

✠ FRONTLINE



MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

A sepia-toned illustration of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a vineyard with rows of grapevines is visible, separated from a dirt road by a wooden fence. The road leads into the distance, flanked by fields and trees. In the background, rolling hills are visible under a sky with clouds. The word "Welcome" is superimposed in the center of the image.

Welcome

“A study of the pillars of biblical marriage
to grow in our delight for our spouse and
to deepen our maturity in Christ.”



MARRIAGE
WORKSHOP

Breakdown

- Participation and Method
- Homework and Discussions
- Schedule
- An Embodied Method

Discussion

1. Introduce yourself to your table.
2. What is a trip you and your spouse have always dreamed of going on?
3. What is something you are hoping to get out of this workshop?



Session 1

The Icon of Marriage

“³¹Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³²This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.”

Ephesians 5:31-32



I. The Creation of Marriage

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- Made in the *Image of God*.

*“²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.”*

Genesis 1:27

I. The Creation of Marriage

- Made in the *Image of God*.
- Made for the *Mission of God*.

“²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Genesis 1:28

I. The Creation of Marriage

- Made in the *Image of God*.
- Made for the *Mission of God*.
- The creation of man.

“⁷ then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.”

Genesis 2:7

“¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.”

Genesis 2:15

I. The Creation of Marriage

- Made in the *Image of God*.
- Made for the *Mission of God*.
- The creation of man.
 - ▶ To Work
 - ▶ שמר (To keep, watch, guard, or have oversight).

I. The Creation of Marriage

- The creation of Woman.

“¹⁸The the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

Genesis 2:18

I. The Creation of Marriage

- The creation of Woman.
 - ▶ Helper
 - ▶ עֵזֶר (*Psalm 121:1-2; Exodus 18:4; Psalm 20:2; Psalm 115:9; Psalm 146:5*)
 - ▶ “Strength” (*Isaiah 30:5*)

“²²And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.”

Genesis 2:22

I. The Creation of Marriage

- Made one *flesh*.

“²³Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”

Genesis 2:23

I. The Creation of Marriage

- Made one *flesh*.

‣ אִישׁ

‣ אִשָּׁה

“²³Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. ²⁴Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.”

Genesis 2:23-25

I. The Creation of Marriage

- Made in the *Image of God*.
- Made for the *Mission of God*.
- The creation of man.
- The creation of woman.
- Made one *flesh*.

The background of the page is a sepia-toned illustration of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a vineyard with rows of grapevines. A wooden fence runs along the left and right sides of the vineyard. In the middle ground, there are rolling hills and fields. In the background, there are more hills and a small cluster of buildings on the right side. The sky is filled with clouds.

II. The Fall of Marriage

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- The snake deceives the woman and the man.

“¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.”

Genesis 3:1

II. The Fall of Marriage

- The snake deceives the woman and the man.

- ▶ Crafty - עָרוֹם

- ▶ Naked - עָרוּמִים



“¹⁶You may surely eat of every tree of the garden...”

Genesis 2:16

II. The Fall of Marriage

- The snake deceives the woman and the man.
 - ▶ Crafty - עָרוּם
 - ▶ Naked - עָרוּמִים
- The man and woman feel the effect of sin.

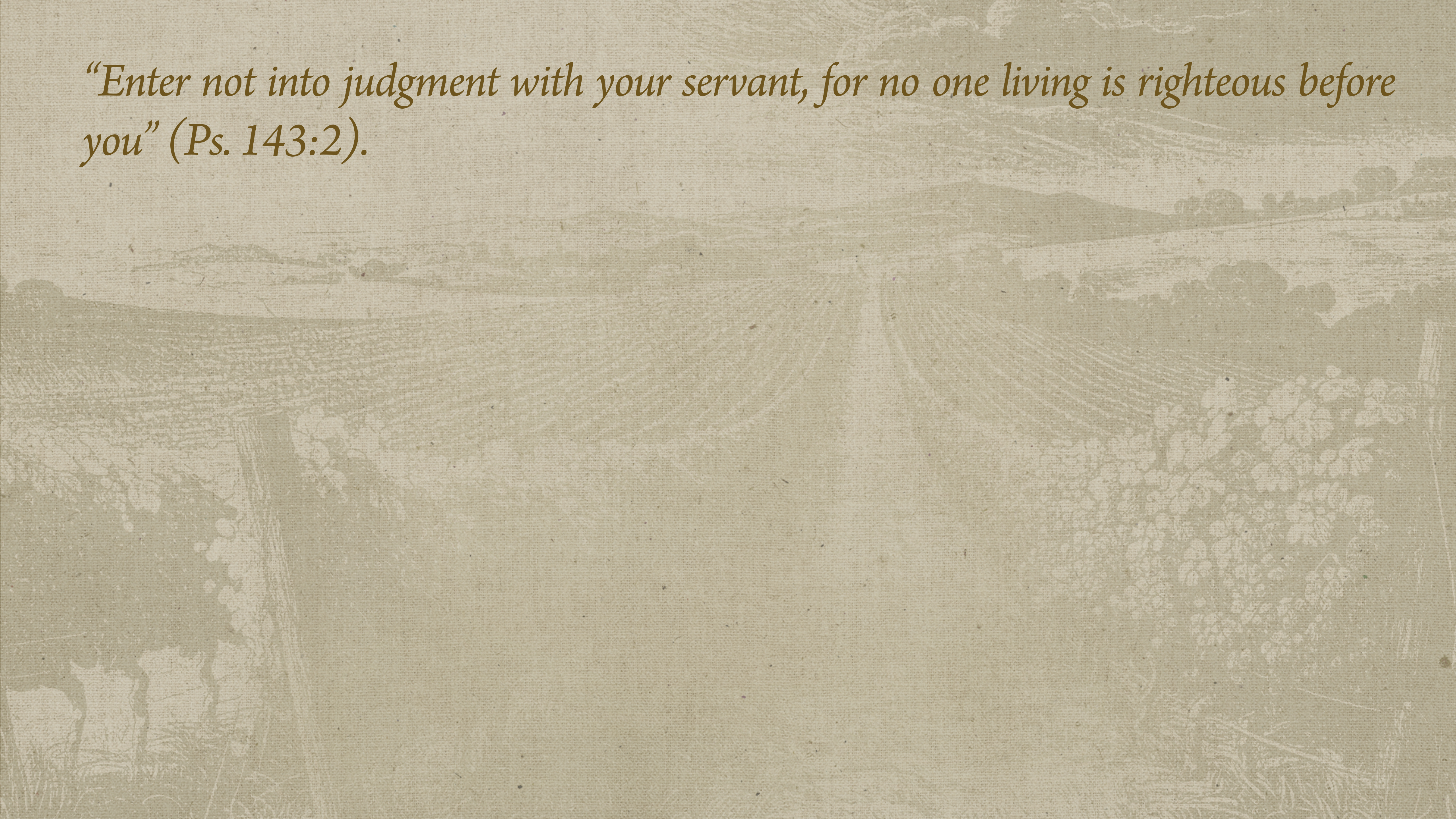
“⁸ ... and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.”

Genesis 3:8

II. The Fall of Marriage

- The snake deceives the woman and the man.
 - ▶ Crafty - עָרוּם
 - ▶ Naked - עָרוּמִים
- The man and woman feel the effect of sin.
- Original sin, sin nature, and its effect on marriage.
 - ▶ “*Sin nature*”

“Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you” (Ps. 143:2).



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“Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin” (Jn 8:34).

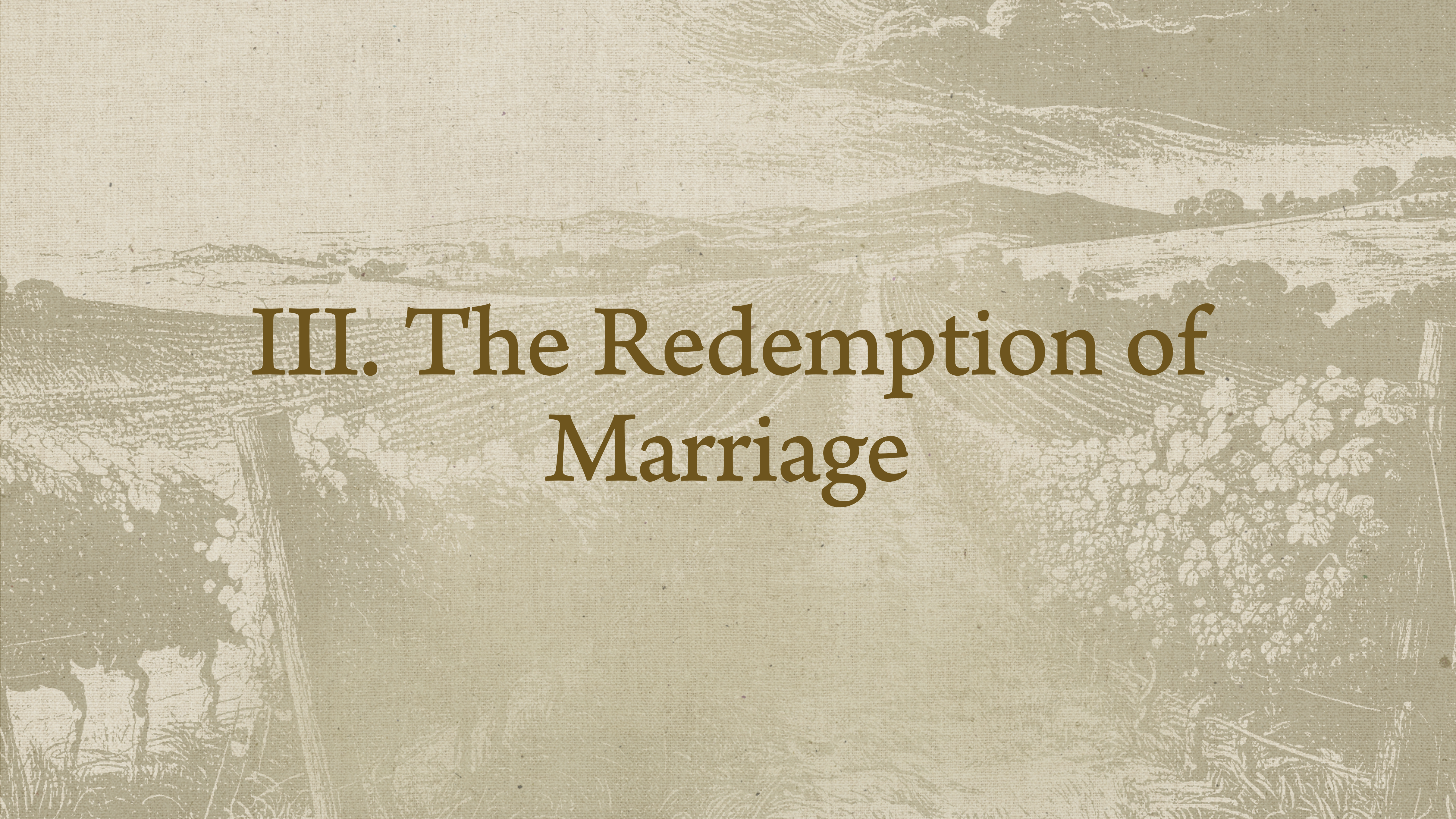
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“Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin” (Jn 8:34).

“And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil” (Jn 3:19).

The background of the page is a sepia-toned illustration of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a vineyard with rows of grapevines, some of which are covered in clusters of grapes. A wooden fence runs along the bottom edge of the vineyard. In the middle ground, there is a body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river, with a small island or peninsula in the distance. The background features rolling hills and a cloudy sky. The overall style is that of a vintage book illustration.

III. The Redemption of Marriage

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- *Proto Evangelion.*

“¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Genesis 3:15

III. The Redemption of Marriage

- *Proto Evangelion.*
- Marriage is seen as a good gift throughout the OT.

*“An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. ¹¹The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain”
(Proverbs 31:10-11)*

“Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death, jealousy is fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the Lord” (Song of Solomon 8:6).

*“Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well.”
(Proverbs 5:15).*

III. The Redemption of Marriage

- *Proto Evangelion.*
- Marriage is seen as a good gift throughout the OT.
- The teachings of Jesus on Marriage.

*“⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’
⁷‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,
⁸**and the two shall become one flesh.**’ So they are no longer two but one
flesh. ⁹What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate”*

Mark 10:6-9

The background of the slide is a sepia-toned illustration of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a vineyard with rows of grapevines, some of which are covered in clusters of grapes. A wooden fence runs along the left and right sides of the vineyard. In the middle ground, there is a field of tall grass or reeds. In the background, there are rolling hills and a small cluster of trees on the right side. The overall tone is warm and nostalgic.

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

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- The union of marriage refers to the union of Christ and the Church.

“³¹Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”³²This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church”

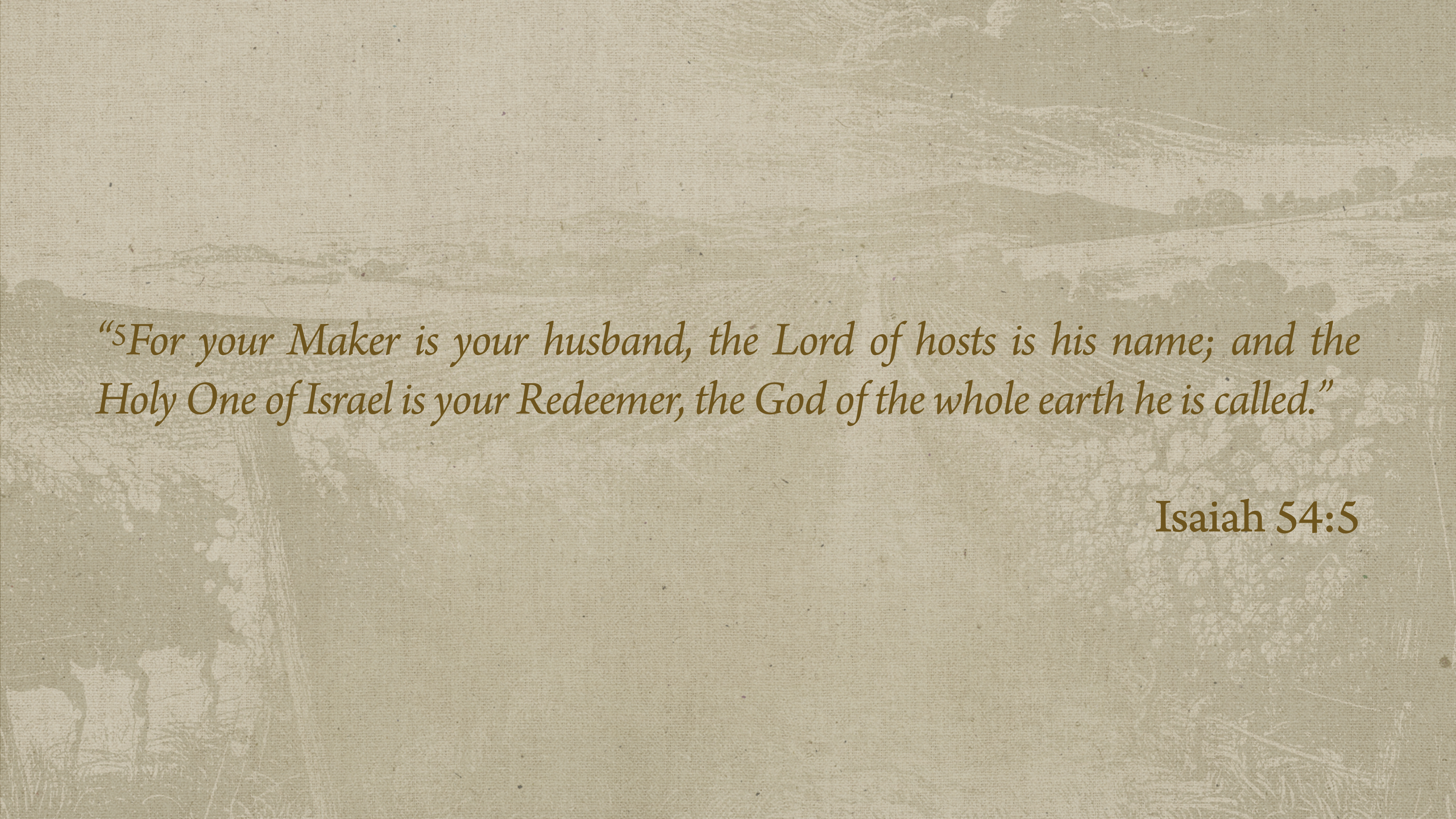
Ephesians 5:31-32

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The union of marriage refers to the union of Christ and the Church.
- Other *Groom and Bride* texts.

*“¹⁶And in that day, declares the Lord, you will call me ‘My Husband,’ ...
¹⁹“And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in
righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. ²⁰I will betroth you
to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the Lord.”*

Hosea 2:16, 19-20



“⁵For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.”

Isaiah 54:5

“²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.”

Revelation 21:2-3

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The union of marriage refers to the union of Christ and the Church.
- Other *Groom and Bride* texts.
- The Lord calls the husband to uniquely “iconize” Christ’s sacrificial love in their marriage.

“²⁵Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church as Christ loved the church...”

Ephesians 5:25-29

“²⁵Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶that he might sanctify her... ²⁷so that she might be holy and without blemish.”

Ephesians 5:25-29

“²⁵Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶that he might sanctify her... ²⁷so that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church.”

Ephesians 5:25-29

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The union of marriage refers to the union of Christ and the Church.
- Other *Groom and Bride* texts.
- The Lord calls the husband to uniquely “iconize” Christ’s sacrificial love in their marriage.
- The Lord calls the wife to uniquely “iconize” the Church’s response to Christ in their marriage.

“²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands

Ephesians 5:22-24

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The Lord calls the wife to uniquely “iconize” the Church’s response to Christ in their marriage.
 - ▶ Submit

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The Lord calls the wife to uniquely “iconize” the Church’s response to Christ in their marriage.
 - ▶ Submit - ὑποτάσσω

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The Lord calls the wife to uniquely “iconize” the Church’s response to Christ in their marriage.
 - ▶ Submit - ὑποτάσσω (“voluntary yielded-ness to a recognized authority”)
 - ▶ *1 Peter 5:5*

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The Lord calls the wife to uniquely “iconize” the Church’s response to Christ in their marriage.
 - ▶ Submit - ὑποτάσσω (“voluntary yielded-ness to a recognized authority”)
 - ▶ *1 Peter 5:5, Romans 13* (God’s Son is seen submitting to the Father).

“⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.”

John 6:38

“⁴²saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”

Luke 22:42

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The Lord calls the wife to uniquely “iconize” the Church’s response to Christ in their marriage.
 - ▶ So what is the Bible NOT teaching?
 - ▶ It can’t mean that women are lower than men.
 - ▶ No one is forced into submission, not by the church nor by anyone’s spouse. It also does not mean that a wife is expected to live in a micro managed kind of life.

IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

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 - ▶ *What this does mean?*
 - ▶ That a wife voluntarily yields to her husbands leadership as an act of worship to King Jesus.

*“²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, **as to the Lord..**”*

Ephesians 5:22

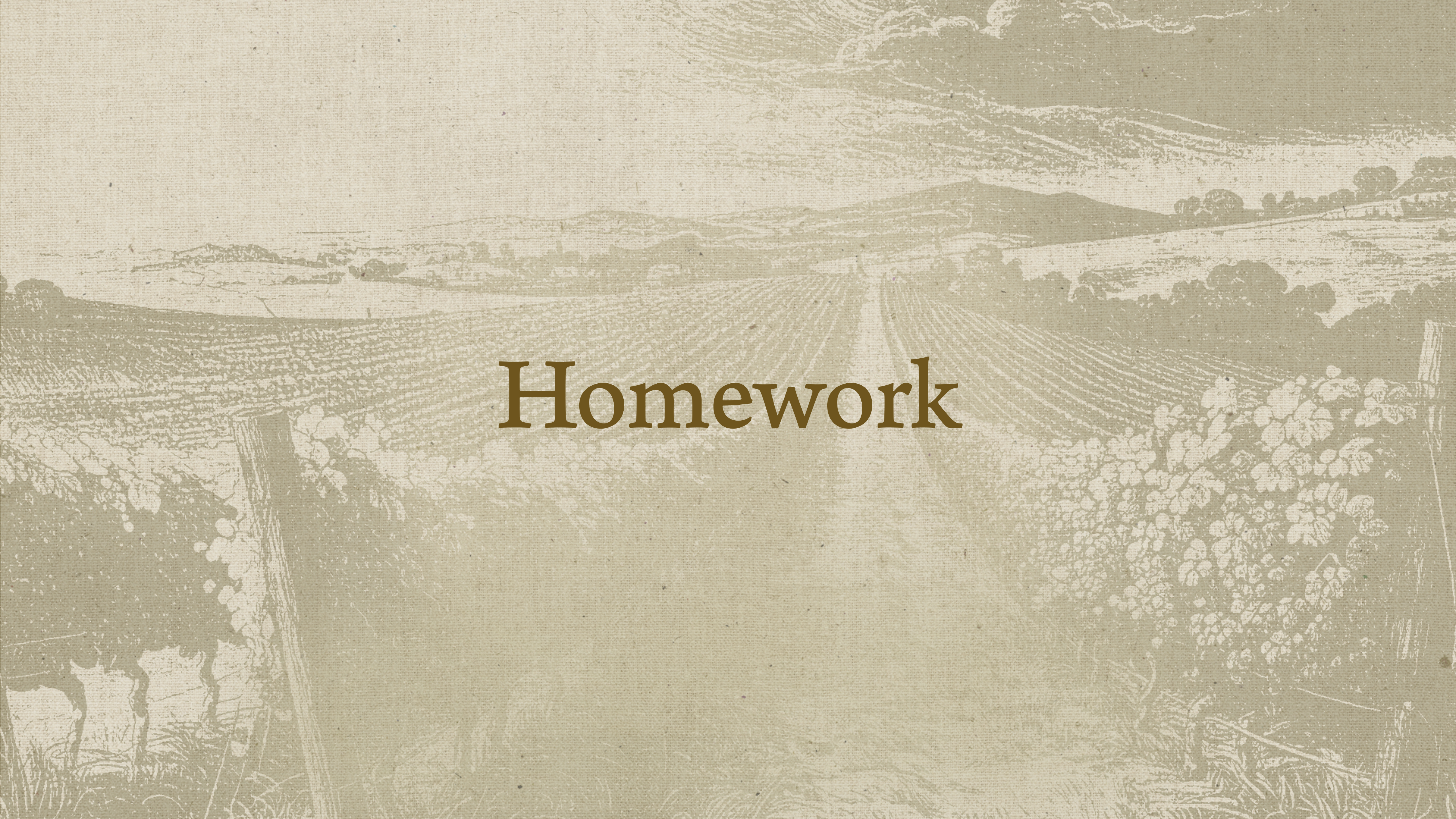
IV. Marriage, The Icon of The Gospel

- The Lord calls the wife to uniquely “iconize” the Church’s response to Christ in their marriage.
 - ▶ *What this does mean?*
 - ▶ That a wife voluntarily yields to her husbands leadership as an act of worship to King Jesus.
 - ▶ The motivation for a wife submitting to her husband is worship to Jesus, just as the Man’s sacrifice for his wife is worship to king Jesus.

“In a march, one person sets the tempo with the baton and everyone falls into lockstep. In the marital dance, however, the husband leads as he listens to the music of Christ. Because the wife hears the same music, they’re able to keep time in their own minds and move as one.”



MARRIAGE
WORKSHOP

A sepia-toned illustration of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a vineyard with rows of grapevines is visible, separated by a wooden fence. The middle ground shows a wide, open field, possibly a plowed field or a pasture, with some distant trees and structures. The background features rolling hills under a sky with soft, wispy clouds. The overall tone is nostalgic and peaceful.

Homework

Homework

- Wives, affirm in your husband one way he loves, cherishes, or nurtures you that reminds you of Christ!
- Husbands, affirm in your wife one way that she helps you in God's mission!
- Read, chapter 15 of Winston Smith's *Marriage Matters*

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