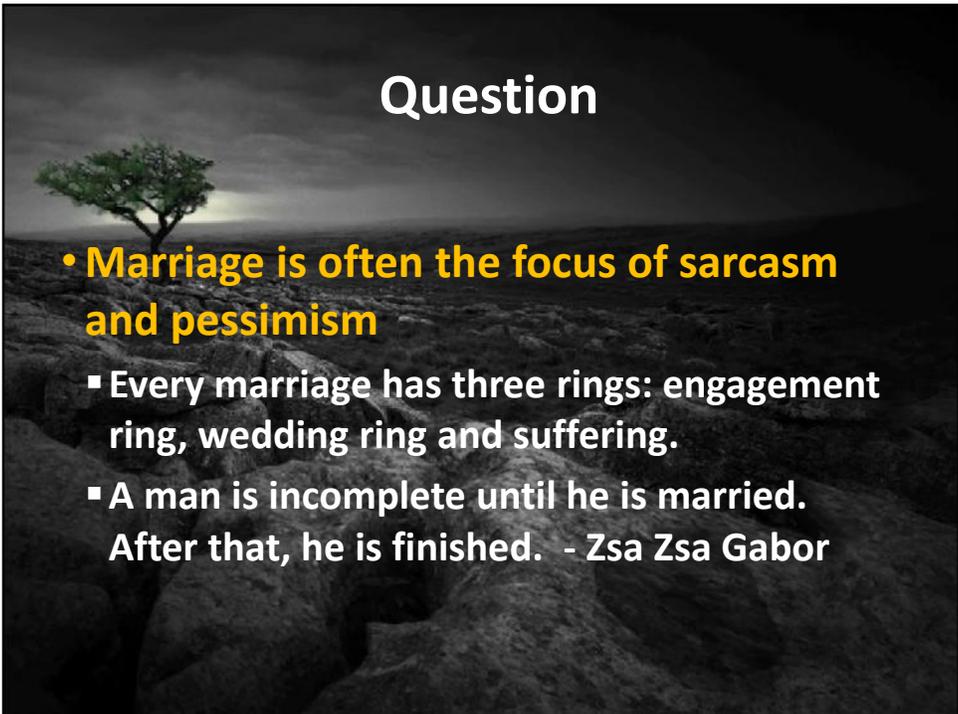


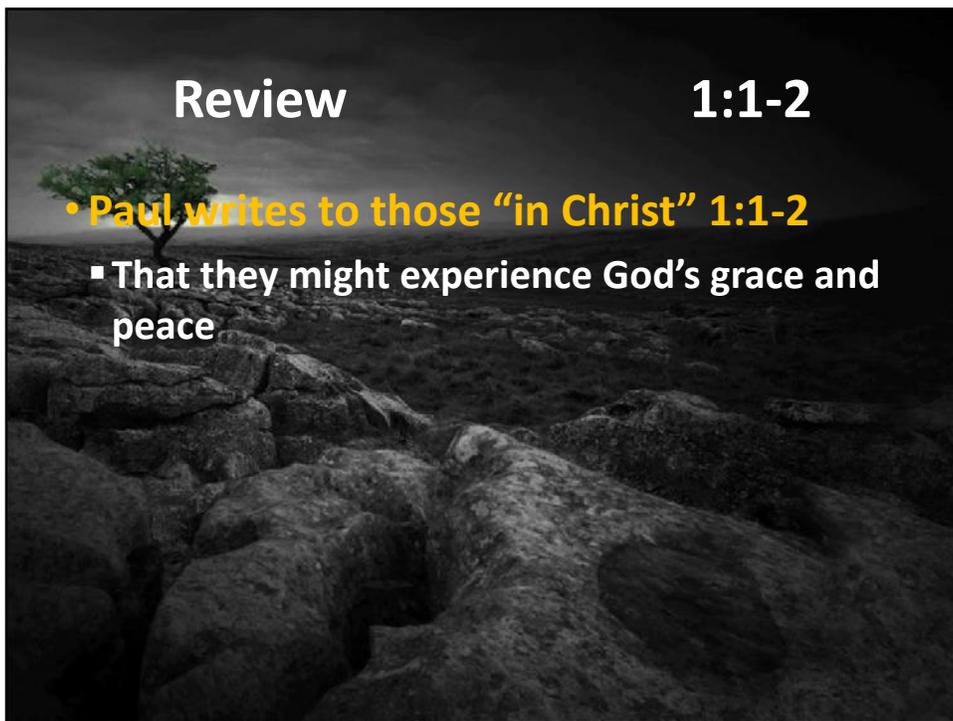
Question

- **What would make a marriage ideal?**
 - Perfect People!



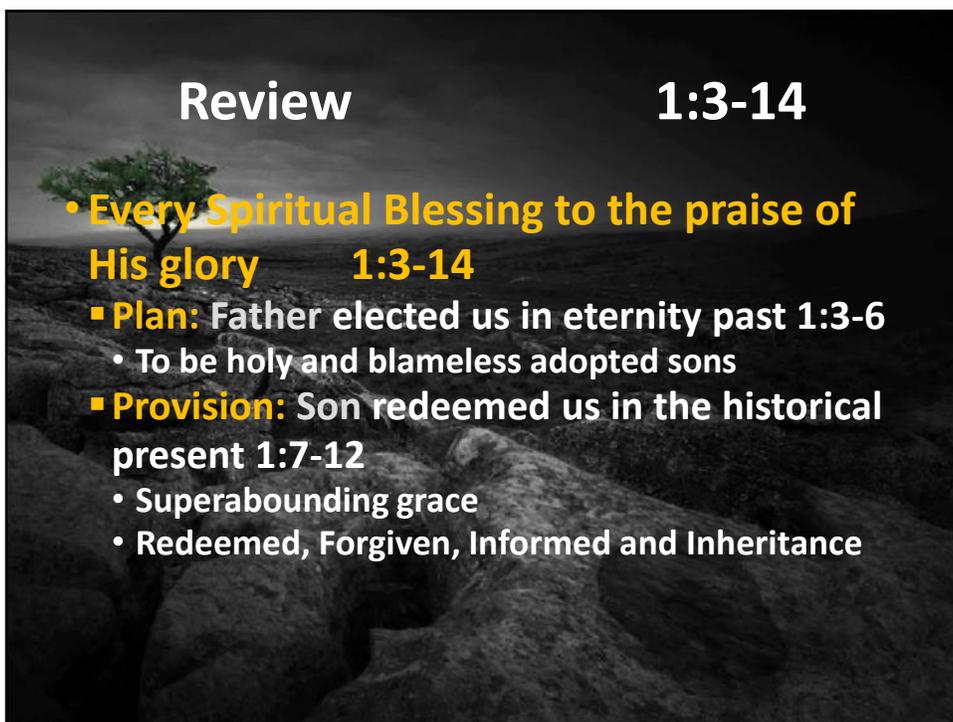
Question

- **Marriage is often the focus of sarcasm and pessimism**
 - Every marriage has three rings: engagement ring, wedding ring and suffering.
 - A man is incomplete until he is married. After that, he is finished. - Zsa Zsa Gabor



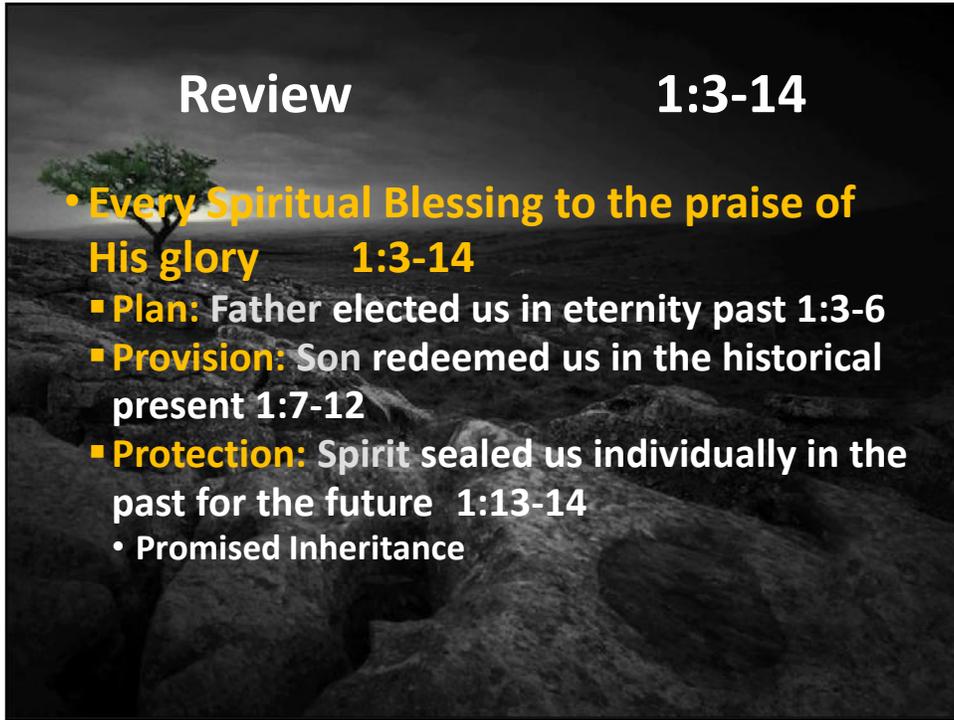
Review **1:1-2**

- **Paul writes to those “in Christ” 1:1-2**
 - That they might experience God’s grace and peace



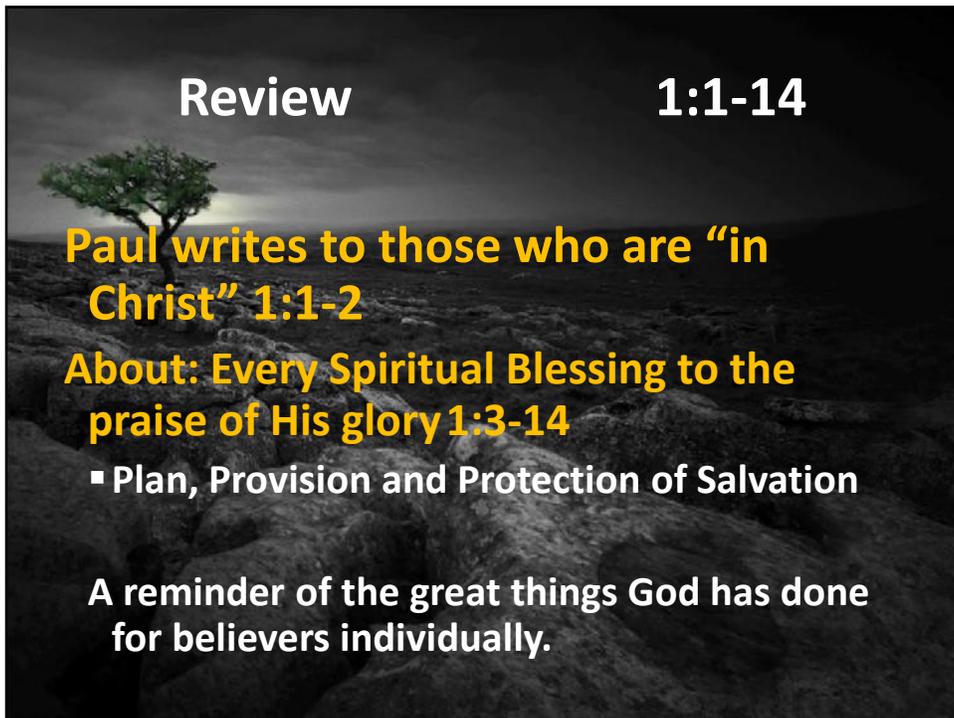
Review **1:3-14**

- **Every Spiritual Blessing to the praise of His glory 1:3-14**
 - **Plan:** Father elected us in eternity past 1:3-6
 - To be holy and blameless adopted sons
 - **Provision:** Son redeemed us in the historical present 1:7-12
 - Superabounding grace
 - Redeemed, Forgiven, Informed and Inheritance



Review **1:3-14**

- **Every Spiritual Blessing to the praise of His glory 1:3-14**
 - **Plan:** Father elected us in eternity past 1:3-6
 - **Provision:** Son redeemed us in the historical present 1:7-12
 - **Protection:** Spirit sealed us individually in the past for the future 1:13-14
 - Promised Inheritance



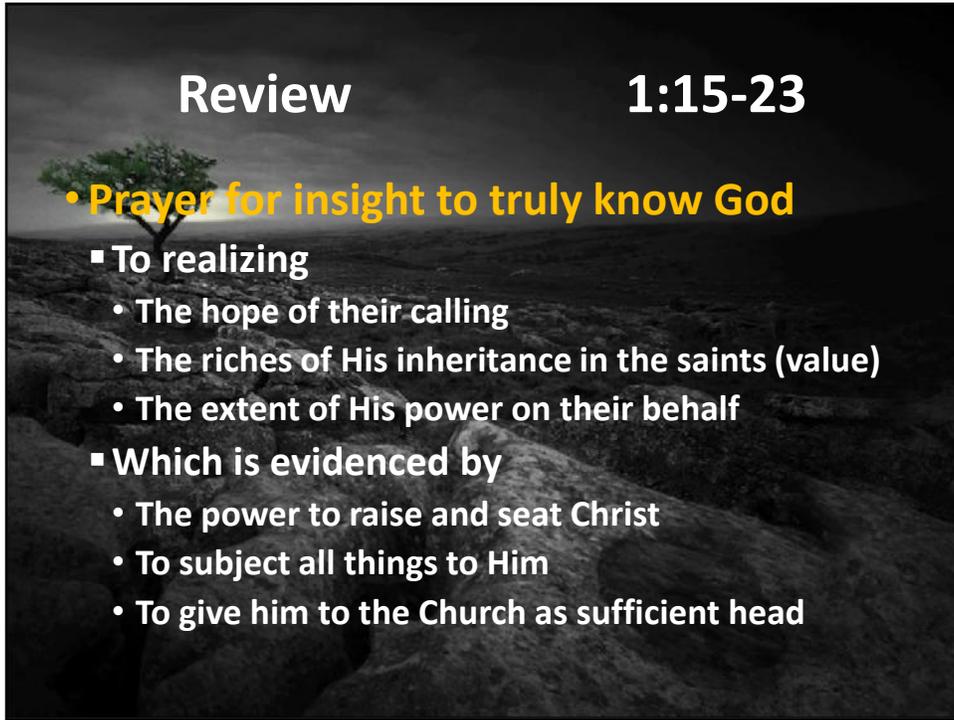
Review **1:1-14**

Paul writes to those who are “in Christ” 1:1-2

About: Every Spiritual Blessing to the praise of His glory 1:3-14

- Plan, Provision and Protection of Salvation

A reminder of the great things God has done for believers individually.



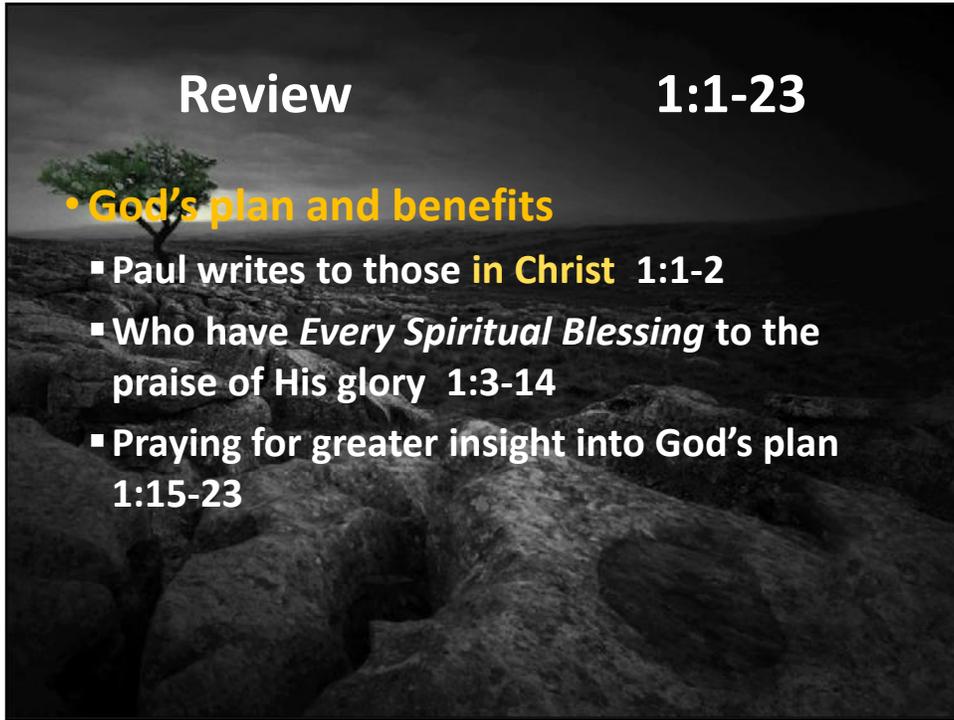
Review **1:15-23**

- **Prayer for insight to truly know God**
 - **To realizing**
 - The hope of their calling
 - The riches of His inheritance in the saints (value)
 - The extent of His power on their behalf
 - **Which is evidenced by**
 - The power to raise and seat Christ
 - To subject all things to Him
 - To give him to the Church as sufficient head



Review **1:1-23**

- **God's plan and benefits** **1:1-23**
 - Paul writes to those in Christ 1:1-2
 - Who have Every Spiritual Blessing to the praise of His glory 1:3-14
 - Praying for greater insight into God's plan 1:15-23
- **Steps towards fulfilling God's plan** **2:1—3:21**
 - God's plan applied to individuals (2:1-10)



Review **1:1-23**

- **God's plan and benefits**
 - Paul writes to those **in Christ** 1:1-2
 - Who have *Every Spiritual Blessing* to the praise of His glory 1:3-14
 - Praying for greater insight into God's plan 1:15-23



Review **2:1—3:21**

- **Steps towards fulfilling God's plan 2:1—3:21**
 - God's plan applied to individuals (2:1-10)
 - Everyman's condition apart from God 2:1-3
 - "But God"
 - Rich in mercy
 - Based on His grace provided a relationship with Him
 - Obtained through faith
 - For the purpose of revealing God's grace through actions



Review **2:1—3:21**

- **Steps toward fulfilling God's Plan**
2:1—3:13
 - God's plan applied to individuals (2:1-10)
 - God's plan applied corporately (2:11-22)
 - Those who (Gentiles) were formerly hopeless, separated from God's promises, Messiah and people
 - Now have been brought into one new entity (The Church)



Review **2:1—3:21**

- **Steps toward fulfilling God's Plan** **2:1—3:13**
 - God's plan applied to individuals (2:1-10)
 - God's plan applied corporately (2:11-22)
 - Expanding on the mystery: corporate identity (3:1-13)
 - Prayer for the Ephesians to know and experience Christ's love and experience maturity filled by God 3:14-19
 - The impossibly big prayer for intimacy and to be total consumed with God
 - Doxology: Praise to God for His superabounding 3:20-21

Context: Big Picture

- **4:1-16 is foundational for what is taught in 4:17—6:20.**
 - Having talked about Christ's love—now the called to love and unity based in Holiness.
- **4:17-24 Because of our new position (24b) and commands to put off the old self and put the new**
 - which is being created in righteousness and holiness of truth
 - Paul proceeds to demonstrate what this will look like both individually and corporately.
- **4:25-6:20 is the commentary on 4:17-24**
 - 4:17, contrasts the old life with the new without particulars, but warns against what "deceitful desires" (v. 22) may produce.
 - "Therefore" (*dio*) in v. 25 makes the connection between principle and practice.

Review

4:1—6:9

- **The Proper Conduct of the Church 4:1—6:9**
 - **Walk in Unity 4:1-16**
 - Basis for Unity 4:1-6
 - Enablement for unity 4:7-16
 - **Walk in Holiness 4:17-32**
 - The Changed Life—Purity 4:17-24
 - The Changed Life—Speech 4:25-32
 - **Walk in love and light 5:1-14**
 - **Walk in Wisdom 5:15-6:9**
 - Wise worship 5:15-21

Review/Preview

- **The New Christian** 4:17—5:21
 - **The new Christian Mind** 4:17-24
 - Our thinking must be different
 - **The new Christian speech** 4:25-32
 - Our talking must be different
 - **The new Christian motivation** 5:1-6
 - Our impulses must be different
 - **The new Christian lifestyle** 5:7-14
 - Our fellowship must be different
 - **The new Christian worship** 5:15-21
 - Our time must be different

Context / Overview

- **Paul, in the opening of the finally “therefore. . .walk” section reminding his readers...**
 - that they live in an evil society from which they are not to isolate themselves but to influence which will require walking in wisdom.
 - this wisdom comes from submitting (yielding) to the Spirit (be filled with the Spirit) resulting in a focus on others.
 - the filling of the Spirit enables them to do that which is not natural—submit willingly to others.

Context / Overview

- **Spirit Filled Wisdom is need, for when you put two people together there will be challenges—two of different gender all the more.**
- **As a matter of fact there may be problems from:**
 - differences and disagreements (preferences, viewpoints)
 - desires (different needs and wants, sexual pressures),
 - disillusionment
 - disease (physical)
 - distress (calamity)
 - dollars (financial)
 - demands (time, trips, temperature),
 - descendants (how many, how to discipline them, etc.)
 - depravity (sin nature)

Context / Overview

- **5:22-6:9 Three relationships**
 - Wife and Husband
 - Children and Parents
 - Slaves and Masters

Marital Responsibilities each Couple must Accept

Ephesians 5:22-33

• Key Principle

- “Roles always determine relationships,
and relationships create responsibility”

Howard Hendricks

Ephesians 5:22-33

• Key Observations

- Paul did not say
 - “Husbands require your wives to submission.”
 - “Wives compel your husband’s love.”
- The section written to wives—is for wives!
 - Husbands don’t need to focus on it
- The section written for husbands—is for husbands!
 - Wives don’t need to focus on it

The Wife's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:22-24

• **Commands: To Submit**

- *What image does the word "submit" bring to mind?*

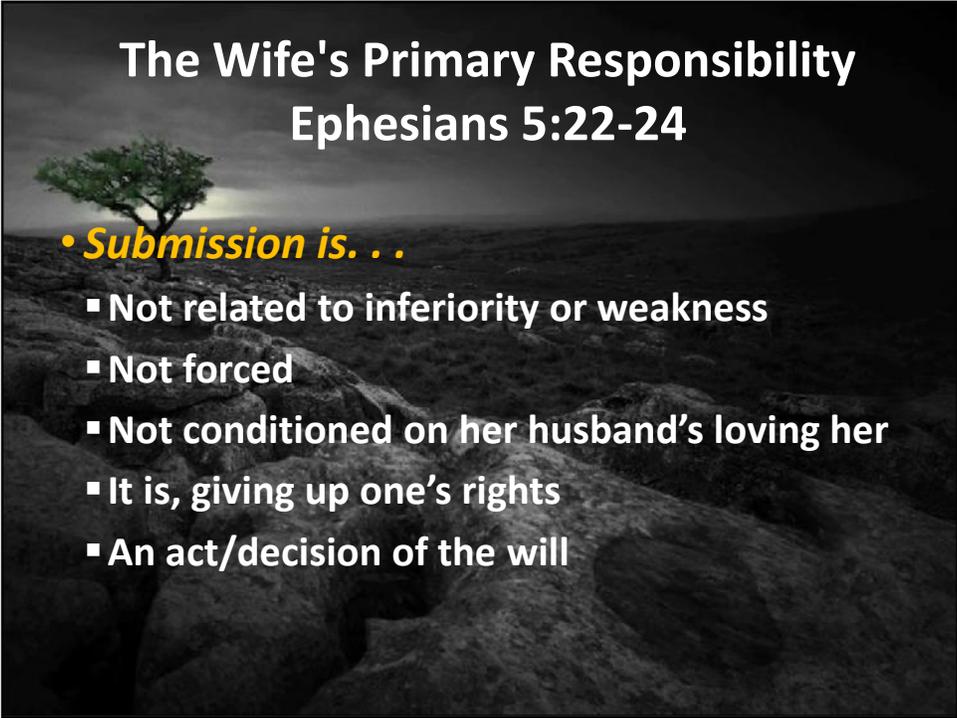
• **Definition**

- subject oneself, be subjected
- To be subject to another, to lower oneself, to humble oneself.
- Its focus is on function, not essence

The Wife's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:22-24

• **Definition: Submission**

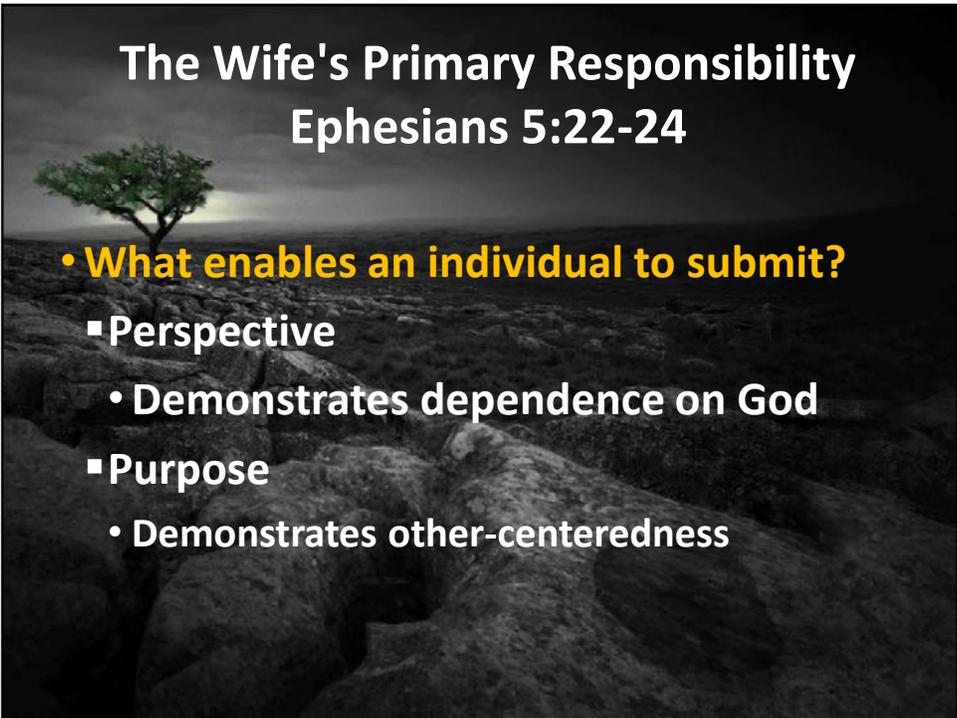
- Is an act of the will, done by self (middle) not done to self (subjecting oneself, subordination).
- It is a volunteer attitude of giving in
- It is in obedience to the Lord and a wife's submission is service to the Lord
- Submission does not mean inferiority
- Imagery: Military image, soldier falling in line because of an order



The Wife's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:22-24

- **Submission is. . .**

- Not related to inferiority or weakness
- Not forced
- Not conditioned on her husband's loving her
- It is, giving up one's rights
- An act/decision of the will



The Wife's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:22-24

- **What enables an individual to submit?**

- Perspective
 - Demonstrates dependence on God
- Purpose
 - Demonstrates other-centeredness

The Wife's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:22-24

- **Motivation:** Her relationship to the Lord
- **Model:** The Life of Christ, and the submission of the church in response.
- **Requirement:** Self-acceptance and respect. Then commitment to husband.
- **Paradox:** Often, in a relational context, women find it easier to love then submit
- **Product:** Harmony

The Husband's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:25-33

- **Commands: To Love**
 - *What image does the word "love" bring to mind?*
- **Definition**
 - Love without respect of merit, even undeserving
 - Present imperative—ongoing
 - This love is not just a feeling, but requires decisions and actions which are the result of the husbands submission to the Spirit (5:18)

The Husband's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:25-33

• *Four qualities of a husband's love*

- It is to be a sacrificial love 5:24b
- It is to be a purifying love 5:26-27
- It is to be a caring love 5:28-30
- It is to be an unbreakable love 5:31

The Husband's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:25-33

• *Love is . . .*

- Not just an emotion
- Not conditioned on a wife's submission
- A command (not a suggestion)
- To be a continual habitual action
- To be sacrificial, self-giving, unselfish
- Responsibility, not rank
- Sacrifice, not selfishness
- Duty, not domination

The Husband's Primary Responsibility Ephesians 5:25-33

- **Motivation:** His relationship to the Lord
- **Model:** Christ's sacrificial love and death
- **Requirement:** Love wife as much as self even to death (and men really love their bodies)
- **Paradox:** Men find it easier to be passive (submit) than to love
- **Product:** Harmony

Summary

"The wife is told to love her husband so much that she lives *for* him, the husband is told to love his wife so much, he would die *for* her."

