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1/8/2023

EVERYONE SUBMITS

(Colossians 3:18 – 4:1)

INTRODUCTION

You will never reach an age wherein you are exempt from having to submit.

“Submit” - to subject oneself; to be subject to; to yield; relinquish; put in subjection.

Books of Ephesians and Colossians address areas of submission, and the text gives us the definition and the application in these relationships of submission.

1. (Ephesians 5:21) “Submitting to one another in the fear of the Lord”

It's mutual, and God is not picking on any one relationship above the other.

“To one another” - submission is a Christian virtue in all of these relationships.

“In the fear of God” - submission isn't so much a human institution, it's to the Lord.

(James 4:7-8) “submit to God ... draw near to God, and He will draw near to you”

(Col. 3:18) “Wives ... as is fitting in the Lord”

(Eph. 5:25) “Husbands ... just as Christ also loved the church”

(Eph. 6:1) “Children, obey your parents in the Lord”

(Eph. 6:4) “Fathers ... bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord”

(Col. 3:22) “Bondservants ... fearing God” (v24) “for you serve the Lord Christ”

(Col. 4:1) “Masters ... knowing that you have a Master in heaven”

2. (Ephesians 5:24) “Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ”

(Colossians 1:18) “And He (Christ) is the head of the body, the church”

(Ephesians 1:22-23) “And He (God) put all things under His (Christ) feet,
and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body

... “

The basis for our daily living and assembly is “It is written” and “Thus says the Lord”

(Romans 12:2) “prove what is that good, acceptable, and perfect will of God”

(2 Timothy 2:15) “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God”

(John 12:48-50) “He who rejects Me (Jesus), and does not receive My words, has that
which judges him - the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day”

3. (Colossians 3:18) “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord”

(Ephesians 5:22-23) “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord ... “

The motivation to honor this relationship is that it “is fitting in the Lord” “as to the Lord”

(Titus 2:1-10) “But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:
that the older men ... (v3) that the older women likewise ... (v4) that they admonish
the young women to love their husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.
(v6) exhort the young men ... (v9) exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters...
that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things”

4. (Colossians 3:19) **Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them**

(Ephesians 5:25 – 29) **Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ love the church ...** “

“As Christ loved the church” - So, how did Christ love the church?

- Sacrificially - “and gave Himself for her”
- Realistically - (Romans 6:8) “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us”
- Voluntarily - (Matthew 20:17-19)
- Purposefully - (v26) “that He might sanctify and cleanse her”
(v27) “that He might present her to Himself ... “
- Absolutely - Jesus did not withhold anything needful from the church”
(Ephesians 1:3) “blessed us with every spiritual blessing”

“So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies”

(v29) **“For no one ever hated his own flesh”** - hate my actions, but don't hate me.

“but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church”

As you treat yourself; so, invest in her by providing what she needs.

5. (Col. 3:20) **Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord**

(Eph. 6:1-3) **“Children, obey your parent in the Lord ...** “

“For this is well pleasing to the Lord” - you cause heaven to rejoice.

“This is right” - obey without expectation of an immediate reward in your hand.

“First commandment with promise” - obey out of an obligation to God.

“That it may be well with you” - you will always feel better when doing right.

“And you may live long on the earth” - stay away from vices that shorten life.
Parents will request that you don't do things that are harmful.

6. (Colossians 3:21) **Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged**

(Eph. 6:4) **“Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath,
But bring them up in the training (“nurture”) and admonition of the Lord”**

“Do not provoke” - in the discipline, take care that the discipline does not drive the child to rebel against authority. Teach submission throughout life.

“Bring them up in the training (“nurture”) and admonition of the Lord”

“Nurture” - total “training” of the body, mind, and soul.

“Admonition” - teach about the value of Christianity and submission to God.

7. (Colossians 3:22 – 25) Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men ... “

(Ephesians 6:5-8) “Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ ... “

(Titus 2:9-10) “Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well-pleasing in all things, not answering back, not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.”

Apostle Paul tells bondservants to do right, whether the master is heartless, kind, pagan, or a brother in Christ.

Our employment provides us a place in which we may present Christ in attitude and action.

8. (Colossians 4:1) Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven”

(Ephesians 6:9) “And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him”

9. (Hebrews 13:17) Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls ... “

(1 Timothy 5:17-19) “Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double-honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. For the scripture says, ‘You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain’ and ‘The laborer is worthy of his wages.’ Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses.”

10. (1 Peter 5:1-4) The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder ... shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers ... being examples to the flock, and when the Chief Shepherd appears ... “

Among the eldership, there is no one to be appointed “chief.” Peter was a “fellow elder”

(Acts 20:28) “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God ... “
(v31) “Therefore watch ... “

(1 Timothy 3:1) “This is a faithful saying, If a man desire the position of a bishop, he desires a good work.” (KJV: 1 Timothy 4:14) “presbytery”

11. (James 4:7-8) Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you ... “

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