

**“It is the Lord Christ you  
are serving”**

Colossians 3:18-4:1

# Submit and love

## Colossians 3:18-19

**18** Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. **19** Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

# Submit and love

## Ephesians 5:22-33

**22** Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. **23** For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. **24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

**25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her **26** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, **27** and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

**28** In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. **29** After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church — **30** for we are members of his body.

**31** “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” **32** This is a profound mystery — but I am talking about Christ and the church. **33** However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

# Submit and love

“The motivation for voluntary submission is that it is a proper Christian attitude. The phrase “as is fitting in the Lord” identifies these concerns. The word “fitting” has the idea of proper as a duty. By employing the statement, Paul made it clear that such submission is an outworking of the lordship of Christ. It is part of the Christian order.”

**Richard Melick**

# **Submit and love**

**“Thus Christian relationships on earth are patterned after those in God, and both husbands and wives should endeavor to understand their roles in that light.”**



# **Submit and love**

## **Ephesians 5:21**

**Submit to one another out of  
reverence for Christ.**

**“this pleases the Lord”**

**Colossians 3:20-21**

**20** Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. **21** Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

# **“this pleases the Lord”**

## **Ephesians 6:1-4**

**1** Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. **2** “Honor your father and mother” — which is the first commandment with a promise — **3** “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.” **4**

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

# **“this pleases the Lord”**

**“In Colossians, Paul warned parents not to discourage their children. Especially in the child-rearing process, fathers were to embody Christian principles and remember the equality of all persons in Christ. In God’s sight, children and parents have equal worth, and parents were to treat their children with respect as persons.”**

**“It is the Lord Christ you are serving”**

**Colossians 3:22-4:1**

**22** Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. **23** Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,

**24** since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. **25** Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrongs, and there is no favoritism. **1** Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

**“It is the Lord Christ you are serving”**

**Ephesians 6:5-9**

**5** Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. **6** Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. **7** Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men,

**8** because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free. **9** And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.



**“It is the Lord Christ you are serving”**

**“...today employers should pay fair wages  
and treat their employees**

**justly...Christian employees should do  
their jobs as if Jesus Christ were their  
supervisors. And Christian employers  
should treat their employees fairly and  
with respect...Remember that no matter  
whom you work for, and no matter who  
works for you, the One you should  
ultimately want to please is your Father in  
heaven. You are accountable to Him.**

**“It is the Lord Christ you are serving”**

**“The motivation given to masters reminded them that they, too, were slaves. The heavenly Master rules over all. Since presumably they had read the words regarding the slaves’ heavenly Master, Paul could speak briefly to the masters with a cryptic comment.”**

**“It is the Lord Christ you are serving”**

**“He obviously meant that the heavenly Master was all-seeing, sovereign, and just.**

**Thus, in reality, earthly masters were slaves and were to treat their slaves like they would like to be treated.”**

# Applications



# Final Thoughts

**Judges 21:25**

**In those days Israel had no king;  
everyone did as he saw fit.**

# Final Thoughts

## Philippians 2:10-11

**10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

# Final Thoughts

## Mark 10:42-45

**42** Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.

**43** Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, **44** and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. **45** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”