hierarchy (the systematic application of authority in order to impose order).

- All of God’s institutions reflect all of God’s own character.
- Now, here is the most important point of the study.

All of Christ’s institutions carry the imprimatur of the Father, they all reflect the Person of the S________ S_____ and as such, are anchored in servanthood of Christ!

Q 4. How does the institution of marriage reflect the Servant Christ?

2. The Complementary (help meet) model. Slide B. Gen. 2:18, Mark 10:2-9, Gen. 3:16
3. The Christological model. Slide C. Eph. 5:21-33

Q 5. How does the institution of the family reflect the Servant Christ? Slides D & E.

Christ Himself is the learning example and pattern for the child who obeys his parents in the Lord, not the law.

Q 6. How does the employer/employee relationship reflect the Servant Christ?

Q 7. How then does the New Ecumenism relate to God and His institutions?

Q 1. What do we mean by the term “institutions of God?”

Institutions are not arbitrarily imposed by God. Rather, institutions reflect the ______ of God Himself and His own __________ with Himself within the triune Godhead.

Q 2. Why do we embrace God’s institutions? (See Col. 3:12 above.)

As Paul begins discussing relationships in general and specific institutional relationships, he reminds us that we do what we do in order to reflect or adorn our positions as the elect of God. This is why we change our spiritual clothes (putting off and putting on). We want to model or reflect the person and character of the great Designer.

Q 3. In what way then do these institutions reflect God? All of God’s institutions model the character and nature of God. Further, they all model God’s own relationship __________ Himself.

- All of God’s institutions reflect order.
- All of God’s institutions reflect divine order within Himself through
The Institutions of God

The Old Testament

A

The Equality Model

Equality is foundational to all marriages. Men and women are absolutely equal.

However, the equality model cannot and never did stand alone as the basis of marriage.

It offers no governing principles for ensuring equality in institutional relationships. Our culture is testing this today in all of our institutions.

B

The Complementary Model

Equality is never in question. Initially, Adam was Eve’s head as primum inter pares - thus insuring order inside marriage. I Tim. 2:12

Eve was subjected to Adam’s headship because of the fall and Adam’s headship duties were further extended. I Tim. 2:13

Note: Even combined, these two models are not fully adequate!

The New Testament

C

MARRIAGE MODELS

The Christ Centered Model

Christ, Adam, and Eve are now one by virtue of both the old and the new creation. This is new! Ephesians 5:30

MARRIAGE MODELS

We now have a Christological point. Christ is inserting Himself into the marriage relationship.

As both marriage partners are accountable to Christ, each is better able to adjust to issues within the marriage.

D

FAMILY MODEL

Parent/Child – Old Covenant

All of Israel was under the autocracy of the law. The child’s first duties were to honor and obey his parents who instructed him in the law.

E

Christological Parent/Child Model

This parallels the Christ Centered Marriage Model. Colossians 3:20,21

FAMILY MODEL

Children learn obedience and submission as they absorb the examples of their parents who submit to Christ.

While the law provides teaching examples, Christ, not the law is the focus of the parent/child relationship.