



Jesus' supremacy shapes every relationship we have.

I. Wives and Husbands (18-19)

A. Wives

1. Submit
2. As is fitting in the Lord.

B. Husbands

1. Love
2. Do not be harsh.

II. Children and Fathers (parents) (20-21)

A. Children

1. Obey
2. This "is pleasing in the Lord" is a more literal reading.

B. Fathers

1. Do not provoke
2. Lest they become discouraged

III. Servants and Masters – employees and employers (3:22-4:1)

His preeminence gives us the reason and the way we are to relate to others.

A. Servant/Employees

- You serve Jesus.
- Your reward will ultimately be from Jesus.

B. Masters/Employers

1. Treat others justly and fairly.
2. You too have a Master in heaven.

How does this apply to me?

INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

WHEN GOD OPENS DOORS

PASSAGE OVERVIEW:

It is important to remember that Paul is writing this letter from prison. As he draws it to a close, we see the continuing purpose that is his driving passion. Shackled and restrained, his passion to continue speaking of Jesus is unchanged. His spirit is dependent in prayer and exuberant with thanksgiving. He challenges the Colossian believers to have this same spirit.

Paul longs for their intercession on his behalf. He doesn't ask them to pray that he will be released. Nor does he seek comfort in his distress. He wants them to pray that a door for the word would be opened for him.

He wants more opportunities to share the mystery of Christ; the good news of redemption in Christ that results in Jesus dwelling within us. The venue doesn't matter. A jail cell is fine. His passion for speaking clearly about Christ is undeterred.

He challenges the Colossians to do the same. Their testimony must be consistent in both their life and their speech. They too must be prepared to speak to every person before whom the Lord opens a door.

Is this our passion? Do we long to have doors opened for us to share the wonders of salvation in Jesus? Do we both live and speak in such a way that the message of Jesus is clear and true? Let's ask the Lord to open doors for us to tell others of Jesus.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

Colossians 4:2-18

