

Pastor Matt Morrell
Sunday, July 10, 2016
Fourth Baptist Church

Submit to One Another

Ephesians 5:21

Ephesians 5:21 is describing a dynamic in which the Spirit filled believer lays aside his rights . . . to humbly and selflessly serve others in love.

- I. Submitting to one another is a _____ of Holy Spirit control.
- II. Submitting to one another is a _____ of God the Father.
- III. Submitting to one another is _____ by the fear of Christ.

The motive of the fear of God is prominent in the Old Testament, especially as the appropriate response to his mighty acts. It is significant in the laws of the Old Testament (Lev. 19:14, 32; Deut. 13:11, 17:13) as well as in Old Testament piety generally (Ps. 103:11, 13, 17; Prov. 1:7; 23:17), and leads to obedience to his will.

On four other occasions in the New Testament the term 'fear' is followed by a noun which refers to one of the persons of the Godhead. The three Pauline texts are in the context of judgment, and thus point to the believer's godly fear in view of the final day.

- Peter T. O'Brien

Christian people, we are going to stand before Him and look into His eyes, and into His face. Can you imagine what it will be like to feel at that moment: 'Ah, yes, I believed that you died for me, I believed in Your shed blood; and I traded on it, I did what I wanted, I did not obey Your commandments, I did not do what You had told me, I did not perfect holiness in the fear of God. I did not submit myself to others, I asserted myself, I was so much the natural man still!' Can you imagine what it will be like just to look into His eyes?

He has told us what His will is; and He has given us an example. We are without excuse. Therefore, let us 'submit ourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.' It is the only motive; and it is a sufficient motive.

- D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones