

What The Church Needs Now!

Ephesians 5:25-27

Ephesians 5:25-27, “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for **it**; that he might sanctify **it**, having cleansed **it** by the washing of water with the word, that he might present the church to himself a glorious (church), not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that **it** should be holy and without blemish.”

Salvation Is In The Church

The church will be presented a “*glorious*” church.

Ephesians 5:26-27

- “Metaphorically, a glorious Church, signifying the Church adorned in pure and splendid raiment as a bride (Ephesians 5:27)” (The Complete Word Study Dictionary)
- “In good or in great esteem, of high repute.
 - a. illustrious, honorable, esteemed 1 Cor 4:10
 - b. notable, glorious: Luke 13:17
 - c. splendid: Luke 7:25 Eph 5:27”

“Figuratively equivalent to free from sin, (Ephesians 5:27)” (Thayer)

Those NOT in the church, are NOT so honored.

CHRIST

Baptized into - Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 12:12

CHURCH

(Universal)

Matthew 16:18



CHURCH (Local -

Acts 9:26) (Elders,

Deacons, Saints)

Acts 14:23;

Philippians 1:1

Local Church

Acts 11:22ff

Local Church

Revelation 2:1

Churches of Christ

Romans 16:16

What The Church Needs Now!

● Gospel Preaching

- Responsibility of preachers. 2 Timothy 4:2ff;
2 Timothy 1:13
- Power of God to save. Romans 1:16;
2 Thessalonians 1:8
- Warning against preaching any other. Galatians 1:8;
2 Peter 2:1ff
- Standard of judgment. John 12:48; Romans 2:16

What The Church Needs Now!

● Unity.

- Jesus prayed for it. John 17:20-21
- Paul commanded it. 1 Corinthians 1:10
- Consequences of division. James 3:13-18
- Cannot stand divided. Matthew 12:25
- Individual responsibility. Ephesians 4:1ff

What The Church Needs Now!

- **Capable elders.**

- Desire the work. 1 Timothy 3:1
- Know and understand their duties. 1 Peter 5:2-3
- Take heed to self and the flock. Acts 20:28-30
- Watch. Hebrews 13:17
- Qualifications. 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9

What The Church Needs Now!

- **Consecrated members.**
 - Those who “hunger and thirst” for righteousness. Matthew 5:6 (cf. 1 Peter 2:1-2).
 - Knowledgeable members! Ephesians 3:14ff; Colossians 1:9ff
 - Those who have “priorities” in order. Matthew 6:19-21
 - Those who put the kingdom first. Matthew 6:33
 - Those willing to deny self. Matthew 16:24; cf. Romans 12:1ff
 - Former life. Ephesians 4:17; 1 Peter 4:1-4

What The Church Needs Now!

● Discipline.

- Begins with teaching. 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4;
1 Timothy 4:11; 1 Timothy 6:2
- Some teach error. Romans 16:17; cf. Acts 15
- Some walk disorderly. 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15;
2 Thessalonians 3:6; cf. Philippians 3:16
- Some practice ungodliness. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11;
1 Corinthians 5:6

What The Church Needs Now!

- **Work.**
 - Proper behavior. 1 Timothy 3:15
 - Church to glorify Him. Ephesians 3:21
 - Edification. Ephesians 4:11ff; cf. 1 Corinthians 14:26
 - Worship, Attendance. Hebrews 10:24-25
 - Study. 2 Timothy 2:15
 - Teaching. 2 Timothy 2:2
 - Visit. James 1:27

What The Church Needs Now!

- **To produce fruit.** John 15:2, 8;
Proverbs 11:30, *“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; And he that is wise winneth souls.”*
- Seed of the kingdom is the word. Luke 8:11
- Seed must be sown to reproduce. Acts 6:7; 8:4
- Message is urgent. Romans 9:1-3; 10:1-3

Conclusion:

- **God planned, purposed, and established the church that she might be a glorious church.**

Ephesians 5:27, *“that he might present the church to himself a glorious (church), not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”*

- **Each member must ask, “If all the members were just like me, what kind of church would this be?”**