



What the Lord has Done,
and is Doing for His Church
Ephesians 5:22-33

Loved Her and Gave Himself for Her

He Loved the Unlovable

- *Agapao* love - cf. *Matthew 5:43-48*
- God loved us, and Christ loved us - *John 3:16; Ephesians 5:25*

He Paid the Ultimate Price

- "Gave Himself" - *Philippians 2:3-8; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 1:18-19*
- "For Her" - *Ephesians 5:23; Acts 2:38, 40-41, 47*

Sanctified and Cleansed Her

The Purpose

- Sanctify - *hagiazō* - "set it apart" (marginal, NKJV) - "signifies to set apart for God, to sanctify, to make a person or thing the opposite of *koinos*, 'common'" (VINE)
 - Negative - *Colossians 1:13; John 17:14-19*
 - Positive - *1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10*
- Cleanse - *John 15:3; 17:17; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1*

Sanctified and Cleansed Her

The Process

- *“with the washing of water by the word”*
- Word – *Ephesians 6:17; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14*
- Washing of water – *Titus 3:5; John 3:3, 5; 1 Peter 1:22-23; 3:21; Hebrews 10:22*

Nourishing and Cherishing Her

Marriage Custom

- Betrothal.
- God's blessings.
- Interval between betrothal and wedding feast.
 - Dowry paid if not already.
- **Preparation and procession for wedding feast:**
 - **Bride prepares and adorns self.**
 - Groom in best attire, friends accompanying, proceed to home of betrothed.
 - Receives bride and proceeds to place of feast.
- Wedding feast.

Nourishing and Cherishing Her

The Bride's Preparation

- Christ to church:
 - Nourishes and cherishes - *cf. 1 Thessalonians 2:4-9*
 - Preparing to present bride glorious, no spot/wrinkle, holy without blemish - *Ephesians 3:20-21; 1:22-23; 1 Corinthians 5:7*
- How the bride is prepared:
 - God's word, and gifts - *2 Timothy 3:16-17; Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Timothy 3:14-15*
 - Prepares herself - *Revelation 19:7-8; Philippians 2:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 2:13*

Leading Her

Headship of Christ

- He is head of the church - *Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:23*
- Authority, preeminence - *Colossians 1:18; 2:6-7, 9-10; 3:17*
- For our benefit - *Ephesians 5:23, 25*

Submission of the Church (*Ephesians 5:22-24*)



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