**PROPER RELATIONSHIPS IN A CHRISTIAN HOME**

Colossians 3:18-4:1

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**INTRODUCTION**

In Colossians, a prison letter written from Rome around A.D. 60-65, Paul wrote to encourage the Christians through practical teachings and a show of love for God’s people. Last week, we examined his teachings about proper relationships among God’s people. Today, we will consider his teachings concerning proper relationships in the home, something which we should consider during Chuseok.

1. **PAUL IDENTIFIES THE PROPER RELATIONSHIPS.**
2. Wives should submit to their husbands—**allow** them to **lead** the family.
3. Husbands should **love** their wives and not be **harsh** with spouse or child.
4. Children should **obey** their parents in everything.
5. Slaves (household workers) should serve with **sincerity** of heart and **reverence** for the Lord.
6. Masters (employers) should provide workers with what is **right** and **fair**.

*Paul describes these various relationships as being characterized by mutual love and respect. There is no call for mean-spiritedness, lack of self-control, or tyrant-like behavior.*

1. **PAUL IDENTIFIES THE BASIS FOR PROPER RELATIONSHIPS.**
2. We are to do what is “**fitting**” for a Child of God (v. 18).
3. We are to do what “**pleases**” God (v. 20).
4. We are to serve others in the same **manner** & **spirit** we would God (v. 23).
5. In our service to others, we are actually serving **Jesus** (v. 28).
6. As supervisors, we must remember we have a **Master** in Heaven (4:1).

*All we do, we should do as if we were doing them for the Lord Himself. There is no basis for performing poorly in the quality of our work. Neither is there any basis for settling for poor quality of relationships in our homes.*

**CONCLUSION**

Paul wanted us to have happy homes—homes where we could truly be thankful for the blessings of God, homes where we could truly enjoy the benefits of family, homes where we could truly have a sense of peace and security. That is what God intended from the beginning for us, His creation. That is what Paul wants us to enjoy once more. Our homes should be so heavenly that the ungodly would want to be like us, would envy us, would possibly ask how we could be so happy! Is your home one of these beloved homes? If so, rejoice! If not, what can you do to make your family life more biblical, more Christian, more enjoyable?

*“God, give us Christian homes!*

*Homes where the Bible is loved and taught,*

*Homes where the Master’s will is sought,*

*Homes crowned with beauty Thy love hath wrought;*

*God, give us Christian homes;*

*God, give us Christian homes!”*