

The Church We Honor

Ephesians 5:25-27

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The Church We Honor – Ephesians 5:25-27

The Lord's church is greater than any other institution.

- ▶ Because God is its Author. Ephesians 3:10-11
- ▶ Because Christ is its Builder. Matthew 16:18
- ▶ Because Christ is its Head. Colossians 1:18
- ▶ Because Christ is its Savior. Ephesians 5:23

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The Church As A Building. 1 Corinthians 3:9

- ▶ Strong foundation. 1 Corinthians 3:11; Matthew 16:18
- ▶ Formed with varied/many materials. Colossians 1:13-14; Ephesians 2:19-21
- ▶ Habitation of God. Ephesians 2:22
- ▶ Spiritual house. 1 Peter 2:5

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The Church As A Body. Ephesians 1:22-23

- ▶ Relationship of Christ to the church.
 - Christ is its head. Colossians 1:18
- ▶ Relationship of Christ to Christians.
 - Christ is the savior. Ephesians 5:23
- ▶ Relationship of Christians to one another.
 - Members one of another. Romans 12:4-5

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The Church As A Body (continued). **Ephesians 1:22-23**

- ▶ Unity of the body. 1 Corinthians 12:12
- ▶ Entrance into the body. 1 Corinthians 12:13; cf. John 3:3,5; Galatians 3:26-27
- ▶ Harmony of the body. 1 Corinthians 12:25-27, verse 15

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The Church As A Vineyard. Matthew 20:1

NOTE:

- ▶ Householder went out *“early in the morning.”*
 - Important work. cf. Matthew 6:33
- ▶ Householder went out to *“hire laborers.”*
 - Willing workers. cf. Matthew 25:26; Proverbs 26:13-16.
- ▶ Householder went out to hire laborers *“into his vineyard.”*
 - Makes a difference WHERE the work is done. Matthew 7:21; Colossians 3:17

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The Church As A Bride. Ephesians 5:27 (Purity)

- ▶ Only one. Matthew 19:3–9
- ▶ Forsakes all others. cf. Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 6:14, 17; Colossians 3:1–3; Romans 6:1–6
 - Can't flirt with the world. 1 John 2:15
 - God is a jealous God. 2 Corinthians 11:1–2

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The Church As A Bride (Continued). Ephesians 5:27 (Purity)

- ▶ Because it is made pure by the blood of Christ. 1 Peter 1:18–19; cf. Revelation 1:5
- ▶ Because of the purchase price. Acts 20:28
- ▶ Because the salvation of the lost demands it. Matthew 5:13–14, 16; cf. Matthew 12:30
- ▶ Because we become united with Christ. Romans 6:5
- ▶ Because the destiny of the church demands it. Revelation 19:7–9; 21:27

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- ▶ **Building.**
- ▶ **Body.**
- ▶ **Vineyard.**
- ▶ **Bride.**

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Conclusion:

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that he might present the church to himself a glorious (church), not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

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