The Glorious Bride Of Christ  
**Eph. 5:22-33**

Introduction:
A. The church of Christ described as a glorious church or bride of Christ.
   1. Splendid, noble, gorgeous, honorable (cf. Lk. 7:25; 1 Cor 4:10)
   2. The *closeness* of Christ and the Church illustrated by husband and wife.
   3. The *roles* of Christ and the Church illustrated by husband and wife.
B. The church of Christ, as glorious bride sustains three *positions* to Christ.

Discussion:

I. **She Is The Object Of His Glorious Love. (verse 25)**
B. Cares for her as a good husband should. (v. 29).
   1. Has given her scripture to guide and comfort her. (2 Tim. 3:15,16; Rom. 15:4).
   2. Has given her promise of eternal life to sustain her. (cf. 1 John 2:25).

II. **She Is The Object Of His Glorious Salvation (v. 23)**
B. Church and salvation go hand in hand. (1 Cor. 1:2).
C. United to Christ as wife is to husband. (vv. 30-32).
   1. Can one be saved without such a union with Christ. (cf. Rom. 6:4,5).
   2. Can not bring forth fruit unto God without this union. (Rom. 7:4).

III. **She Is The Object Of His Glorious Purposes For Her.**
A. That she be pure. (vv. 26-27; cf. Jas. 1:27).
   1. Morally. (1 Cor. 5:1,7).
   2. Doctrinally. (Rom. 16:17).
B. That she be submissive. (vv. 22,23,24).
   1. Church not author of doctrine, it obeys it.
   2. Church does not decide His will, it submits to it.
C. That she be reverent. (vv. 32,33).
   1. For the prayer of Christ. (John 17:20,21). -- Division into denominations.
   2. For the position of Christ. (Matt. 28:18; 1 Pet. 5:1-5). -- Assume to power for ourselves.
   3. For the word of Christ. (Col. 3:16) -- Rather than word of men.
   4. For the name of Christ. (Acts 4:12) -- Prefer human or party name. What if wife did this?
   5. For the plan of Christ - Worship, work, organization, etc.
   6. For the death of Christ -- (1 Cor. 11:26,27).

Conclusion:
A. If you are not united with Christ, you can be. (Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3).
B. If you are a part of glorious bride - Be pure, be subject, be reverent to Him daily.