

Exodus 20:14

How the Love of Jesus Bears the Fruit of Faithfulness: How Jesus makes us into a Faithful People

January 23, 2011

Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. A Faithful Love

Key Idea

How the faithful love of our husband overcomes our faithlessness!

II. Shadow, Reality & Fruit

- A. Old Covenant with Israel (Shadow)
 - 1. Preserve the Family Name
 - 2. Remain Faithful to Your Covenant
- B. New Covenant with Jesus (Reality)
 - 1. Family Name

Galatians 3:16, 27-29

Now the promises were made to *Abraham and to his offspring*. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ. ...

²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have **put on Christ**. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And *if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.*

- 2. Faithfulness
 - a. The Bad News

Matthew 5:27-29

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘*You shall not commit adultery.*’” ²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her **in his heart**. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out...

(Divorce)

³¹ “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³² But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

b. Jesus is Faithful to His Covenant

Ephesians 5:25, 27

²⁵ *Husbands*, love your wives, as **Christ loved the church** (Cf. v. 32) and **gave himself up for her...**

²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, *without spot or wrinkle* or any such thing, that she might be *holy and without blemish*.

III. What is Jesus Producing in Us? (Fruit)

A. Re-Creation

Matthew 19:3-9

...(Pharisees), “Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?” ⁴ He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them **from the beginning** made them male and female, ⁵ and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become **one flesh**’? ⁶ So they are no longer two but **one flesh**. *What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.*” ⁷ They said to him, “Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?” ⁸ He said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. ⁹ And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.”

1. Permanent
2. Male & Female (Creation order)
3. Not...Homosexuality, Bestiality, Polygamy (Cf. 1 Timothy 3; Titus 1)
4. Eph. 5 – Christ & the Church

B. Servants, Wives & Husbands

1 Peter 2:18-3:1-4

¹⁸ **Servants**, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ ... But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because **Christ also suffered** for you, *leaving you an example*, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ *When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.* ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

3 Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, ² when they see your respectful and pure conduct. ... ⁴ but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which **in God's sight is very precious**. ... ⁷ **Likewise**, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

IV. How Jesus is Producing Faithfulness in Us?

“The gospel is not just the minimum required doctrine necessary to enter the kingdom, but the way we make all progress in the kingdom.”

– Brian Hedges

A. Turning From & Turning Too

Ephesians 5:25-27

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as **Christ loved the church** and **gave himself up for her**, ²⁶ that he might *sanctify her*, having *cleansed her by the washing of water with the word*, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

Isaiah 11:3

And his *delight* shall be in the fear of the Lord.

B. For The Discouraged: Trust God...

Philippians 1:6 (Cf. Galatians 6:9 – Do not grow weary)

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C. For the *Self-Confident*: Trust God...

“Repentance and faith involve not only turning from sin and trusting in Jesus to save us from our *unrighteousness*, but also turning from our “goodness” and trusting in Jesus to save us from our *self-righteousness*.” (See Phil. 3:7-9) – **Brian Hedges**

Mark 10:17-31 (Cf. 1 Corinthians 15:10)

²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “**You lack one thing**: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, **follow me**.”