

A GLORIOUS CHURCH

Ephesians 5:25-30

Christ is what makes the church glorious.

I. CHRIST'S SACRIFICE (25)

Makes His Church Glorious

- A. HIS SENTIMENT: Christ loved the church
- See Romans 5:6-8 and Ephesians 2:1-5
- B. HIS SURRENDER: Christ gave Himself up
 - 1. In Gethsemane - Luke 22:42
 - 2. In Herod's Court - Luke 23:8-9
 - 3. On the Cross - Luke 23:46
- C. HIS SUBSTITUTION: Christ gave Himself for us.
 - 1. As a Good Shepherd - John 10:11, 14-15, 17-18
 - 2. As an offering to God - Eph. 5:2
 - 3. Bearing our sin in His Body - I Peter 2:24
- D. HYMN: # 326 "Blessed Redeemer"

II. CHRIST'S SANCTIFICATION (26)

Makes His Church Glorious

- A. CHRIST'S MISSION: Make us holy
- See Romans 6:12-14, 17-19 and I Peter 1:14-16
- B. CHRIST'S MEANS (26b, 29b)
 - 1. Cleansing us (26b)
 - a. The cleansing action - Isaiah 1:18
 - b. The cleansing agent: God's Word
 - 1) God's Word convicts - Heb. 4:12
 - 2) God's Word cleanses - Psalm 119:9-11
 - 2. Caring for us (29b)
 - a. Nourishing - Jer. 15:16
 - b. Cherishing - Psalm 61:1-4
- C. HYMN: # 653 "Whiter Than Snow"

Over please >

III. CHRIST'S CELEBRATION (27)

Makes His Church Glorious

A. HIS PLACEMENT

- He presents her to Himself

B. HIS PRESENTATION

1. He presents her glorious
2. The idea is that she is splendid, sparkling, radiant
3. As a bride to the groom - Rev. 19:7-8, 13-14

C. HIS PERFECTION

1. He has made her completely faultless and beautiful
2. Outwardly: Spotless and without wrinkle
3. Inwardly: Holy and blameless

D. HYMN: # 779 "I'll Fly Away"

CONCLUSION:

When churches dismiss essential truths about the doctrine of Christ ...

- Such things as His deity, virgin birth, sinless life and bodily resurrection
... They destroy the glory of Christ's church.

Without Christ's

1. Past Sacrifice (25)
2. Present Sanctification (26)
3. And Future Celebration (27)

The church has no glory.

We are indeed a glorious church because we have a glorious Christ!