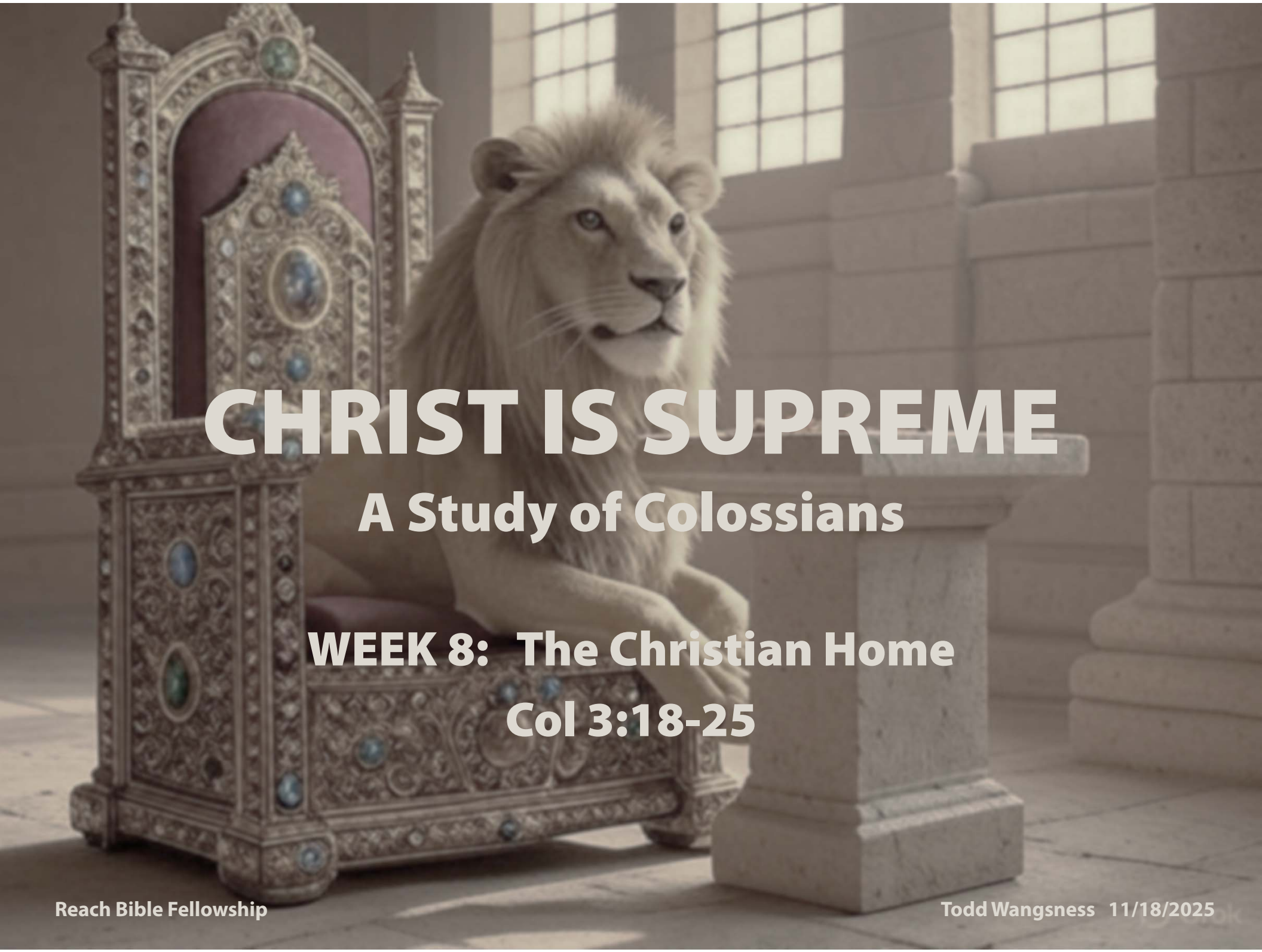


CHRIST IS SUPREME

A Study of Colossians

WEEK 8: The Christian Home

Col 3:18-25

Reach Bible Fellowship

Todd Wangsness 11/18/2025

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WEEK	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
Week 1	Overview	Overview of the book of Colossians
Week 2	Col 1:1 – 14	Introduction and God's Redemption
Week 3	Col 1:15 – 20	The Preeminence of Jesus Christ
Week 4	Col 1:21 – 29	The Mystery of the Ages
Week 5	Col 2:1 – 10	Gnosticism is Alive and Well
Week 6	Col 2:11 – 23	The Futility of Legalism
Week 7	Col 3:1 – 17	Set Your Mind on Things Above
Week 8	Col 3:18 – 25	The Christian Home
Week 9	Col 4:1 – 18	Exhortation to Prayer and Final Greetings

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Notable quote on Col 3:18-25

"Headship is not dictatorship or lordship. It is loving leadership. In fact, both the husband and the wife must be submitted to the Lord and to each other (Eph. 5:21). It is a mutual respect under the lordship of Jesus Christ. True spiritual submission is the secret of growth and fulfillment.

When a Christian woman is submitted to the Lord and to her own husband, she experiences a release and fulfillment that she can have in no other way. This mutual love and submission creates an atmosphere of growth in the home that enables both the husband and the wife to become all that God wants them to be.

The husband's love must be sacrificial and serving, like Christ's love for the church. Bitterness has no place in the Christian home; it poisons relationships and hinders spiritual growth."

- **Warren Wiersbe**

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Col 3:18-19 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

- **Women love that word 'submit'! NOT!**
- **Paul – as usual – zeros in on the two major sticky points in marital relationships**
  - **For women – it's the submission aspect that can be an issue**
    - **Women can find it challenging to *submit* to a man that – at times – does not deserve submission and respect**
    - **Ladies – the most important thing to a man is to feel admired and respected by his mate**
  - **For men – showing <u>unconditional</u> love is often challenging**
    - **At the end of the day – it's easy for a man to get consumed in his work and hobbies**
    - **Men have a tendency to draw their validation and identity from their work, which can manifest as selfishness**
    - **Men are also not typically as open with their emotions as women**
    - **Men - the most important thing to a woman is to feel loved, cherished and secure in the marriage**

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- **The breakdown of the home is a sign of the end times**
  - ***2 Tim 3:1-5 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power.***
- **Paul did *not* address the wives first because they needed it more than men!**
- **God does *all* things 'decently and in order' (1 Cor 14:40)**
  - **If He did not have a chain of command in society, it would devolve into chaos**
- **The fact that wives are to *submit* to their husbands does not mean the husband is better or more capable than the woman**
  - **It only means that the man has the responsibility of leading the home in a godly manner**
- **Headship is not dictatorship or lordship**
  - **It is *loving* leadership (Greek: '*agapaō*'. Sacrificial, unconditional love)**

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Col 3:20-21 ***Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.***

- **Paul also commands the children to obey their parents**
- **He also admonishes *Fathers* to not provoke the children**
  - **The word for *fathers* can include both mothers and fathers**

Col 3:22-24 ***Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. 23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.***

- **As employees, we're to be responsible and hard-working … performing our duties as though we are working directly for God**

Col 3:25 ***But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.***

- **God is *not* a respecter of persons … our actions and thoughts are open and evident to Him.**
- **We will give account to Him for every action and thought. (Ref Gal 6:7-8)**

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Admonitions Concerning Marriage

- **Paul speaks *very* pointedly about the marriage relationship in Ephesians**
- ***Eph 5:22-24 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.***
- ***Eph 5:25-31 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.***
- ***Eph 5:30-33 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.***
- **This passage makes it clear that marriage is the closest human analogy to Christ's relationship to the church**

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Potential Lightning Rods in a Marriage

- Intentionally saying hurtful things to your mate
  - Words can do serious damage to a marriage … and once they leave your mouth, they cannot be called back
- Unjustified anger and hostility towards each other
- Talking negatively about your mate to others
- Publicly talking down to or berating/humiliating your mate
- Lack of understanding and appreciation of the other's opinion
- Lying to your mate
- Irresponsibility with money
- Provoking jealousy in your spouse in your interactions with the opposite sex
  - Lingering glances
- Infidelity – either physically or emotionally
- Cutting one another off sexually – sex as a weapon

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Potential Lightning Rods in a Marriage (cont.)

- Not looking for ways to *please* your mate
- Refusal to change behaviors that are hot-buttons for your mate
- Not maintaining your appearance or hygiene
  - Wear clothes that are appealing to your mate
  - Be proactive on getting rid of that muffin-top around your hips!
- Maintaining friendships with others that cause concern for your mate
- Lack of empathy when your mate is going through a difficult time
- Extended Family and In-Law relationships
  - Placing too much emphasis on your extended family to the point it interferes in the marriage
  - Not actively defending your mate when your family members speak ill of them
  - Negative interactions with your in-laws or speaking negatively about them to your spouse

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Practical Ways to Energize your Marriage

- **Husbands: Do you 'woo' or court your wife?**
  - **Cards and flowers at unexpected times**
  - **Date nights**
  - **Sweet words of love and devotion**
  - **Let her know you have her on a pedestal!**
  - **She LOVES to be romanced!!!**
- **Wives: Do you 'seduce' your husband from time to time?**
  - **Men are pretty simple creatures at the end of the day**
    - **Visually stimulated for the most part**
  - **Do you do the things that please him?**
    - **Dress for him**
    - **Encourage him**
    - **Let him know how much you appreciate and value him**
    - **Maintain an orderly home**
  - **Are you *available*? Or does he get a cold shoulder (or back)?**

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Are you a Proverbs 31 Wife?

Proverbs 31

:10-12 Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. 11 The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain. 12 She does him good and not evil all the days of her life.

:15 She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservant

:25-28 Strength and honor are her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come. 26 She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness. 27 She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness. 28 Her children rise up and call her blessed;

:30-31 Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. 31 Give her of the fruit of her hands, And let her own works praise her in the gates.

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Are you a Proverbs 31 Husband?

:23 ***Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land.***

:28-29 ***… Her husband also, and he praises her: 29 "Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all.";***

- **He is *respected* and *known* in the community**
- **He sits among the elders**
- **He publicly praises the qualities and abilities of his wife … he puts her on a pedestal!**

Song of Solomon 4:1-5 Behold, you are fair, my love! Behold, you are fair! You have dove's eyes behind your veil. Your hair is like a flock of goats, Going down from Mount Gilead. 2 Your teeth are like a flock of shorn sheep Which have come up from the washing, Every one of which bears twins, And none is barren among them. 3 Your lips are like a strand of scarlet, And your mouth is lovely. Your temples behind your veil Are like a piece of pomegranate. 4 Your neck is like the tower of David, Built for an armory, On which hang a thousand bucklers, All shields of mighty men. 5 Your two breasts are like two fawns, Twins of a gazelle, Which feed among the lilies.

- **Not necessarily the words of love we'd say today … but you get the idea!**

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Admonition for Men from King Solomon

Pro 5:15-20 Drink water from your own cistern, And running water from your own well. 16 Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets? 17 Let them be only your own, And not for strangers with you. 18 Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth. 19 As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love. 20 For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman, And be embraced in the arms of a seductress?