley

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[32]Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. [1]Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children…[18]And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, [19]addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, [20]giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, [21]submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. [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. —Ephesians 4:32-5:1; 5:18-30

1. The _____ of God is the Master Theme of His _____ in Us

…but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. —Romans 5:8

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

[12]This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [13]Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. —John 15:12-13

[9]In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. [10]In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. [11]Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. [12]No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us.

—1 John 4:9-12

Notes:

[14]For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, [15]from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, [16]that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, [17]so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, [18]may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, [19]and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. —Ephesians 3:14-19

2. The _____ is the Master Source of God's _____ in Us

"Only by pride comes contention but with the well advised is wisdom." —Proverbs 13:10

"The filling of the Holy Spirit transforms and adjusts self-absorbed attitudes and actions into helpful emotional expressions and healthy human relationships."

3. The _____ is the Master Design of God's _____ for Our Good

"Marriage then, is the first institution of human society—indeed it is the institution on which all other human institutions have their foundation. In the Christian tradition we refer to marriage as 'holy matrimony' to signal the fact that it is an institution ordained by God… Where marriage is honored, and where there is a flourishing marriage culture, everyone benefits—the spouses themselves, their children, the communities and societies in which they live. Where the marriage culture begins to erode, social pathologies of every sort quickly manifest themselves." —The Manhattan Declaration

"Marriage is a love story that involves more than our own romantic notions; it is inspired by and connected to God's divine romance."

This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. —Ephesians 5:32

…who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began. —2 Tim. 1:9

…[4]even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love [5]He predestined us for adoption to Himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, [6]to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved. —Ephesians 1:4-6

The Mystery and Meaning of Marriage

1. God modeled marriage on the covenant love of Christ and the church.

2. Therefore, marriage has always been a witness (a drama/parable) of the Covenant love between Christ and the church.

3. Therefore, the roles of the husband and wife derive from roles God designed for Christ and the church.

4. Therefore, confusing or minimizing these roles obscures the meaning of marriage as a drama of the covenant love between Christ and the church.

5. Therefore, let every husband seek to love and lead and nourish and protect his wife like Christ, and let every wife love her husband and honor his Christ-like role, joining hands in Christ-exalting mission as meant for the church to do. —John Piper (based on Ephesians 5:22-33)

Notes:

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A WAY OF LIFE

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