

3 **Marriage:** Intense relationship, emotions, hope, love, anticipations, planning, and lifestyle *changes*;

4 **Relationship with Jesus:** intense relationship, emotions, hope, love, anticipation, *lifestyle changes*

5 ^{v21}**Be subject to one another of reverence for Christ. Wives be subject to your husbands as to the**

6 **Lord.** For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the Church, his body, and is

7 himself its savior, as the Church is subject to Christ, so let wives also be subject in everything to

8 their husbands. Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her

9 that He might sanctify her having cleansed her by the washing of the water with the WORD that He

10 might present the Church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing that

11 she might be holy and without blemish.

12 ^{v21}**Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ:** Posture of humility, put others first (our

13 attitude towards Jesus

14 **Theology of the Body** (This is family loving each other): Submission is for all in relation to Jesus; not one-

15 sided; husband and wife are mutually subject (*subordinated*) to one another through source of Christian

16 piety (reverence)-an expression of love: Wives, submit to your husbands (reverence your husband,

17 support him in a common mission, allow him to serve you till death); Husbands, love your wives as Christ

18 loves His Church (even unto death-Christ died for His Church; husbands responsibility); *submission*

19 means experiencing love the same way we *submit* ourselves to Christ – wife=protection, fidelity;

20 husband=protection, sanctification (Set apart for God's special use and purpose). **MESSAGE:** *Marriage is*

21 *the stage on which Christ demonstrates His love for His Church as husband loves his wife.*

22 **Relationships between husband/wife=our relationship between Christ/His Church:** Goal is holiness

23 Successful marriage: Genesis 2:20, 24-25: (1) **LEAVE: Mother/Father**; Old ways/walk in new way with

24 each other, (2) **CLEAVE: Actively pursue each other**/Give yourselves totally to each other and to Christ,

25 (3) **BECOME ONE**: Walk as one in love and faith/share everything in your lives (Gal 2:20); be faithful as

26 Christ is to the Church; wife reflects the husband, husband reflects the wife, together they reflect the

27 relationship. **LOST LOVE**: Rev 2:5 (Letter to Ephesians): You are lost. Go back to your first love. Pursue

28 each just as Christ pursued His Church; gives Himself totally in the Eucharist-gave life for our

29 sanctification for eternal destiny (Heaven); Every day should demonstrate **LEAVING, CLEAVING, and**

30 **BECOMING ONE.**

31 **MESSAGE:** (1) If married, evaluate your covenant marriage; determine if you are truly **LEAVING** past

32 behind, **CLEAVING** to spouse, the two **BECOMING ONE** for the sanctification of both. (2) What is your

33 relationship with Christ? Have you left your old ways, renounced old habits, pursuing Jesus on a daily

34 basis/becoming one

EPH WK 8; READ: EPH 6:10-24: Put on armor of God (Duration: 22:06)³⁵

36 with Him

37 **REVIEW:** Paul's Letter/Subjects: We are (1) members of the Body of Christ (what the Head is doing, the

38 Body does); (2) We are members of a household (family), (3) Mystery that is hidden in the old=all would

39 be in *family of GOD* (Cornelius was the first Gentile convert-**ACTS 10:11**), (4) Union and Communion in

40 the Body of Christ, (5) Church as the *bride of Christ*, (6) we are facing a **BATTLE** between principalities/

41 powers that we may not see but must arm ourselves. It is now **time to stand/be strong in the LORD!**

42 ^{v11}**ARMOR of GOD:** Not contending with flesh and blood but against powers of world rulers, spiritual

43 host of wickedness; need the **whole Armor of God** (Christ ways, attitude/ACTIONS); *struggling*, hand-to-

44 hand combat; not about *good luck charms*; wherever we are, there is a battle waging for souls; we must

45 *clothe ourselves with Christ*

46 **ARMAMENT WARDROBE of Christ:** (1) Ground ZERO: Begins at home (media, friends, family), (2)

47 Neighborhood/Work/School: Put on the **armor of God** so that you may be able to stand in the tactics of

48 the devil. For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities and powers, with the

49 world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens. **MESSAGE:** Fasten your belt

50 with TRUTH (Prepare for action); Speak the truth in love

BREASTPLATE of RIGHTEOUSNESS: NOTE: Piece of metal placed over midsection to protect vital organs (lungs/heart); SYMBOLIC: Breastplate of Righteousness protects the heart (develops virtue) and only comes from Christ and upright conduct and holiness.

SHOD your FEET: *With the equipment of the gospel of peace.* ^{v1:2, 2:14} Jesus is our peace; ^{v3} Work hard to maintain *unity of peace* in the Church. Rule our minds, rule our lives, wear the **shield of peace**. Many shields together provide strong, effective *offensive* weapon to ward off enemies **MESSAGE:** Cannot bring *peace* if we are not at *peace*

Continuous Steadfastness: **MESSAGE:** It's not just believing, but it is believing and doing. If you want to be successful in the battle for your family, at work, in the world

Helmet of Salvation: (Isaiah 59:17) *The helmet of salvation is our victory.* **MESSAGE:** Guard your minds- If have hope of salvation, then will win the battles of this world

Sword of the Spirit: Word of God; take the sword with you wherever you go; **(1)** Know the Bible, **(2)** Take the Bible/Words wherever you go, **(3)** Know *salvation history (Kerygma)*; Jesus used sword of the Word to defeat enemy in the desert; Put on Armor of Jesus Christ every morning with prayer constantly to the Spirit; become *saturated* in prayer **MESSAGE:** **(1)** Blessed Mother was warrior clothes in Christ; very powerful weapon/sword; believe the battle has already been won. **(2)** Create *training program* to daily exercise *righteousness* with one of the pieces of the Armor of God

CONCLUSION: **(1)** We have discovered our *inheritance* in Christ (rich, deep, wide) that will change our lives and that of our families. It is a daily *battle*. **(2)** We are part of *covenant family* of GOD. **(3)** Body of Christ is Jesus in the world today within His family for all through the heart of our Heavenly Father. **(4)** Family of unity, communion, a bridal/spousal, an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. **(5)** It is worth fighting for every day, our inheritance is at stake!

All Christians are called to be saints. Saints are persons in heaven (officially canonized or not), who lived heroically virtuous lives, offered their life for others, or were martyred for the faith, and who are worthy of imitation. In official Church procedures there are three steps to sainthood: a candidate becomes "Venerable," then "Blessed" and then "Saint." Venerable is the title given to a deceased person recognized formally by the pope as having lived a heroically virtuous life or offered their life.

<https://www.usccb.org/offices/public-affairs/saints>

