

"A Chaste Virgin"

Text: 2 Corinthians 11:1-4

Introduction:

- The Apostle Paul describes in 2 Corinthians 11:2, the church, the body of Christ as being espoused to one husband.
- In Ephesians 1:22-23, the church is identified as Christ's body.
- According to 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 and Galatians 3:26-27, when a person believes on and receives Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour then that individual is baptized by the Holy Spirit into the body of Christ.

I. Espoused

- The word "espoused" means to betroth; to promise or engaged in marriage by contract in writing or by some pledge.
- Right now, as a Christian, you and I are espoused to one husband, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Lord Jesus Christ in John 3:25-30 is identified by John the Baptist as the bridegroom.
- The marriage between Christ and his bride, the church is yet future, just before his second coming after the tribulation.
- The marriage takes place in heaven according to Revelation 19:7-9; 21:9.
- To picture this future marriage between Christ and his bride, the church, God established the institution of marriage and the family with Adam and Eve.
- The marriage between a saved man and a saved woman pictures this future marriage (Ephesians 5:22-32).
- We want to notice that God makes it very clear in His word that a marriage is not to be of the same sex (Matthew 19:4-6).
- Adam and Eve and not Adam and Steve were created and joined together in the Garden of Eden.

- We have seen how espoused meant to betroth; to promise or engaged in marriage by contract in writing or by some pledge.
- Each Christian has the promise of this future marriage in a contract written in blood, God's own blood. i.e., Acts 20:28, 1 Corinthians 6:20, 1 Peter 1:18-19.
- We have a pledge given in the precious shed blood of Jesus. - Amen!!!

II. Chaste

- In light of all of this the Apostle Paul continues and says in 2 Corinthians 11:2, "...that I may present you as a **chaste virgin to Christ**".
- This was the same way, same condition that Mary was to be presented to Joseph.

- So, you can imagine why Joseph must have been very upset, when he first heard the news of Mary being with child.
- Why it took a supernatural visit from an angel from God to calm and alleviate Joseph's concerns.
- We need to define "chaste"
- In relation to our conduct, chaste means pure from all unlawful sexual intercourse applied to a person before marriage, it signifies pure from all sexual intercourse, undefiled.
- Applied to married person - true to marriage bed.
- In relation to our speech, chaste means - free from obscenity.
- As applied to language it means pure, genuine, uncorrupt, free from barbarous words, and from quaint, affected, extravagant expression.

- In view of all of this, I ask, "how many of us are living as the Apostle Paul described as "espoused to one husband", the Lord Jesus Christ, living as "chaste virgin"?"
- The sad fact is the majority of Christians have been stepping out on their husband, the Lord Jesus Christ!!!
- They have been cheating, defiling the marriage bed.
- They have left their first love.
- Well, who has the Christian been fooling around with?
- THAT OLD WICKED WORLD!

- Notice how James calls it in James 4:4 - "**Ye adulterers and adulteresses**, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."
- That is exactly what most Christians are doing, they are committing "adultery."
- They have forgotten that they are espoused to one husband, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- They have forgotten that they are to conduct themselves until the marriage between the church and Christ as a "chaste virgin."
- The Christian should be living a life pure in conduct and speech, undefiled, untouched by the world.
- The Christian should be living their life in anticipation of the wedding day.
- However, most Christians instead have been living their lives in just the opposite manner.
- They have closed their eyes and ears to the Bible admonition of separation from the world. i.e., 1 John 2:15-16, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.

- If you look at how the average Christian is dressed today, you would never know they were espoused to one husband, and living as a "chaste virgin".
- In 1 Timothy 2:9-11, we given the Christian woman's standard of dress.
- "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in **modest apparel**, with **shamefacedness and sobriety**; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; **But which becometh women professing godliness** with good works. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection."

- Most of our Christian ladies, instead of dressing to bring honor and glory to their espoused husband are dressing to attract the world.
- They are like a billboard saying, "Notice me!"
- The key words in 1 Timothy 2:9-11 are "modest apparel".
- Dressing in such a way as not to bring attraction to yourself.
- That means not wearing short and tight skirts.
- That means not wearing pants loose or tight.
- That means not wearing excessive make-up, so that you look like whore!!!
- When you dress in any other way than the biblical way than you are not professing godliness and are in open rebellion to the word of God.

- Other ways Christians step out on their espoused husband is by spending His money on worldly activities and instead of on Him.
- i.e., Lottery and any form of gambling; filthy TV, magazines, books, movies, videos, and music; smoking, booze, and illegal drugs.
- CCM - Contemporary Christian Music is nothing but the devil in disguise.
- Just compare the album covers between CCM and the worldly musicians.
- I have a hard time telling the difference. Amen!!!

- In other words Christians today are involved in activities that a "chaste virgin" espoused to one husband would not do.
- A chaste virgin espoused to one husband would want to learn as much about her future husband as possible.
- The Christian learns more about Christ not standing in the state lottery line, not at the blockbuster video store, not in front of the big screen TV.
- No a Christian learns more about their future husband by attending church and spending time in the Word of God and prayer.

Conclusion:

- Remember, you are espoused to one husband, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- He is the one that saved you with His precious sinless blood and not the world.
- So, stop fooling around with the world and starting living for your future husband, the Lord Jesus Christ