

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Ephesians 5:23-27**.
- B. From Roy H. Enoch (3-13-94).
- C. The church is a divine institution.
- D. It is based on the law of X rather than the law of Moses.
  - 1. The law of Moses was less glorious and passed away (2Cor. 3:7-8).
  - 2. It was replaced by the law of X (2Cor. 3:11; Gal. 6:2).
- E. Membership is our greatest privilege (Ac. 2:47; Col. 1:13).

## I. THERE ARE DIVINE CONTRIBUTIONS TO ITS GLORY.

- A. It is of divine origin. "The Lord pitched it, not men." See Heb. 8:2; Psa. 127:1.
- B. The deity of X is its foundation (Mt. 16:18; 1Cor. 3:11).
- C. X is the head of the church. It is His body (Col. 1:18).
- D. He bought it w/His blood (Ac. 20:28).
- E. It has a glorious purpose:
  - 1. It is to glorify God (Eph. 3:21).
  - 2. It makes known the manifold wisdom of God (Eph. 3:10).
  - 3. It contains all of the saved (Eph. 5:23).
- F. It is not a denomination or division of anything.

## II. THERE ARE HUMAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO ITS GLORY.

- A. All of its members have been sanctified for the Lord's service (Eph. 5:25,26).
  - 1. That cleansing w/the washing of water by the word is the same as "being born of water and the Spirit" in Jn. 3:5.
  - 2. They are to seek the kingdom above material things (Mt. 6:31-33).
  - 3. Members are to always abound in the work of the Lord (1Cor. 15:58).
  - 4. They are to hate every false way (Psa. 119:104; Rom. 12:9).
- B. It is glorious because the members have been cleansed (Eph. 5:26).
  - 1. They have put to death sinful practices in repentance (Col. 3:5).
  - 2. They have also put off other evil characteristics (Col. 3:8).
  - 3. They have put on godly traits (Col. 3:12-15).

## III. THERE ARE THINGS THAT CAN DETRACT FROM THE GLORY OF THE CHURCH.

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| A. Indifference (Rev. 3:16).   | D. Compromise (Gal. 1:10).                  |
| B. Worldliness (1Jo. 2:15-17). | E. Irreverence in worship (1Cor. 11:20-22). |
| C. Division (1Cor. 1:10).      | F. Irregularity (Heb. 10:25).               |

## CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Jesus died that the church might be glorious.
- B. We must also deny ourselves, if we are to receive those blessings.
- C. Does your life glorify X and His church?
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.