



Big Idea: Only by the wounds of Christ is the Bride of Christ born.

1.) The birth of **EVE depicts the birth of the church.**

- Like nearly everything else God ordains, the creation of Eve points to God's Son and His gospel (Genesis 2:21-23).
 - Adam was put to death, and while in that death, God created a bride for him through something that came out of a wound in his side.
 - While Jesus was in the deep sleep of death, a gash in His side poured forth the blood and water by which the church is born.
- **Blood and water are the biblical symbols of **SALVATION****
 - New birth into the family of God is based completely upon one's faith in the blood covering of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Hebrews 9:22, Luke 22:20)
 - Water in Scripture is the physical picture of spiritual newness and rebirth (1 Peter 3:2 says).
- Just as Adam's bride was created by the rib from his side, Christ's bride was created by the blood and water that flowed from His.
- The blood and water from Christ's side are represented in the two ordinances of the church: The Lord's Supper and baptism.

2.) Cherish the **CHURCH**

- Like Adam, Christ would be resurrected and united to His bride in an inseparable union (Genesis 2:22-24, Hebrews 12:2).
- Like Adam, Jesus was ecstatic about being united with His bride in His resurrection (Revelation 19:6-8).

3.) Honor **MARRIAGE**

- From the beginning of human existence, marriage was established by God to be a picture of the union between Christ and the church (Ephesians 5:31-32).
- To compromise God's design for marriage is to compromise the **GOSPEL**
- The marriage metaphor of the gospel reveals Christ's undying love for and connection to the church.

4.) Follow Christ with **CONFIDENCE**

- Given the careful sovereignty with which God preordained redemption in Christ, we have every reason to live with every confidence in Him (Ephesians 1:4-5).
- In order that we might live with full assurance of God's Sovereign care, God showed us our salvation by the manner in which He created Eve.
- The God who revealed your salvation in the earliest moments of Creation will show you His gracious care again in His perfect time (Ecc. 3:11).

5.) Don't be **DISMAYED**

- Because of sin and the consequences of sin, new life on earth very often comes only through pain (1 Peter 2:24).
- Let us determine never to give into the temptation to despair, because we know that God glories in bringing good out of grief (James 1:2-4, 12).

-- The **CROSS** of Christ forever stands as unforgettable evidence that our God delights to bring triumph out of tragedies.