









- ✓ Plan
- ✓ Resources
- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Workers





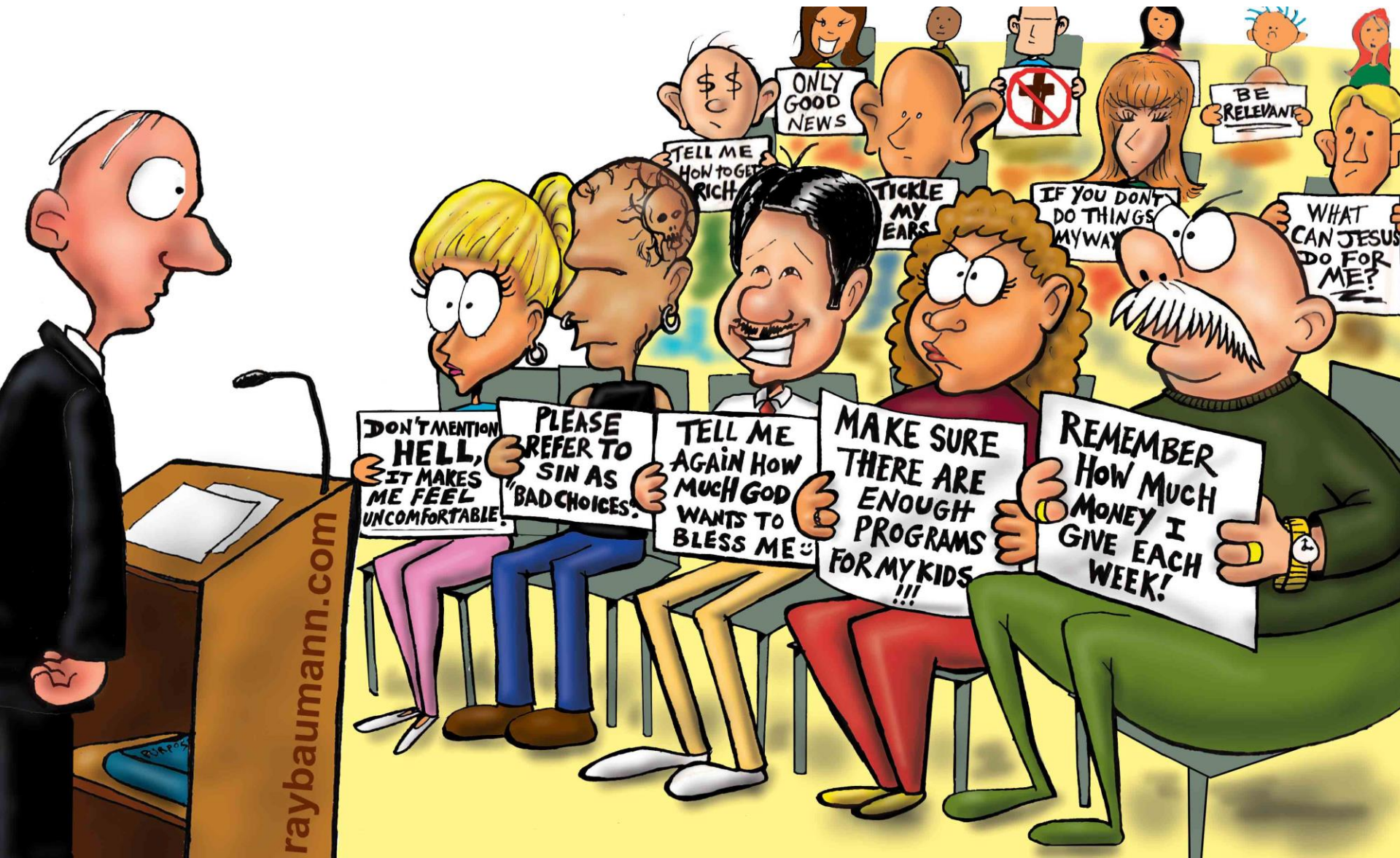
EPHESIANS 4:11-16

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

FRIDAY:	The Relevant Church
SATURDAY:	Forgiven!
SUNDAY AM:	Edification Playbook
SUNDAY Worship:	Overcomers
SUNDAY PM:	Going Home

THE SECULAR CHURCH







SECULAR

- 'non-religious'

Being **secular** means a person

1. does not **believe** in the **spiritual**, or any supernatural beings
- 2) does not **identify** as **religious** and is not a **member** of a religious community
- 3) does not **engage** in **religious practice**

RELIGIOUS

The 3 B's

- **Belief** – *the spiritual, God*
- **Belonging** – *membership*
- **Behavior** – *ritual, worship*




SECULAR

- 'non-religious'

CHRISTIAN

The 3 B's

- 
- **Belief** – *the spiritual, God*
 - **Belonging** – *membership*
 - **Behavior** – *ritual, worship*

Our behavior is driven by our beliefs and our understanding of who we are.

THE RELEVANT CHURCH

Our life in the church, being the manifestation of God's wisdom, is how we bring God glory.





1. The **church** expresses the **manifold wisdom** of God

THE MYSTERY

8 To me, the very least of all
saints, this grace was given,
to **preach** to the Gentiles the
unfathomable riches of
Christ, 9 and to **bring to light**
what is the **administration** of
the mystery which for ages
has been **hidden** in God who
created all things..



**God's
Plan**

Ephesians 3:8, 9



1. The church expresses the **manifold wisdom** of God

'multi-colored; variegated'

'in order that the **manifold wisdom of God** might now be made known **through the church** to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

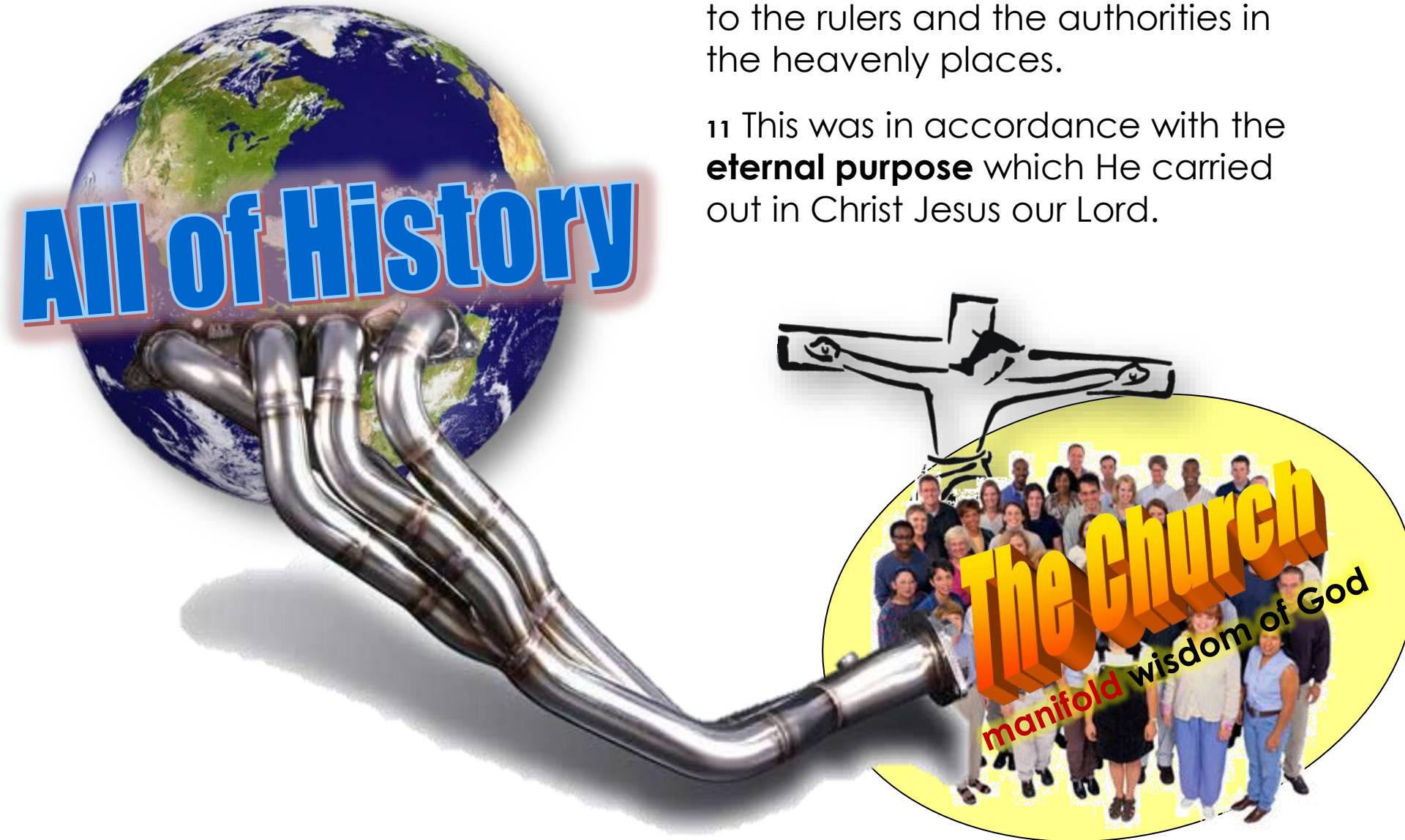
11 This was in accordance with the **eternal purpose** which He **carried out in Christ Jesus** our Lord.'

**God's
Plan**

Ephesians 3:10, 11

10 in order that the **manifold**
wisdom of God might now be
made known through **the church**
to the rulers and the authorities in
the heavenly places.

11 This was in accordance with the
eternal purpose which He carried
out in Christ Jesus our Lord.





1. The **church** expresses the **manifold wisdom** of God

THE MYSTERY

'the **administration** of the **mystery**'

"stewardship, management;
managing a household"

**God's
Plan**

IN CHRIST



The Church

Ephesians 3:9

THE RELEVANT CHURCH

1. The **church** expresses the **manifold wisdom** of God

An administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is the **summing up of all things in Christ** – things in the heavens and things upon the earth.

God's Plan

Ephesians 1:10



The Church

GRACE
Forgiven!

Saved!

Blameless

CHOSEN!

Children of God!

Heaven!



Summed Up in Christ

Questions:

1. IF the church needed improvements what would that suggest about God's wisdom?
2. Would the church always be relevant for every generation?
2. If there is any weakness in the church, what would it be?

God's
Plan






2. God is glorified in the church and in Christ

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21 to Him be the **glory in the church** and **in Christ** Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

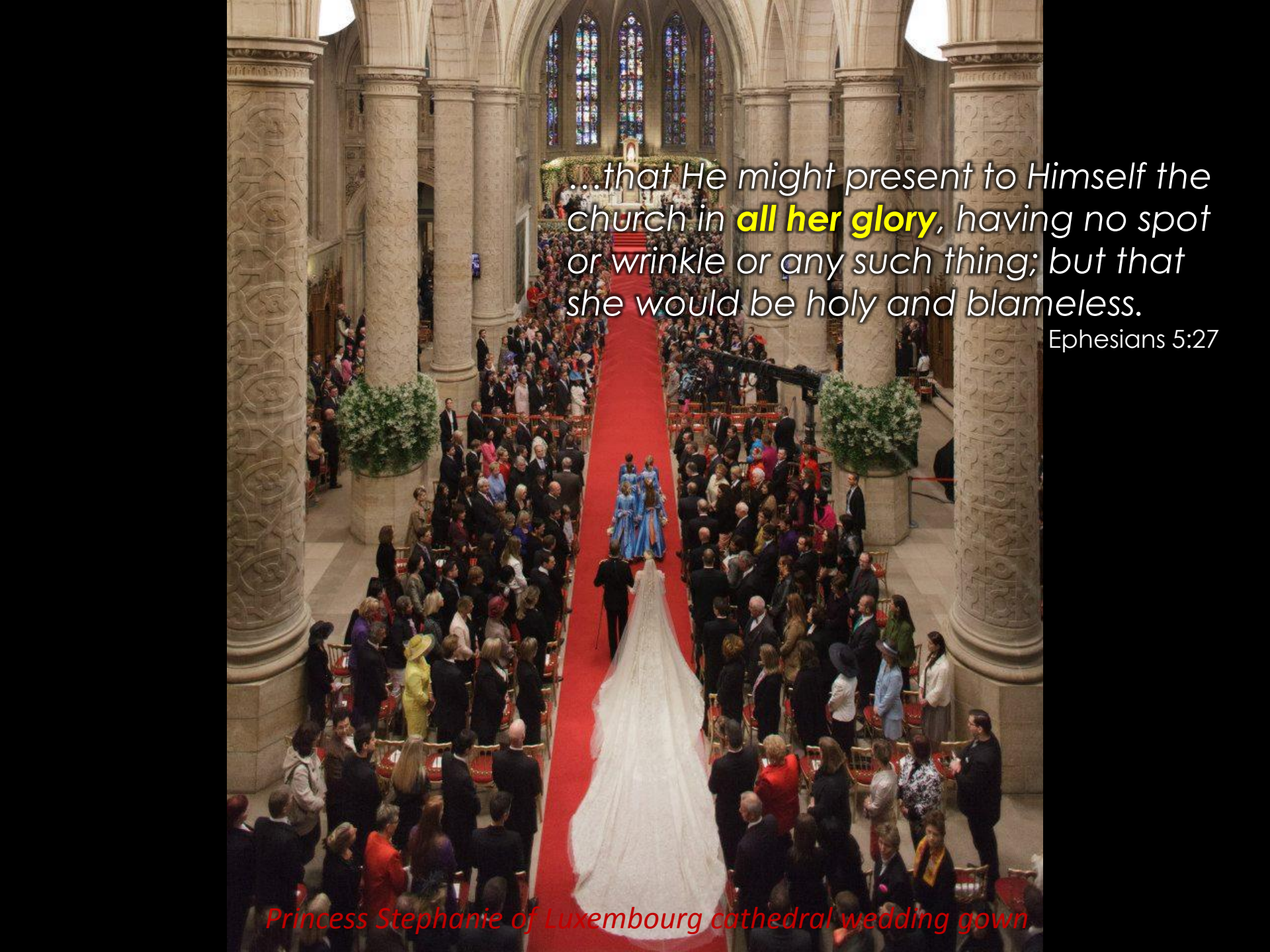
Ephesians 3:20-21



A photograph of a wedding ceremony. A bride in a white gown and veil, holding a bouquet of white flowers, is walking down a set of stone steps. She is being escorted by a groom in a dark military uniform with a white shirt and tie. To the left, a line of men in various military uniforms, including white hats and dark uniforms, are standing at attention. To the right, two more men in dark military uniforms are standing. The background features a large, classical building with tall, fluted columns and a large bush of red flowers to the left. The scene is set outdoors, and the lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

For I am jealous for you with a godly
jealousy; for I **betrothed** you to one
husband, so that **to Christ** I might
present you as a pure virgin.

2 Corinthians 11:2



...that He might present to Himself the church in **all her glory**, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:27

Princess Stephanie of Luxembourg cathedral wedding gown



3. We glorify God through our **life of worship**

21 ...to Him be the **glory in the church** and **in Christ** Jesus to all generations forever and ever.
Amen.

“Our worship with the Lord’s people is the great engine which drives the Christian life during the week.”

“**Worthy is the Lamb** that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.”

Revelation 5:12

SECULAR

- 'non-religious'

- Faith dictates Behavior
- Faith dictates Feelings

CHRISTIAN

The 3 B's

- **Belief** – *Father, Jesus, heaven*
- **Belonging** – *Christ's church*
- **Behavior** – *worship, glorify*

The Church







God's wisdom

Our life in the church, being the
manifestation of God's wisdom,
is how we bring God glory.



THE RELEVANT CHURCH

Our life in the church, being the manifestation of God's wisdom, is how we bring God glory.



