

SESSION 25
EPHESIANS 6. 1-9

Overarching Themes In Ephesians: "The letter dwells profoundly on the Person of Jesus Christ and The Church." R.P. Martin

Context: Paul's reflections on Christ's relationship to His bride, the Church and the charge to husband and wife to be mutually submitted to Him and to each other, that the glory and wisdom of God be made manifest through the marriage relationship and that the mystery of God's will for creation be further revealed to a broken world.

Learning Targets For Enduring Understanding From This Session:

To understand that all relationships in the Kingdom of God are to be in Christ and in submission to Christ, that the glory of God be revealed therein.

To understand that within the Kingdom of God there is no partiality, no favoritism or preferred status. The ground is level at the foot of the cross.

V 1 What is this verse saying?

V 2 From whence does this verse come and what does it really mean? Deut 5.16

What is the foundation for your honoring another person?

What is the precious fruit of your truly honoring your parents? Ps 40. 6-8

V 3 What benefit comes to you through honoring your parents?

What is the highest "well" there is in the human experience?

Wellness of soul = intimate, compelling fellowship with Jesus Christ. Other blessings may come, but for the soul, Christ's fellowship is supreme.

V 4a What is the charge here given to father's?

What does it take within the heart of a father to avoid the nastiness of provocation in his relationships with his children?

V 4b What further charge is given to fathers?

What motives in a father's heart may compete with the Christ centered one?

Ex 20.5

V 5 What is the to be the basis for a slave's obedience?

What qualifiers are presented with respect to this obedience?

How do we understand "with fear and trembling"?

Heb 12. 28-29

How do we understand "singleness" or "sincerity of heart"?

There is no substitute for a unified heart in Christ, a heart that is open to the light of Christ Jesus shining upon it and is not distracted by division unto the world of sin that presses thereupon.

V 6a What other motivation for obedience is identified in this verse?

V 6b-7 What drivers for godly obedience are identified in this verses?

V 8-9 What truths do these verses identify?