



WEIGHT of the WORLD #7
Weighty Matters of the Heart
Genesis 3:16b, Ephesians 5:33
10/21/2018

Sweetest Day & Sour Relationships

- Review: obsession w/ self leads to objectifying others w/ oppressive results
- The selfishness struggle impacts every relationship, especially marriage
- A commercialized holiday can't overcome the curse & consequence of sin
 - Candy, cards, & carnations can't cover for you
 - Only the power of life in Christ compensates for the curse's corruption

What was created for our good has been corrupted by our sin

- Humankind was created in God's image to be relational
 - Unobstructed Vertical Relationship between the Creator & His creation
 - God planted garden, provided purpose, & made His presence known
 - This is the foundational relationship for identity, meaning, & purpose
 - Vertical relationship with God defines who you are
 - Horizontal relationships with others demonstrates who you are
 - God said it was good, but also said it's not good for man to be alone
 - Uninhibited Horizontal Relationship between the Man & the Woman
 - No suitable helpmate was found, So a suitable helpmate was made
 - A complementary companion made from a rib instead of dust
 - Recognition of "One Flesh" relationship
 - This is Flesh of My Flesh:
 - valued the same as self,
 - nothing good withheld from another in selfishness
 - They were naked without shame
 - trusted the same as self
 - nothing private hidden from each other in fear
- The Fall & Corruption of Sin impacts every relationship
 - Sin separates from God, closes the Garden, earns the wage of death
 - Sin produces blame, shame, and withdrawal: undermining "One flesh"
 - The effect of the fallen nature & sin changes the dynamic of marriage
 - God pronounces the relational consequences as He rebukes Eve

"...Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you."

-Genesis 3:16b NASB

- This is not a prescriptive command but descriptive consequence
- desire translates *tesuqah*, used also in Genesis 4:7
 - the drive to overcome, defeat, or control another
 - Sin's selfishness creates desire for control & demand for position
 - Sin's selfishness causes a display of force & domination of others
 - the woman's desire will be to have the upper hand over her husband
 - the stronger husband will resort to force as needed to put her down

What's corrupted by sin must be resisted by the power of life in Christ

- ²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. **-Ephesians 5:21**
- the vertical defines, the horizontal demonstrates

³³ Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

-Ephesians 5:33 NASB

-A Husband who loves as himself does not dominate his wife

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ...²⁸ So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of His body. **Ephesians 5:25,28-30**

-A wife who respects does not demand her husband's role

²² Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. ²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

-Ephesians 5:22-24

-The Example of Christ & the Church

²⁶ so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

-Ephesians 5:26-27

- Paying the sacrificial price to lift from the past
- Providing a sacred purpose to lead into glory
- Pointing to a secure promise of a life of holiness