

9-29-24 Meeker Christian Church
"Submission" part 1

Today and next week's subject is "Submission," part 1 and 2. Today's delivery begins by explaining that Biblical knowledge and understanding is after the matter of education. What I mean is that You learn to add and subtract before you learn to divide and multiply. That progress in learning principle starts in the Bible. To understand and apply the word and concept of submission in the full light of scripture means there are some things that must be learned to make it all come together to the glory of God and His righteousness.

The first thing for mankind to understand and base all future discernment on - is that one does not have all knowledge at birth - we learn as we age. That is the easiest step for everyone!!! Knowledge and its life application must be embraced and worked for as allocated by God. Herein enters "truth." Truth comes from God, truth is God. And literally a 100 other verses confirm it, like in John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. God is the only source of truth. The triune Godhead did the creating. That revelation for we humans is that He created and His creation is truth revealed and must be embraced. Without putting on that truth, life is confounding.

That was the assumption of last week's sermon: To Reject God, is to embrace satan. And any rejection of God interferes with understanding God's revelation and additional Bible study, understanding and application. That is where our faith begins.

Another thing upon which to build our knowledge base and content understanding for grasping the understanding submission is that on this earth there are two forces: Good and evil.

I need to use the word manifestation with its definition: manifestation is an event, action, or object that clearly shows or embodies something, especially a theory or an abstract idea: Evil then is the manifestation, the outpouring of the devil's powers upon the peoples of the earth - His power and authority is totally limited and his eternal destiny sealed as a result. What we know of evil is revealed to us by God in the Bible. Evil's present manifestation on earth is a reality, and our protection against its powers become part of the faith based understanding of submission.

The other earthly force is Good and it comes from the basic understanding of the truth of righteousness which is God all powerful and totally unlimited in every definable capacity when we accept Him as Lord and savior and are baptized.

Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." (From Deut. 6:5-9 ...frontlets)

As a Christian then we have chosen truth, to seek, and submit to God and His revelation of good. If we get hold of that submissiveness to Father, God, Creator, By His mercies and the guidance of the Holy Spirit we confidently proceed to a New Testament scripture that is another steep in our critical thinking and understanding for submission.

In this two verse passage - my life experience has taught it is paramount for gaining understanding for Holy living and submission that honors God. Colossians 3:12-13 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, long suffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. Church family, as we learn and practice unconditional forgiveness like Jesus did for us, we take a leap of faith for submissiveness to God's revelation. In all of life, but incredibly so in the marriage relationship is this instruction so critical: even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. Forgiveness becomes the manifestation of love in life, marriage & righteous relationships of every kind.

This is a real clincher in our growing understanding of Christian revelation -- as we gain in understanding and practice of Bible revelation we come to understand and practice the word that outside of God's revelation has no finality or reality of truth - that word is God Himself called LOVE with it's eternal consequences.

Please make a note to study, and pray and most importantly is to live, - practice, practice, practice forgiving others in your life and personal experience. That ensures you will grow in love and practice love now based on forgiveness. Do that - because submission comes right alongside forgiveness for living a peaceful and purpose filled life of God's love manifest in right relationships. Submission is much harder to understand than forgiveness because of the English definitions of the term as you will see in these dictionary and online definitions that cause confusion: Listen and see if you agree: — submission 1. the action or fact of accepting or yielding to a superior force or to the will or authority of another person: "they were forced into submission"

2. Merriam Webster the condition of being submissive, humble, or compliant; an act of submitting to the authority or control of another.

3. When you are submissive, you submit to someone else's will, which literally, you put your own desires lower than theirs. You can see this in the Latin root of submit, *submittere*, which is formed by *sub-* "under" + *mittere* "send, put."

4. inclined or willing to submit to orders or wishes of others or showing such inclination
“submissive servants” “a submissive reply” “replacing troublemakers with more
submissive people”

Those contemporary definitions put a critical, defensive, negative emphasis on what I believe is and desire to impart to you as a beautiful and exhilarating righteous meaning of submission when rightly understood and applied..

In our growth of understanding for life application it is interesting to note that Paul addressed this growth pattern in 2 Peter 1:5-8 5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So now we understand we gain from God by unconditionally giving of ourselves to Him after the matter of Him giving Jesus to us for the remission of our sins and realization of purpose in life and Jesus’ submission to the Father’s will. A next step in understanding submission may be to clarify by using the example of a wedding. The world has largely missed the import and intent of the wedding vows with disastrous world wide results and impact on lives and societies. The scriptural basis of marriage is that two separate, different people and experiences are brought together to form a brand new unit.

Genesis 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. By committing to marriage, the husband and wife are no longer to look at themselves as two separate people, but have committed to become one new unit of creation under Righteousness. That is what wedding vows are about. That is what witnesses are to validate. The man and woman have become one, mutuality of gifts, talents, giving, forgiving, sharing. Not one ruling over another, not mixing oil and water, but mixing of ice and water or skim milk and cream into a whole new and fresh unit. Also from this marriage example I want you to keep fresh in mind the beautiful picture often displayed of the male kneeling before his female with a marriage proposal. That submissive action is all a part of the model of mutual submission we are learning about.

Right now we examine another scripture to deepen our concept of submission from Hebrews 13:17 it uses the Greek word for (yield) “hupeiko” 17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. This understanding is to clearly identify that being accountable and to be held accountable is included in submission. The scriptures for the wife to submit to her husband are in this vein - the husband must give an account to God. He can only fulfill his duty/obligation as husband by being submissive with his talents and gifts relating to those of his wife for the new unit and order birthed at the wedding vows. Now the two have become one and his accountability will result from his mutual submission with her. That submissive position of the guy kneeling for the proposal is part of his understanding and motivation of personal submissiveness as we shall see by going to

another and much more frequently used Greek word for submission -- "hupotasso" which means to set in order. Do not minimize this important part of understanding submission - Being submissive means setting things in order from heaven's perspective. Here the background and basis of submission - putting things in order, doing things as God has generously revealed for us to do - Look at how Jesus modeled this principle - Jesus submitted to the Father...: John 5:19-20 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. 20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. Now we see that submission means to commit, serve, sacrifice unconditionally like Jesus to His Father.

satan screams for personal rights, selfish desires and entitlements with it's direct path to unrighteousness and life failures. On our side, righteous learning, understanding , obedience result in personal joy, peace, beautiful marriages, relationships, and maturing churches. It is all derived from folks learning the submission of Jesus to His Heavenly Father and unconditionally following that example resulting in Truth reality when we learn Jesus' kind of submissiveness or being subject to -- we have stepped into the higher mode of righteousness and giving oneself for others resulting in glory to God.

Philippians 2:3-4 3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others

John 1:14

Matthew 22:37-40

Colossians 3:12-13

2 Peter 1:5-8

Genesis 2:24

Hebrews 13:17

John 5:19-20

Philippians 2:3-4