

I. The Bride is Submissive to Her Husband ([Eph. 5:22-24](#))

1. submit yourselves (*hypotasso* G5293 verb) primarily a military term, “to rank under” (*hupo*, “under,” *tasso*, “to arrange”) (Vine, W. E., et al. Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, vol. 2, T. Nelson, 1996, p. 606).
 - a. We must respect the Divine chain of authority ([1 Cor. 11:3](#)).
 - b. God has put **all** things under Christ with the Father being the only exception ([1 Cor. 15:27](#); cf. [Eph. 1:22](#)).
2. Christ has **all** authority ([Mt. 28:18](#)).
3. If we are in love with the Lord we will have no problem submitting to Christ.
 - a. A lack of submission indicates a lack of love ([Jn. 14:15](#)).
 - b. If we are in love with Him we will call Him Lord and mean it ([1 Pt. 3:5-6](#); [Lk. 6:46-48](#)).

II. The Bride is Sanctified ([Eph. 5:26](#))

1. he might sanctify (*hagiazō* G37 verb) several ideas are attached to this word including consecration, dedication, and purification.
 - a. In this context, purification is definitely under consideration as the word “cleanse” is used.
 - b. Christ frees His bride from the guilt of sin thus purifying her ([Tit. 2:14](#) “purify”).
2. If we are truly in love with the Lord we will leave sin alone.
 - a. Christ came into the world to **save** sinners not to make sinners ([1 Tim. 1:15](#))!
3. If we are truly in love with the Lord we will dedicate our lives to Him.
 - a. We can only serve one of two masters ([Mt. 6:24](#); cf. [Mt. 12:30](#)).
 - b. Christ must be our all ([Eph. 1:23](#); [Php. 1:21](#); [Gal. 2:20](#)).

III. The Bride is Holy and Without Blemish ([Eph. 5:27](#))

1. spot (*spilos* G4696 noun) *a spot*: trop. *a fault*, moral blemish (Thayer, Joseph Henry. A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Being Grimm’s Wilke’s Clavis Novi Testamenti, Harper & Brothers., 1889, p. 584).
2. wrinkle (*rhytis* G4512 noun) crease in the skin, an imperfection (Swanson, James. Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament), Electronic ed., Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).
3. “or any such thing” i.e., anything like this kind or sort.
4. “but” indicates a contrast meaning the previous three things are not like the following two.
5. holy (*hagios* G40 adjective) shows a cleansing from all defilement through the forsaking of sin and living a life devoted to God.

6. blameless (*amomos* G299 adjective) Ethically, *without blemish, faultless, unblamable* (Thayer 33).
 - a. Nobody is perfect in the sense of having never sinned ([Rm. 3:23](#)).
 - b. However, we can be blameless through Christ's atoning sacrifice and the sanctification process ([Eph. 5:25-26](#)).
 - c. We **can** stand before Christ blameless ([1 Th. 3:13](#); [Col. 1:22](#); [Jd. 24](#)).

IV. The Bride is a Chaste Virgin ([2 Cor. 11:2-3](#))

1. Keeping with the idea of purity, the church is figured to be an untainted virgin in this passage.
 - a. Virginity before marriage was a serious matter under the Law of Moses ([Dt. 22:13-21](#)).
 - b. Virginity is still a serious matter before marriage ([Heb. 13:4](#)).
2. Spiritual adultery is still a problem ([Jm. 4:1-4](#)).
 - a. Paul was concerned that the Corinthians would be corrupted from Christ through Satan's deception ([2 Cor. 11:3](#)).
 - b. If we are in love with the Lord we will reject **all** false teaching and stay faithful to the Lord!
 - c. If we are not in love with the Lord then false teaching will not only be accepted it will be requested ([2 Tim. 4:3-4](#)).

V. The Bride Shows Reverence to Her Husband ([Eph. 5:32-33](#))

1. she reverence (*phobeo* G5399 verb) *to reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience* (Thayer 656).
2. If we are in love with the Lord we will fear Him and keep His commandments ([Ecc. 12:13](#)).
3. If we are in love with the Lord we will honor Him...
 - a. ...in love ([Mk. 12:30](#)).
 - b. ...in giving ([Pr. 3:9](#)).
 - c. ...in dress ([Gen. 35:2-3](#), [2 Sam. 12:20](#)).
 - d. ...in religion ([Jm. 1:27](#)).
 - e. ...in influence ([Mt. 5:13-16](#)).
 - f. ...in speech ([Ps. 119:171](#)).
4. If we are not in love with the Lord then our lack of respect will be apparent in all of these and other areas.