



Scripture Readings
For
Weddings

On Love

Love is a mighty power,
a great and complete good.
Love alone lightens every burden, and makes rough places smooth.
It bears every hardship as though it were nothing, and renders
all bitterness sweet and acceptable.

Nothing is sweeter than love,
Nothing stronger,
Nothing higher,
Nothing wider,
Nothing more pleasant,
Nothing fuller or better in heaven or earth; for love is born of God.
Love flies, runs and leaps for joy.
It is free and unrestrained.
Love knows no limits, but ardently transcends all bounds.
Love feels no burden, takes no account of toil,
attempts things beyond its strength.

Love sees nothing as impossible,
for it feels able to achieve all things.
It is strange and effective,
while those who lack love faint and fail.

Love is not fickle and sentimental,
nor is it intent on vanities.
Like a living flame and a burning torch,
it surges upward and surely surmounts every obstacle.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

15:9, 12

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Live on in my love. You will live in my love if you keep my commandments, even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and live in his love. All this I tell you that my joy may be yours and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you."

The Gospel of the Lord.**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer speak of you as slaves, for a slave does not know what his master is about.

Instead, I call you friends, since I have made known to you all that I heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, it was I who chose you to go forth and bear fruit.

Your fruit must endure, so that all you ask the Father in my name he will give you."

The Gospel of the Lord.**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.**

17:20-26

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed:

"Holy Father, I do not pray for my disciples alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their word, that all may be one as you, Father, are in me, and I in you; I pray that they may be [one] in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory you gave me that they may be one, as we are one — I living in them, you living in me — that their unity may be complete. So shall the world know that you sent me, and that you loved them as you loved me. Father, all those you gave me I would have in my company where I am, to see this glory of mine which is your gift to me, because of the love you bore me before the world began. Just Father, the world has not known you, but I have known you; and these men have known that you sent me. To them I have revealed your name, and I will continue to reveal it so that your love for me may live in them, and I may live in them."

The Gospel of the Lord.**First Readings****A reading from the book of Genesis.**

1:26-28, 31

God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."

God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth."

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.

The Word of the Lord.**A reading from the book of Genesis.**

2:18-24

The Lord God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him." So the Lord God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each of them would be its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man.

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said:

"This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; This one shall be called 'woman,' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken."

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.

The Word of the Lord.**A reading from the book of Genesis.**

24:48-51, 58-67

The servant of Abraham said to Laban: "I bowed down in worship to the Lord, blessing the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. If, therefore, you have in mind to show true loyalty to my master, let me know; but if not, let me know that, too. I can then proceed accordingly."

Laban and his household said in reply: "This thing comes from the Lord; we can say nothing to you either for or against it. Here is Rebekah, ready for you; take her with you, that she may become the wife of your master's son, as the Lord has said."

So they called Rebekah and asked her, "Do you wish to go with this man?" She answered, "I do." At this they allowed their sister Rebekah and her nurse to take leave, along with Abraham's servant and his men. Invoking a blessing on Rebekah, they said:

"Sister, may you grow into thousands of myriads; And may your descendants gain possession of the gates of their enemies!"

Then Rebekah and her maids started out; they mounted their camels and followed the man. So the servant took Rebekah and went on his way.

Meanwhile Isaac had gone from Beer-lahairoi and was living in the region of the Negeb. One day toward evening he went out in the field, and as he looked around, he noticed that camels were approaching. Rebekah, too, was looking about and when she saw him, she alighted from her camel and asked the servant, "Who is the man out there, walking through the fields toward us?" "That is my master," replied the servant. Then she covered herself with her veil.

The servant recounted to Isaac all the things he had done. Then Isaac took Rebekah into his tent; he married her, and thus she became his wife. In his love for her Isaac found solace after the death of his mother Sarah.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

7:9-10, 11-15

Tobiah said to Raphael, "Brother Azariah, ask Raguel to let me marry my kinswoman Sarah." Raguel overheard the words; so he said to the boy: "Eat and drink and be merry tonight, for no man is more entitled to marry my daughter Sarah than you, brother. Besides, not even I have the right to give her to anyone but you, because you are my closest relative. But I will explain the situation to you very frankly. She is yours according to the decree of the Book of Moses. Your marriage to her has been decided in heaven! Take your kinswoman; from now on you are her love, and she is your beloved. She is yours today and ever after. And tonight, son, may the Lord of heaven prosper you both. May he grant you mercy and peace." Then Raguel called his daughter Sarah, and she came to him. He took her by the hand and gave her to Tobiah with the words: "Take her according to the law. According to the decree written in the Book of Moses she is your wife. Take her and bring her back safely to your father. And may the God of heaven grant both of you peace and prosperity." He then called her mother and told her to bring a scroll, so that he might draw up a marriage contract stating that he gave Sarah to Tobiah as his wife according to the decree of the Mosaic law. Her mother brought the scroll, and he drew up the contract, to which they affixed their seals.

Afterward they began to eat and drink.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

8:5-7

On the wedding night Sarah got up, and she and Tobiah started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs. He began with these words:

"Blessed are you, O God of our fathers; praised be your name forever and ever. Let the heavens and all your creation praise you forever. You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve to be his help and support; and from these two the human race descended. You said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; let us make him a partner like himself.'

Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine not because of lust, but for a noble purpose. Call down your mercy on me and on her, and allow us to live together to a happy old age."

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

19:3-6

Some Pharisees came up to Jesus and said, to test him, "May a man divorce his wife for any reason whatever?" He replied, "Have you not read that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female and declared, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and cling to his wife, and the two shall become as one'? Thus they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, let no man separate what God has joined."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

22:35-40

One of the Pharisees, a lawyer, in an attempt to trip up Jesus, asked him, "Teacher, which commandment of the law is the greatest?" Jesus said to him:

" 'You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart, with your whole soul, and with all your mind.'

This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is like it:

'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

On these two commandments the whole law is based, and the prophets as well."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

10:6-9

Jesus said: "At the beginning of creation God made them male and female; for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and the two shall become as one. They are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore let no man separate what God has joined."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

2:1-11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had likewise been invited to the celebration. At a certain point the wine ran out, and Jesus' mother told him, "They have no more wine." Jesus replied, "Woman, how does this concern of yours involve me? My hour has not yet come." His mother instructed those waiting on table, "Do whatever he tells you." As prescribed for Jewish ceremonial washings, there were at hand six stone water jars, each one holding fifteen to twenty-five gallons. "Fill those jars with water," Jesus ordered, at which they filled them to the brim. "Now," he said, "draw some out and take it to the waiter in charge." They did as he instructed them. The waiter in charge tasted the water made wine, without knowing where it had come from; only the waiters knew since they had drawn the water. Then the waiter in charge called the groom over and remarked to him: "People usually serve the choice wine first; then when the guests have been drinking a while, a lesser vintage. What you have done is keep the choice wine until now." Jesus performed this first of his signs at Cana in Galilee. Thus did he reveal his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Readings

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds he went up on the mountainside. After he had sat down his disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them:

"How blest are the poor in spirit: the reign of God is theirs.

Blest too are the sorrowing; they shall be consoled.

[Blest are the lowly; they shall inherit the land.]

Blest are they who hunger and thirst for holiness; they shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.

Blest are the single-hearted for they shall see God.

Blest too the peacemakers; they shall be called sons of God.

Blest are those persecuted for holiness' sake; the reign of God is theirs.

Blest are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth. But what if salt goes flat? How can you restore its flavour? Then it is good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Men do not light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket. They set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, your light must shine before men so that they may see goodness in your acts and give praise to your heavenly Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

7:21. 24-29

Jesus said to his disciples: "None of those who cry out, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of God but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

"Anyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like the wise man who built his house on rock. When the rainy season set in, the torrents came and the winds blew and buffeted his house. It did not collapse; it had been solidly set on rock. Anyone who hears my words but does not put them into practice is like the foolish man who built his house on sandy ground. The rains fell, the torrents came, the winds blew and lashed against his house. It collapsed under all this and was completely ruined."

Jesus finished this discourse and left the crowds spellbound at his teaching. The reason was that he taught with authority and not like the scribes.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the Song of Songs.

2:8-10, 14, 16; 8:6-7

Hark! my lover—here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Here he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattices.

My lover speaks; he says to me, "Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!

"O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret recesses of the cliff.

Let me see you, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and you are lovely."

My lover belongs to me and I to him; [He said to me:]

Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm;

For stern as death is love, relentless as the nether world is devotion; its flames are a blazing fire. Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

26:1-4, 13-16

Happy the husband of a good wife, twice-lengthened are his days;

A worthy wife brings joy to her husband, peaceful and full is his life.

A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him who fears the Lord;

Be he rich or poor, his heart is content, and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband, her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;

A gift from the Lord is her governed speech, and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.

Choicest of blessings is a modest wife, priceless her chaste person.

Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens, the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

31:31-32, 32-33

The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt. But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord. I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends and kinsmen how to know the Lord. All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the Lord, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalms

Psalm 33:5, 12, 18, 20-21, 22

Response: *The earth is filled with the goodness of the Lord.*

Happy the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.
But see, the eyes of the Lord are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness.

R

Our soul waits for the Lord, who is our help and shield.
For in him our hearts rejoice; in his holy name we trust.

R

May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

R

Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

Response: *I will bless the Lord at all times.*

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth.
Let my soul glory in the Lord; the lowly will hear me and be glad.

R

Glorify the Lord with me, let us together extol his name.
I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

R

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame.
When the afflicted man called out, the Lord heard, and from all his distress he saved him.

R

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
Taste and see how good the Lord is; happy the man who takes refuge in him.

R

Psalm 103:1-2, 8, 13, 17-18

Response: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

R

Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

R

But the kindness of the Lord is from eternity to eternity toward those who fear him,
And his justice toward children's children among those who keep his covenant.

R

A reading from the first letter of John.

3:18-24

Little children, let us love in deed and in truth, and not merely talk about it. This is our way of knowing we are committed to the truth and are at peace before him no matter what our consciences may charge us with; for God is greater than our hearts and all is known to him. Beloved, if our consciences have nothing to charge us with, we can be sure that God is with us and that we will receive at his hands whatever we ask. Why? Because we are keeping his commandments and doing what is pleasing in his sight. His commandment is this: we are to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and are to love one another as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him and he in them. And this is how we know that he remains in us: from the Spirit that he gave us.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of John.

4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten of God and has knowledge of God. The man without love has known nothing of God, for God is love. God's love was revealed in our midst in this way: he sent his only Son to the world that we might have life through him. Love, then, consists in this: not that we have loved God, but that he has loved us and has sent his Son as an offering for our sins. Beloved, if God has loved us so, we must have the same love for one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet if we love one another God dwells in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

19:1, 5-9

I, John, heard what sounded like the loud song of a great assembly in heaven. They were singing: "Alleluia! Salvation, glory, and might belong to our God."
A voice coming from the throne cried out: "Praise our God, all you his servants, the small and the great, who revere him!" Then I heard what sounded like the shouts of a great crowd, or the roaring of the deep, or mighty peals of thunder, as they cried:
"Alleluia!
The Lord is king, our God, the Almighty!
Let us rejoice and be glad, and give him glory!
For this is the wedding day of the Lamb, his bride has prepared herself for the wedding. She has been given a dress to wear made of finest linen, brilliant white.'
(The linen dress is the virtuous deeds of God's saints.)
The angel then said to me: "Write this down: Happy are they who have been invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb."

The Word of the Lord.

Husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. Observe that no one ever hates his own flesh; no, he nourishes it and takes care of it as Christ cares for the church—for we are members of his body.

"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cling to his wife, and the two shall be made into one."

This is a great foreshadowing; I mean that it refers to Christ and the church. In any case, each one should love his wife as he loves himself, the wife for her part showing respect for her husband.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

3:12-17

Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect. Christ's peace must reign in your hearts, since as members of the one body you have been called to that peace. Dedicate yourselves to thankfulness. Let the word of Christ, rich as it is, dwell in you. In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another. Sing gratefully to God from your hearts in psalms, hymns, and inspired songs. Whatever you do, whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

3:1-9

You married women must obey your husbands, so that any of them who do not believe in the word of the gospel may be won over apart from preaching, through their wives' conduct. They have only to observe the reverent purity of your way of life. The affectation of an elaborate hairdress, the wearing of golden jewellery, or the donning of rich robes is not for you. Your adornment is rather the hidden character of the heart, expressed in the unfading beauty of a calm and gentle disposition. This is precious in God's eyes. The holy women of past ages used to adorn themselves in this way, reliant on God and obedient to their husbands—for example, Sarah, who was subject to Abraham and called him her master. You are her children when you do what is right and let no fears alarm you.

You husbands, too, must show consideration for those who share your lives. Treat women with respect as the weaker sex, heirs just as much as you to the gracious gift of life. If you do so, nothing will keep your prayers from being answered.

In summary, then, all of you should be like-minded, sympathetic, loving toward one another, kindly disposed, and humble. Do not return evil for evil or insult for insult. Return a blessing instead. This you have been called to do, that you may receive a blessing as your inheritance.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-7, 7-8, 9

Response: *Happy are those who do what the Lord commands.*

Happy the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commands.

His posterity shall be mighty upon the earth; the upright generation shall be blessed.

R

Wealth and riches shall be in his house; his generosity shall endure forever.

He dawns through the darkness, a light for the upright; he is gracious and merciful and just.

R

Well for the man who is gracious and lends, who conducts his affairs with justice;

He shall never be moved; the just man shall be in everlasting remembrance.

R

An evil report he shall not fear. His heart is firm, trusting in the Lord.

His heart is steadfast; he shall not fear till he looks down upon his foes.

R

Lavishly he gives to the poor;

his generosity shall endure forever; his horn shall be exalted in glory.

R

Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Response: *Happy are those who fear the Lord.*

Happy are you who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways!

For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; happy shall you be, and favoured.

R

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home;

Your children like olive plants around your table.

R

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord.

The Lord bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R

Psalm 145:8-9, 10, 15, 17-18

Response: *The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.*

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is good to all and compassionate toward all his works.

R

Let all your works give you thanks, O Lord, and let your faithful ones bless you.

The eyes of all look hopefully to you, and you give them their food in due season.

R

The Lord is just in all his ways and holy in all his works.

The Lord is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.

R

Psalm 148:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12, 12-14

Response: *Let all praise the name of the Lord.*

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights;
Praise him, all you his angels, praise him, all you his hosts.

R

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.
Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

R

You mountains and all you hills, you fruit trees and all you cedars;
You wild beasts and all tame animals, you creeping things and you winged fowl.

R

Let the kings of the earth and all peoples, the princes and all the judges of the earth,
Young men too, and maidens, old men and boys.

R

Praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

R

Second Readings

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

8:31-35, 37-39

If God is for us, who can be against us? Is it possible that he who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for the sake of us all will not grant us all things besides? Who shall bring a charge against God's chosen ones? God, who justifies? Who shall condemn them? Christ Jesus, who died or rather was raised up, who is at the right hand of God and who intercedes for us?

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Trial, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or nakedness, or danger, or the sword? Yet in all this we are more than conquerors because of him who has loved us. For I am certain that neither death nor life, neither angels nor principalities, neither the present nor the future, nor powers, neither height nor depth nor any other creature, will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

12:1-2, 9-18

Brothers, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you may judge what is God's will, what is good, pleasing and perfect.

Your love must be sincere. Detest what is evil, cling to what is good. Love one another with the affection of brothers. Anticipate each other in showing respect. Do not grow slack but be fervent in spirit; he whom you serve is the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient under trial, persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of the saints as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless

your persecutors; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same attitude toward all. Put away ambitious thoughts and associate with those who are lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Never repay injury with injury. See that your conduct is honorable in the eyes of all. If possible, live peaceably with everyone.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

6:13-15, 17-20

The body is not for immorality; it is for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. God, who raised up the Lord, will raise us also by his power. Do you not see that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun lewd conduct. Every other sin a man commits is outside his body, but the fornicator sins against his own body. You must know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is within—the Spirit you have received from God. You are not your own. You have been purchased, and at what a price! So glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

12:31-13, 8

Set your hearts on the greater gifts. I will show you the way which surpasses all the others. If I speak with human tongues and angelic as well, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong, a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and, with full knowledge, comprehend all mysteries, if I have faith great enough to move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If [give everything I have to feed the poor and hand over my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, it is not snobbish. Love is never rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not prone to anger; neither does it brood over injuries. Love does not rejoice in what is wrong but rejoices with the truth. There is no limit to love's forbearance, to its trust, its hope, its power to endure.

Love never fails.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

5:2, 21-33

Follow the way of love, even as Christ loved you. He gave himself for us.

Defer to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives should be submissive to their husbands as if to the Lord because the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of his body the church, as well as its saviour. As the church submits to Christ, so wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church. He gave himself up for her to make her holy, purifying her in the bath of water by the power of the word, to present to himself a glorious church, holy and immaculate, without stain or wrinkle or anything of that sort.