

Crown Her a King TM

Restoring God's Glory to the Bride of Christ

© By Susan Dewbrew

SESSION 9: *United We Stand...*

CLASS NOTES

Headship: The head and body metaphor was meant to be a message of unity, not dominance, both with husband and wife, as well as with Christ and the church. Our differences are meant to be the very places of our joining together, like puzzle pieces. With a married couple, it is in the very place of our physical differences that God designed us to experience oneness physically. Boy has the enemy perverted that one! Man and wife were to be a plural unity, in God's image. Divided we are alone, and God said that's not good... a part separated from its whole! – Satan's plan from the beginning is to get us to divide any way he can.

"The two shall become ONE flesh." Does one disappear? or become secondary? No!

Jesus and Father are ONE ... John 14:9-11 "... Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; ..." – Yet they are distinct individuals.

Jesus prayed that we would be ONE: John 17:11-26 ...that **they may be one even as We are.** ... ²⁰ "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that **they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.** ²² The **glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one;** ²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in **unity**, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and **loved them**, even as You have loved Me....: so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

It's about connecting with HIM... becoming ONE with Him...

What is the mortar that joins us to Him? = LOVE!

You don't lose your identity or your FREEDOM. Remain distinct individuals.

PLACEMENT OF LIVING STONES. HOW ARE WE FIT TOGETHER?

Concentric Circles of relationship:

- 1) Inner core... just you and God (anyone else becomes an idol)
- 2) Then you and spouse or best friend if single (parents before leave & cleave)
- 3) Then immediate family (or those who would lay their life down for you)
- 4) Close friends (still vulnerable and authentic)
- 5) Acquaintances (affections, connections... but not the same)
- 6) Co-workers, people you serve or who serve you
(relationship is based on ROLE or FUNCTION rather than blood or passion)
- 6) people in your state... or country ... or world
(Distant, no connection, but have something in common – like we are Texans, or Americans, or we live on same planet.)

The more intimate, the more the connection is based on LOVE, on RELATIONSHIP. The further out, the more it is based on role or function or just some external common denominator! **Sadly, “submission” is usually taught from a role or function point of view!** ☹

Connecting together in a healthy way: A developing relationship moves from one circle in toward the next... with appropriate boundaries, NOT walls. Don't allow strangers intimate access! But also don't put up walls with those close to you.

1 Cor 6:15-17, “¹⁵ Do you not know that **your bodies are members of Christ**? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body *with her*? For He says, “THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.” ¹⁷ **But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.** ¹⁸ Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you**, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰ For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.”

He is fitting us together as His temple (not pyramid) ☺

The temple is His dwelling / His resting place.

Romans 12 – we are all members (different parts) of one body

1 Cor 12 – we are all members with different gifts in one body

Eph 2:20-22, (v. 14 He broke down the dividing wall between Jew and Gentile, bringing them together into one new man, into one household), ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone**, ²¹ in “whom the whole building, **being fitted together, is**

growing into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

IT'S ABOUT UNITY IN HIM! -- by His example as "cornerstone" (KINGSHIP)

1 Pet 2: 5, "you also, as **living stones**, are **being built up as a spiritual house** for a holy priesthood..." v. 7 with **Christ as is our cornerstone**... v. 9 **royal priesthood** – one people... v 11... be pure ... v. 13 submit to human institutions... v. 16 We should "**Act as free men**, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but *use it* as bondslaves of God. ¹⁷ **Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.**" v. 21 with Christ as our example, suffering for others, v. 24 he bore our sin so we could live, and be healed.

chapter break right here?.... Chapter 3 starts off, "**In the same way, wives submit...."** What way is that? Chapter 2 says we are living stones, being fit together... with Christ as our cornerstone... **LOVING GOD, HONORING OTHERS...** laying our lives down for others

This is Biblical submission: like headship, you are coming under to lift the other up!
SUBMISSION ISN'T MENTIONED OUTSIDE THE CONTEXT OF UNITY!!

1 Pet 3:1-7, ¹"In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands... ⁵For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands; ⁶just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear. ⁷You husbands in the same way, live with *your wives* in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered. ⁸To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; ⁹not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

- According to 1 Peter 3:1-6, **a wife should follow Christ's example**. She should submit even to those who do not understand **her freedom in Christ**. She should be chaste and respectful, having a heart attitude of gentleness. Like Sarah, whose husband was willing to trade her in to save his own skin, yet she had the right attitude toward her husband and **called him lord** (side note, she said that to herself, not to him ☺).
- So, according to 1 Peter 3:7, **a husband should follow Christ's example**. He should relate to his wife by living with her in an understanding way. Her lot in life in the culture at large was very poor indeed. She was totally powerless in society, so he should treat her as something precious, something fragile – the weaker vessel (not the less valuable vessel). He was to honor her as a fellow heir or else his prayers would be hindered. **She was a joint heir – equal.**
- According to 1 Peter 3:8-9, **the husband and wife should relate to each other in a**

harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly/sisterly, kind-hearted way. They should never return evil for evil but rather be a blessing. The key was love, not authority over.

- The Greek word exousia means "authority" as we would understand it today. So do the Greek words *huperoche* and *epitage*, among others. These were never the words selected when describing a husband's position with his wife, with one exception. In 1 Corinthians when Paul said a husband has authority over his wife's body and she has authority over his... only then this power-word is used. **But notice, the wife and husband have the exact same authority over the other.** ☺

In marriage, equality and unity go hand in hand - side by side - joined together perfectly.

Unity of the Spirit; unity of the faith – (not unity of doctrine or methods)

UNITY IS FIRST ABOUT BEING ONE IN THE SPIRIT... ONE WITH HIM.... WORSHIP, PARTNERSHIP
not uniformity.... not total agreement... but UNITY IN HIM!!!!

Eph 4:2, "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another **in love**,³ **being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** ...¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, **to the building up of the body of Christ;** ¹³ **until we all attain to the unity of the faith,** ...¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is **the head, even Christ,** ¹⁶ **from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies,** according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself **in love.**"

LOVE IS THE MORTAR THAT HOLDS US TOGETHER... we cannot love without HONOR (respect), and you cannot honor without SUBMISSION.

Ephesians 5:21, "Be subject to one another in the fear of Christ." -- submit one to another... (MUTUAL, RECIPROCAL SUBMISSION) **BOTH SHOULD SUBMIT??!?**

Submit: The Greek word *hupotasso* means 'to place, arrange, or rank under, to subject, to subordinate, to obey; to submit to one's control, to yield to one's admonition or advice.' **In non-military use, it was "a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating, assuming responsibility, and carrying a burden". (Sounds a lot like headship!)**

Yieldedness. The main point was more of a heart attitude, an open accepting attitude, not blind obedience.

1 Cor 16:13-16, "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men [be brave] be strong. ¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love. ¹⁵ Now I urge you, brethren (you know the household of Stephanas, that they were the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves for ministry to the

saints), ¹⁶ that you **also be in subjection** to such men [not “men” but *toioutos*, of this sort] and to everyone who helps in the work and labors. (same submission as with wives)

According to **Philippians 2:3-8 all Christians, whether male or female, should regard one another as being more important than themselves.** Submission can be applied to the husband-wife relationship in that we should be open and yielded to one to another. We should each place the other above ourselves by honoring their desires and taking to heart their advice.

We should serve and submit to one another without any worldly power struggles. As Jesus said that the heathen lord over one another, but this should never be true among Christians. This is particularly true within the intimacy of marriage. And as we move out in those concentric circles... we need to continue walking in love, honor, and submission.

“Hearts Can Tell” by Scott Prickett (<http://scottprickett.com/category/honor-2/>) 9/5/2012

Mutuality of submission was part of God’s original plan... but submission got skewed toward women from the traditions and false doctrines of men. When we have that pyramid structure in mind... someone must be OVER, therefore women must be UNDER. That’s not *temple*, with Him as cornerstone and apostle and prophets as the foundation. The temple structure is bottom up!!

But in Ephesians, 1 Peter, & Colossians, the translators had on a worldly filter. They put in sentence breaks and even whole section breaks just before ‘women submitting’. In Ephesians, they even add a break *in the middle of a sentence!* Why? Focus shifted to women’s role rather than everyone in unity, filled with the Spirit, in love and in mutual submission.

Eph 5:15-33, “Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of your time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹ **and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.**

Translators put a sentence break here!!?!?!? and some even a section break?!?! – ... but in the original, it’s still the same sentence!! – no break in thought

Marriage Like Christ and the Church

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 so 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 would be holy and blameless. 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 BE JOINED 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, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must *see to it* that she respects her husband.

Theologian Gordon Fee, in an article on "The Cultural Context of Ephesians 5:18–6:9...", stated:

"Moreover, you have probably heard at some point that Ephesians is full of long sentences. Indeed it is, and here is an especially long one: **the sentence that begins in [Chapter 5] verse 18 does not end until verse 23**. Now all English translations try to help the reader out of the morass by breaking this into smaller sentences; however, in so doing the modern reader can miss a lot.

- a. "In Greek the sentence has a single subject and verb, which comes in the form of an imperative: "You [the readers] be filled with the Spirit"; this is then followed by a string of modifying participles:
 - speaking to each other in psalms, hymns, and so on;
 - singing and [making melody] to the Lord (Christ) from heart;
 - thanking our God and Father always for all things through Jesus Christ;
 - submitting to one another in the fear of Christ, followed by words to the wives with respect to their husbands.

- b. "The significance of this is twofold: First, the words to wives and husbands are to be understood as totally dependent on their being filled with the Spirit. That is, all the words in 5:22–6:9 presuppose a household of believers who are continually being filled with the Spirit of God. Second, and especially important for us: In Paul's mind there is the closest kind of link between Christian worship and the Christian household. This is almost certainly because the former worship took place primarily in the latter (the household). The point is that most of the earliest churches met in households, and the various households themselves, therefore, served as the primary nuclei of the body of Christ (or God's household) in any given location."

AGAIN IN COLOSSIANS: POINT IS UNITY IN LOVE... BUT TRANSLATORS DIVIDE OUT WOMEN SUBMITTING

Col 3:12 ¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. ¹⁴ **Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity**. ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were **called in one body**; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Again ... a section break? right here?

Family Relations

¹⁸ Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be

embittered against them. ²⁰ Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

AGAIN – IT'S BEING ONE WITH GOD FIRST, THEN HIS LOVE IN US FLOWS OUT INTO OUR RELATIONSHIPS... THE MORE INTIMATE THE CIRCLE, THE MORE IT'S BASED ON LOVE ... not function or role!

Should women love their husbands? Should husbands love their wives?

Should women submit to their husbands? Should husbands submit to their wives?

Why has headship and submission been a point of division rather of joining together?

If you are viewing scripture outside the parameters of God's heart... outside a KINGDOM perspective... you end up with a PYRAMID scheme. :-/

We have an enemy who wants us to DIVIDE!! And a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus said in John 17, the answer to world evangelism is that we become one, like They are One. We are to connect with HIM and then with each another at varying levels of intimacy, so there needs to be healthy and natural boundaries. When these boundaries get twisted, we get confused and again our dominion suffers. Never before has the family unit become so broken that normal bonding in infancy and childhood is absent or distorted.

When we are joined together properly, living stones neatly fitted together, we are one unstoppable force. – **ONE ACCORD IN UPPER ROOM, WOMEN TOO, POWER FELL!**

**Unity is the key to power. Honor is the key to unity.
MUTUAL submission is the key to honor.**

- Freedom means you have a choice. Kingdom submission must be a choice.
- How do you govern free people, must get their consent
 - SUBMISSION!! – giving up our interests for the common good
 - **Submit from a place of strength... not weakness**
- Bethel's example – headship and plurality of leadership
 - President in peace -- Commander-in-chief when under siege
- Truth is not horizontal (all the same), rather it is vertical...love is greatest of all.
- Does a woman submitting mean she disappears behind her husband?

AS WITH EVERYTHING IN THE KINGDOM...IT'S A MATTER OF THE HEART!

UNITED WE STAND.... But divided we fall.

The Church is a sleeping giant ready to STAND up.... WAKE UP O' SLEEPER!!!