



Bird's Eye View

by Greg Simnor

Chapter 2: The Picture of our Finish Line Determines How we Run

Theme: The picture of our finish line determines how we run - Page 32-36.

Key Truth: Jesus and His bride.

Key Scripture: *Ephesians 5:32, Mark 12:24-25, 1 Corinthians 7:29-35, 2 Corinthians 11:2-3*

The primary context to which the scriptures sit in and point to, is a marriage covenant between Christ and His church. The main purpose of our physical marriage covenant between a man and a woman, is to present both people spotless and blameless before Christ, ready for their marriage ceremony between Christ and His church.

We are taught by His body, primarily, that the purpose of physical marriage, is for the purpose of filling the earth with other humans, raising up a family and also so we don't commit sin by having physical sexual intercourse outside of marriage.

As much as this is all part of God's truth, this is not the main purpose of the marriage covenant between a man and a woman. Paul describes in Ephesians 5 from verse 22-31 certain aspects of the marriage covenant between a man and a woman and then in verse 32, he changes it up on us, by saying this mystery is great, but I am actually speaking about Christ and His church. The mystery which Paul describes as being great in the kingdom, is the marriage covenant between Christ and His church.

All the mysteries of the kingdom we have been granted to know, and this is the great mystery, so the question we need to ask ourselves is, do we carry a living revealed knowledge and understanding of the great mystery between Christ and His people, the church. Only those who carry a revelation of this mystery will and can align their lives to this mystery, and live out the covenant, being faithful and obedient to Him, as their first love.

This brings to light, the words Jesus spoke in Matthew, when He said if you love another more than Me you are not worthy of Me. Ultimately you are not worthy to marry Me because you loved all these other people more than Me. It's not that we don't love these people, but rather we don't love them more than Him and have them as our FIRST.

It's not enough to just have a mental agreement or understanding of this great mystery. We must receive a living revealed position of it, engraved on our hearts through the power of the Spirit. This is the only way all of those other loves in our heart get aligned and repositioned, and Jesus takes centre stage in our heart and mind, enabling us to keep the covenant commandment, and love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Questions:

1. What is the difference between a mental agreement and a living revealed conviction of the marriage covenant between Christ and His church?
2. Which position are we currently in and what do you sense He is saying in relation to this for you?

Action point: What are you being made aware of through this resource and is there one thing you need to put in place after going through this resource?