

# Colossians 3:18-21 Decently and in Order

## 1. Christ and the church

- a. Christ is the Head of the body, the church (Col 1:18, Eph 1:22-23)
- b. Christ and submission (Let this mind be in you) (Phil 2:2-5):
  - i. Christ has always been equal with God (Jn 5:18, Phil 2:6)
  - ii. Yet Christ willingly went to death on the cross for the purpose of the building of the body of Christ (Phil 2:7-8, Gal 1:4)
- c. Christ and headship (Phil 2:9)
  - i. Christ has made peace with every member of the body. (Rom 5:1, Eph 2:14, Col 1:20)
  - ii. From Christ the body is nourished and increases (Col 2:19)
  - iii. The head cannot say, "I have no need of you" (1 Cor 12:21)
- d. We are now one with Christ and instructed to submit to our Head (1 Cor 10:16-17, 1 Cor 12:12)
- e. "Whatsoever ye do...", "Let all things be done decently and in order." (1 Cor 6:20, 1 Cor 14:40)
- f. The mystery would have us know Godly order. (1 Cor 11:17-22, 1 Cor 11:3)

## 2. Husbands and wives • Colossians 3:18-19

- a. Husbands and wives are **one** in marriage (Gen 2:24)
- b. Wives: submit, order begins here - willing submission (Eph 5:22-24)
  - i. To their **own** husbands - not any and every man!
  - ii. An example to the church (including men) of the church being subject to Christ.
  - iii. Wives have a very important responsibility that the church needs to see function.
- c. Husbands: love, as Christ loved the church - he laid down His own life (Eph 5:25-29)
  - i. Love **your** wife as your own body.
  - ii. An example to the church (including women), of how Christ gave himself for His body's sake. Husbands give up their lives for the wife.
  - iii. Husbands have a very important responsibility that the church needs to see function.
- d. A mystery about marriage is that it shows the relationship of Christ and the church. (Eph 5:30-32)
- e. Husbands, love your wife. Wives reverence your husbands. This is the will of God. (Eph 5:33)

## 3. Parents and children • Colossians 3:20-21

- a. The goal: Children need to be raised in the Lord. They need to grow up. (Eph 6:4)
  - i. Children need to come to be in Christ, and grow up in Him.
  - ii. The goal is to release them from the need of a tutor or governor. (Gal 4:1-2)
  - iii. In some ways, raising children reflects the human condition (the law brings us to Christ.) Children need discipline, but more importantly need to comprehend "why?".
  - iv. Children are not to be discouraged, but encouraged so that they may grow.
- b. Children do not rule the house, they are to obey their parents. (1 Tim 3:4-5)