

Study Questions  
Ephesians 12 Revisited  
Sunday September 30<sup>th</sup> 2009

1). Eph 4:1 ¶ *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 ¶ with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

- a). According to our scripture what are we to walk worthy of?
- b). How are we to do this?
- c). How will we keep the unity of the Spirit?
- d). How do we establish the ‘bond of peace’? [bond = ‘sundesmos’ = a joint/ligament]

2). Eph 5:15 *See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of*

*our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 ¶ submitting[yourselves] to one another in the fear of God.*

a). How do our verses here in Chapter 5 give us the answers to our questions on the first 3 verses of Chapter 4?

b). How is ‘submitting to one another in the fear of God’ made possible?

c). Why should we be fearful of God in this?

3). 1Pe 5:5 ¶ *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."* 6 *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*

a). How do submission and humility go hand in hand?

b). What does it mean for God to resist us?

c). What does this scripture, with regards to Israel, suggest to us in connection with this? - Le 26:17 *I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you.*

*Pr 3:33 The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, But He blesses the home of the just. 34 Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble. 35 The wise shall inherit glory, But shame shall be the legacy of fools.*

- d). Explain what we see here in Proverbs.
- e). In 1 Peter 5:6 who is to do the humbling?
- f). How are we to humble ourselves to?
- g). What does it look like to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God?
- h). How would this be connected to submission?
- i). What is the promise for those who would be faithfully obedient?
- j). How does all this connect with Ephesians 5:21?
- k). Do our actions show that our primary motivation is to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God or to exalt ourselves thereby becoming a child of the wicked one?

4). *Php 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.*

- a). Thinking about what every joint is to supply to the body so that the body grows in love what would v3 look like practically amongst ourselves?

b). How are we doing with this?

c). What do we find to be the greatest obstacle to putting this into practice?

5). 1Co 11:3 *But I want you to know that the head of every man[husband] is Christ, the head of woman[wife] is man,[husband] and the head of Christ is God.*

a). What does this scripture tell us about the role of Head?

b). Is there any sense in which the one who is not 'head' is inferior to the one who is?

c). Who determines the role of head?

6). Eph 5:22 *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.*

a). Why is the wife to submit to her husband?

b). Why is the church to be subject to Christ?

c). What does one tell you of the other?

d). Submit = 'hupotasso' – what do you understand this to mean?

e). What does it look like to put this into practice?

f). Who is the issue of submission between?

7). Eph 5:25 *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own 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 the Lord does the church.*

a). If the husband is to be subject to Christ as his Head and Christ commands the husband to love his wife, within our context here what are the implications of the husband's actions with regards to his wife's future salvation?

b). What does it look like to 'love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church'?

c). Nourish = 'ektrepho' = to rear up to maturity, i.e. (genitive case) to cherish or train:--bring up, nourish.

d). Cherish = 'thalpo' = probably akin to thallo (to warm); to brood, i.e. (figuratively) to foster:--cherish.

e). How does Christ nourish and cherish the church and what is His purpose for doing so?

f). How would a husband nourish and cherish his wife toward the same end?

- g). What stands in the way of the husband fulfilling his role and responsibility?
- h). What stands in the way of the wife submitting to her husband?
- i). Why is getting the marriage relationship right on an individual level so important for the church as a whole?
- j). Along with our assigned roles what does God also give to the husband and wife?
- k). How seriously do we need to take all of this?