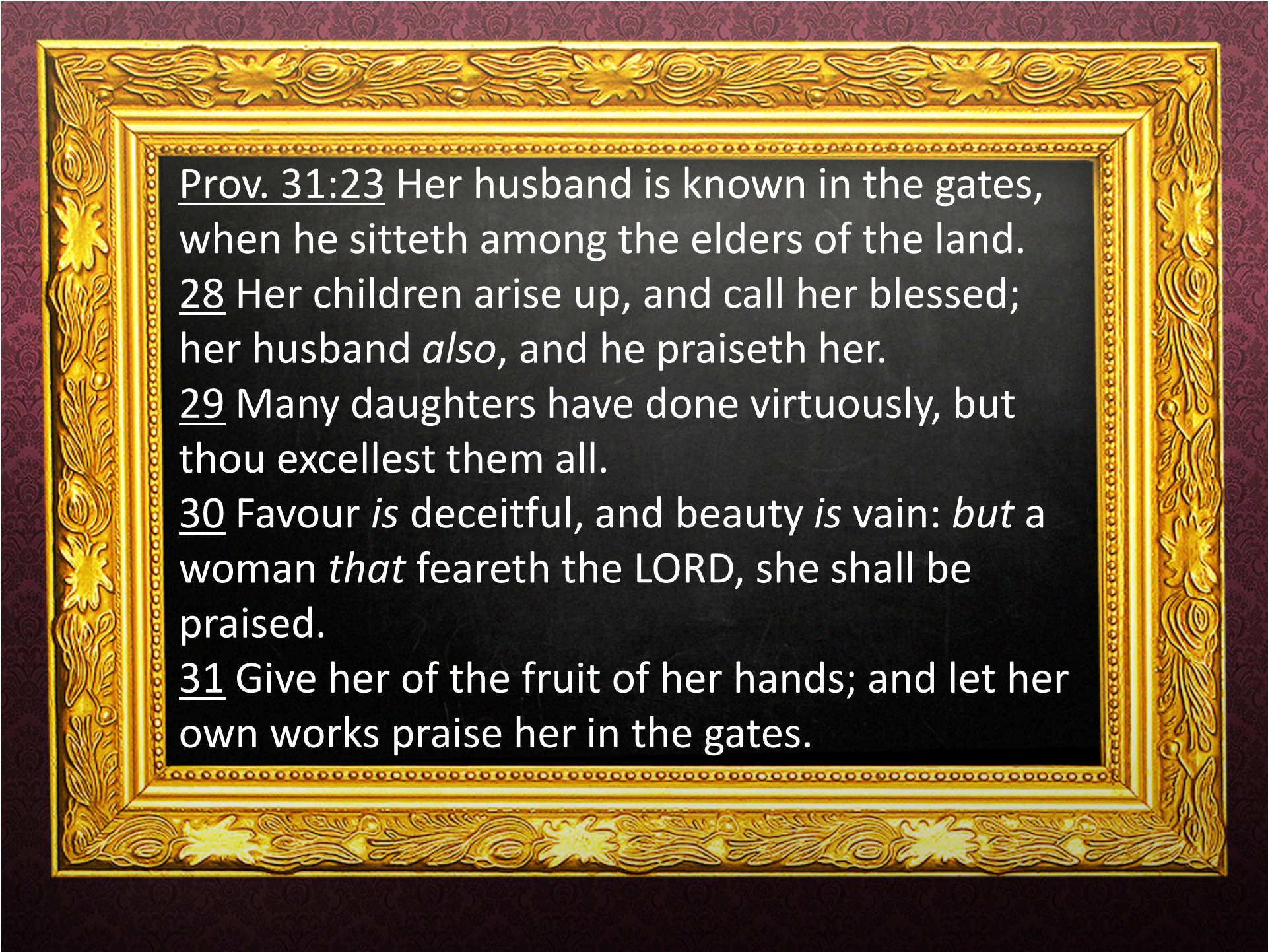
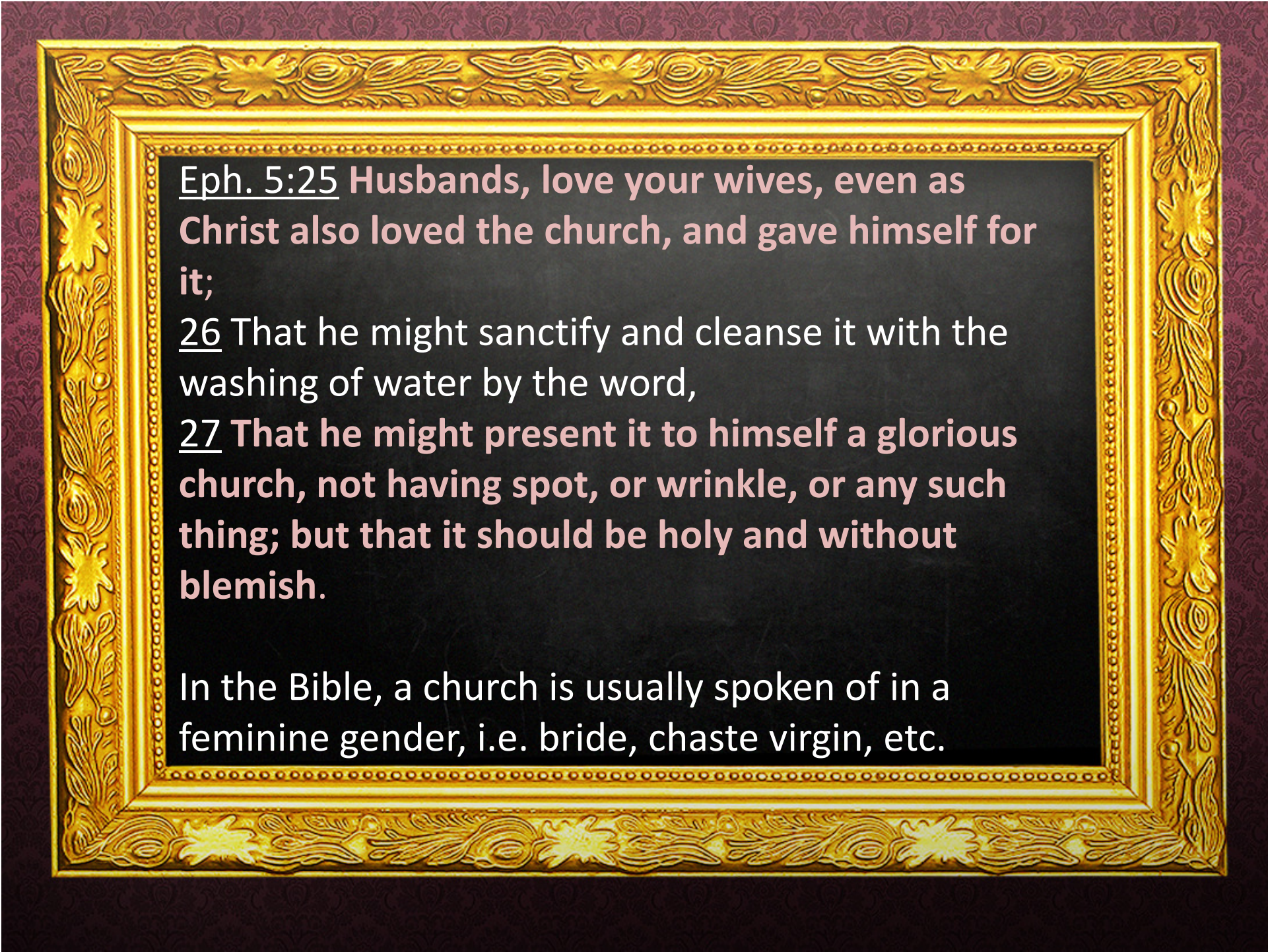


Portrait of a Priceless Church
Prov. 31:23, 28-31



Prov. 31:23 Her husband is known in the gates,
when he sitteth among the elders of the land.
28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed;
her husband *also*, and he praiseth her.
29 Many daughters have done virtuously, but
thou excellest them all.
30 Favour *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a
woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be
praised.
31 Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her
own works praise her in the gates.

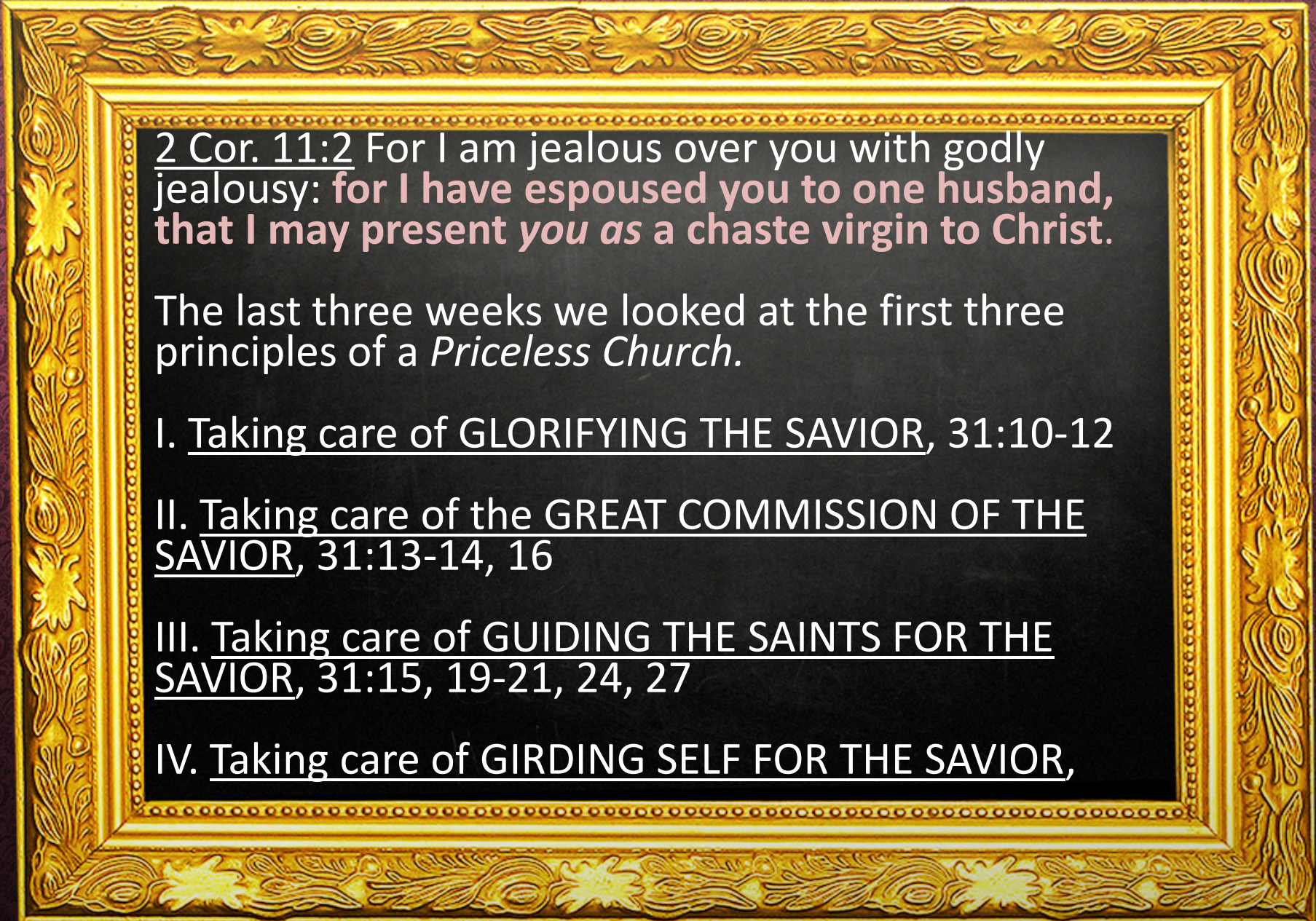


Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

In the Bible, a church is usually spoken of in a feminine gender, i.e. bride, chaste virgin, etc.



2 Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present *you as a chaste virgin to Christ.*

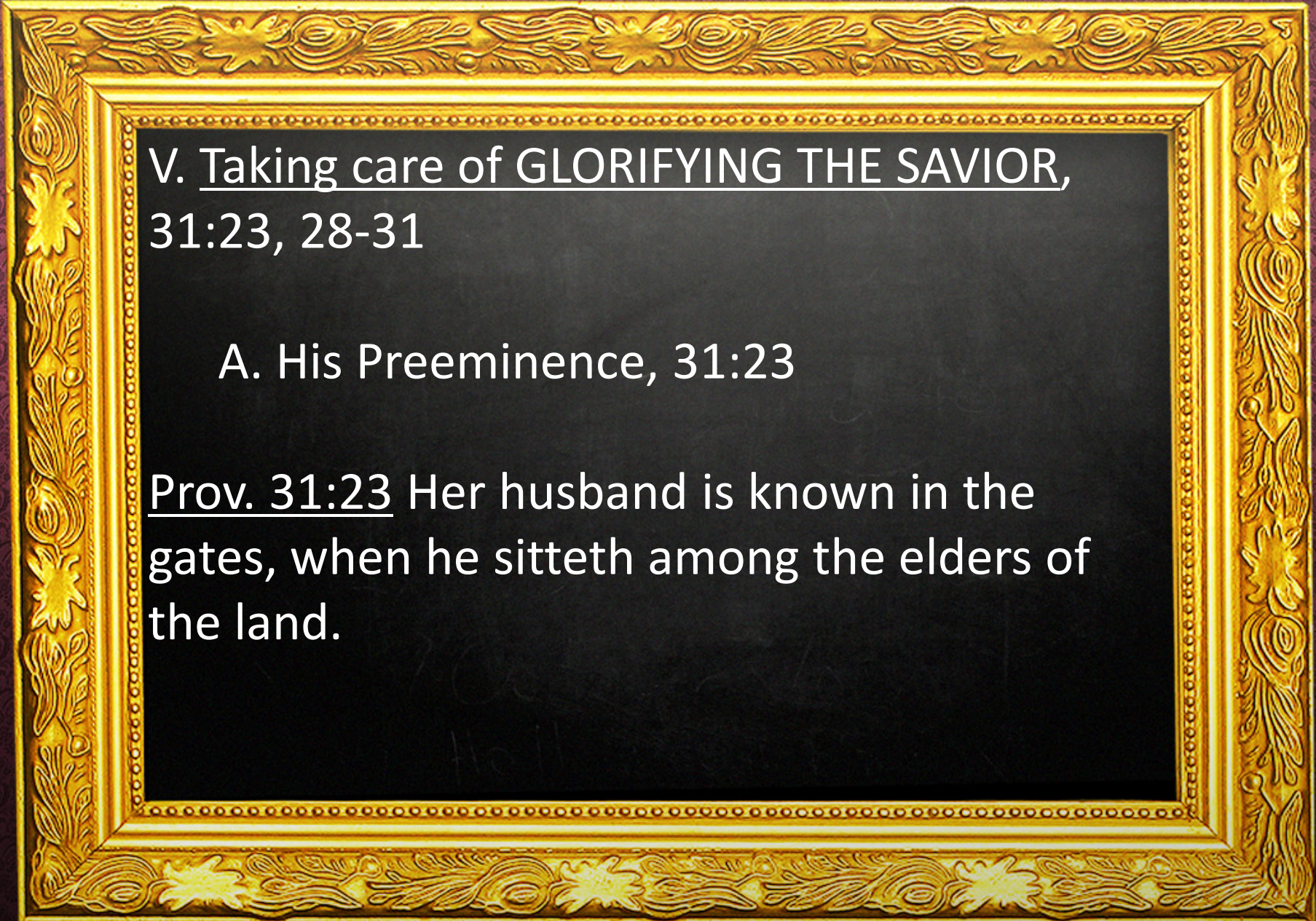
The last three weeks we looked at the first three principles of a *Priceless Church*.

I. Taking care of GLORIFYING THE SAVIOR, 31:10-12

II. Taking care of the GREAT COMMISSION OF THE SAVIOR, 31:13-14, 16

III. Taking care of GUIDING THE SAINTS FOR THE SAVIOR, 31:15, 19-21, 24, 27

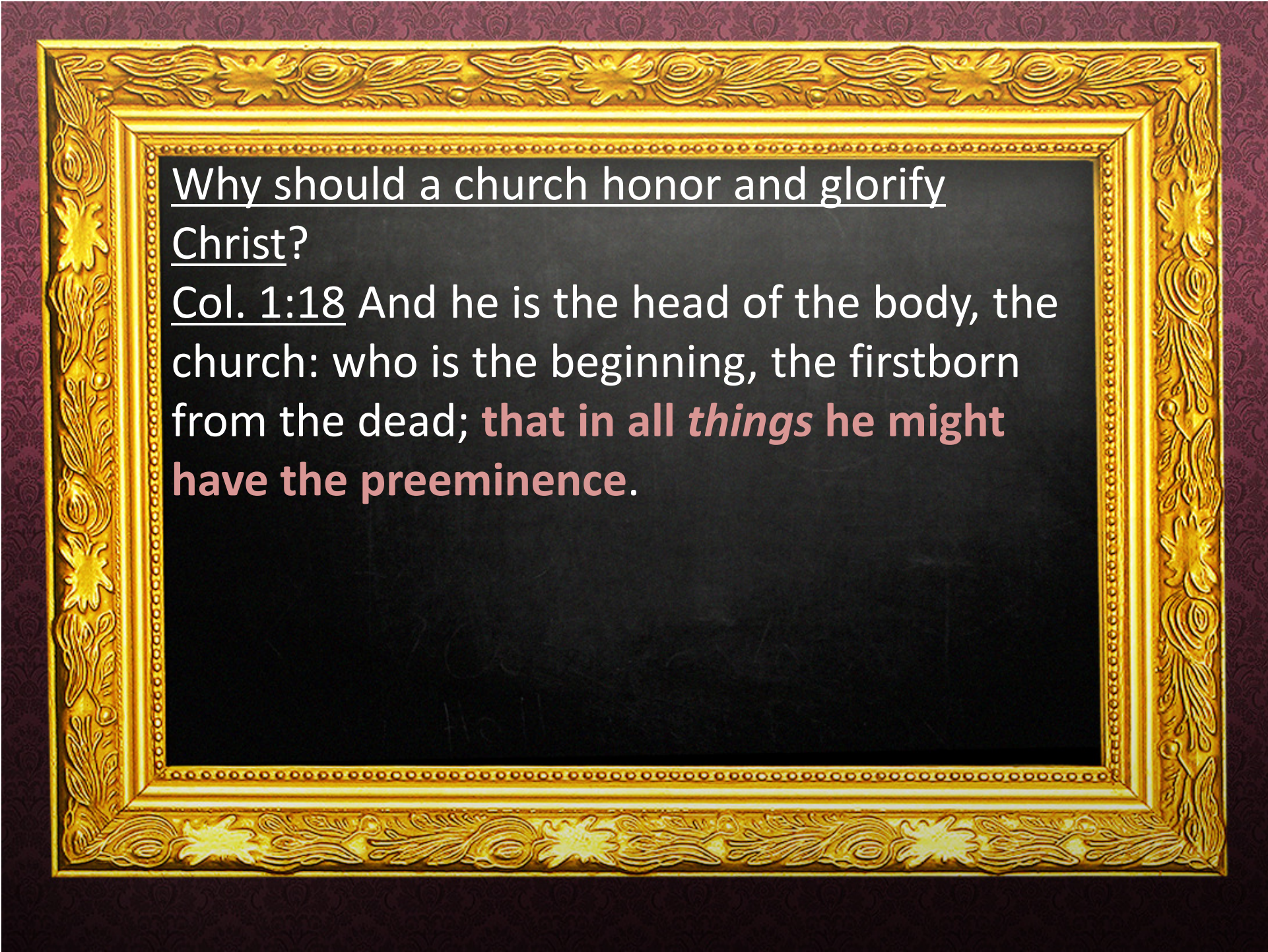
IV. Taking care of GIRDING SELF FOR THE SAVIOR,



V. Taking care of GLORIFYING THE SAVIOR,
31:23, 28-31

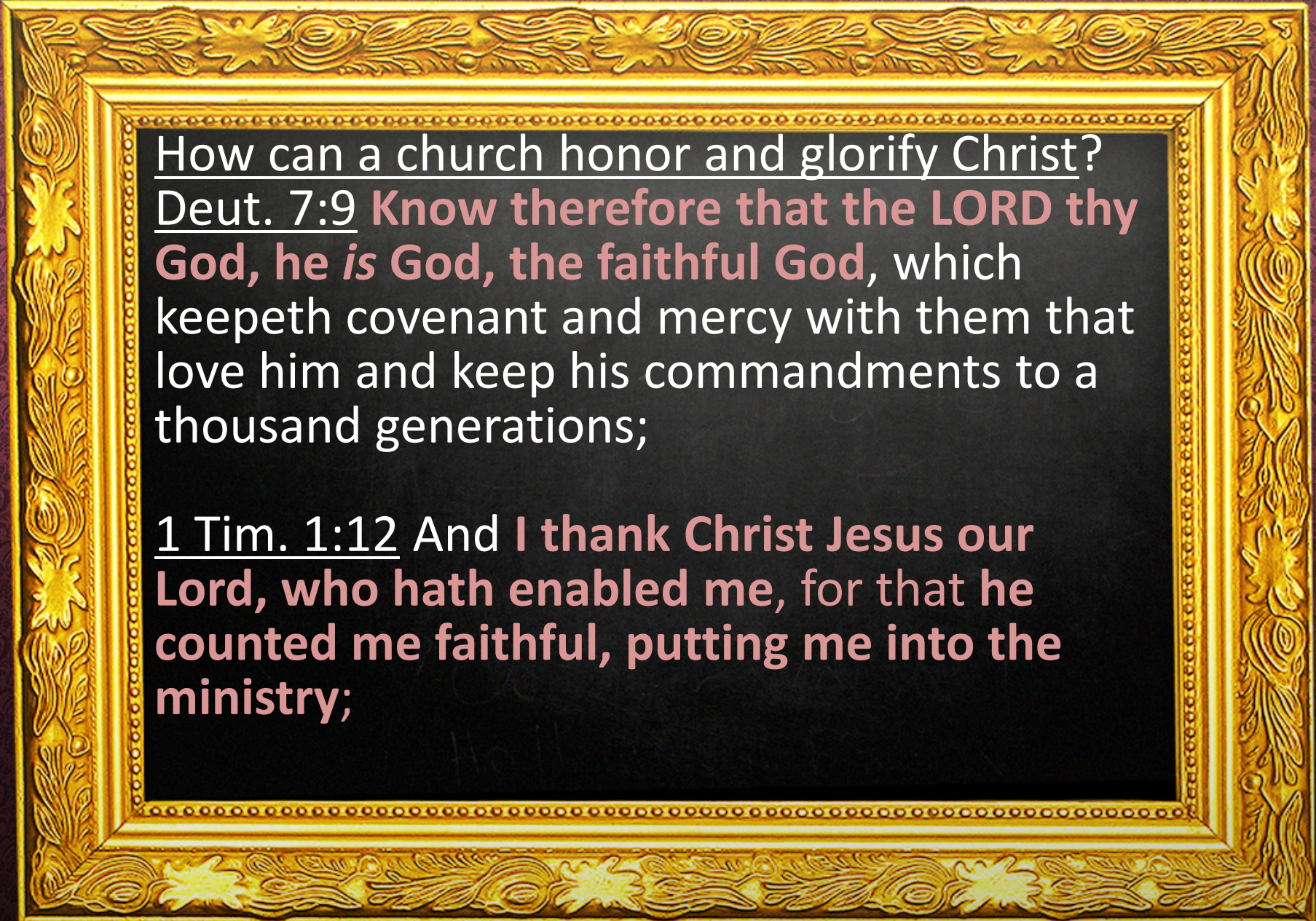
A. His Preeminence, 31:23

Prov. 31:23 Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.



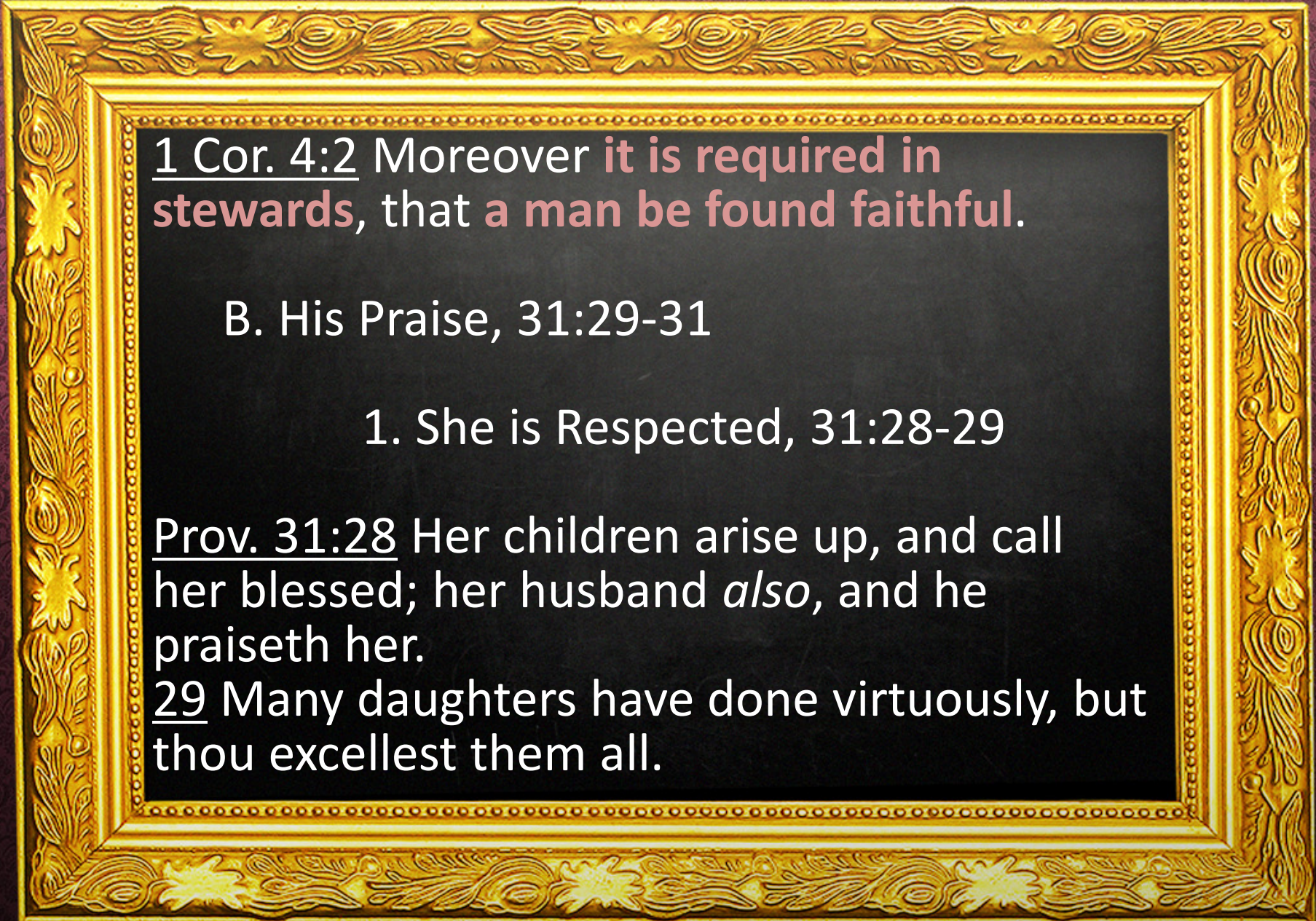
Why should a church honor and glorify Christ?

Col. 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; **that in all things he might have the preeminence.**



How can a church honor and glorify Christ?
Deut. 7:9 **Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God,** which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

1 Tim. 1:12 **And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;**



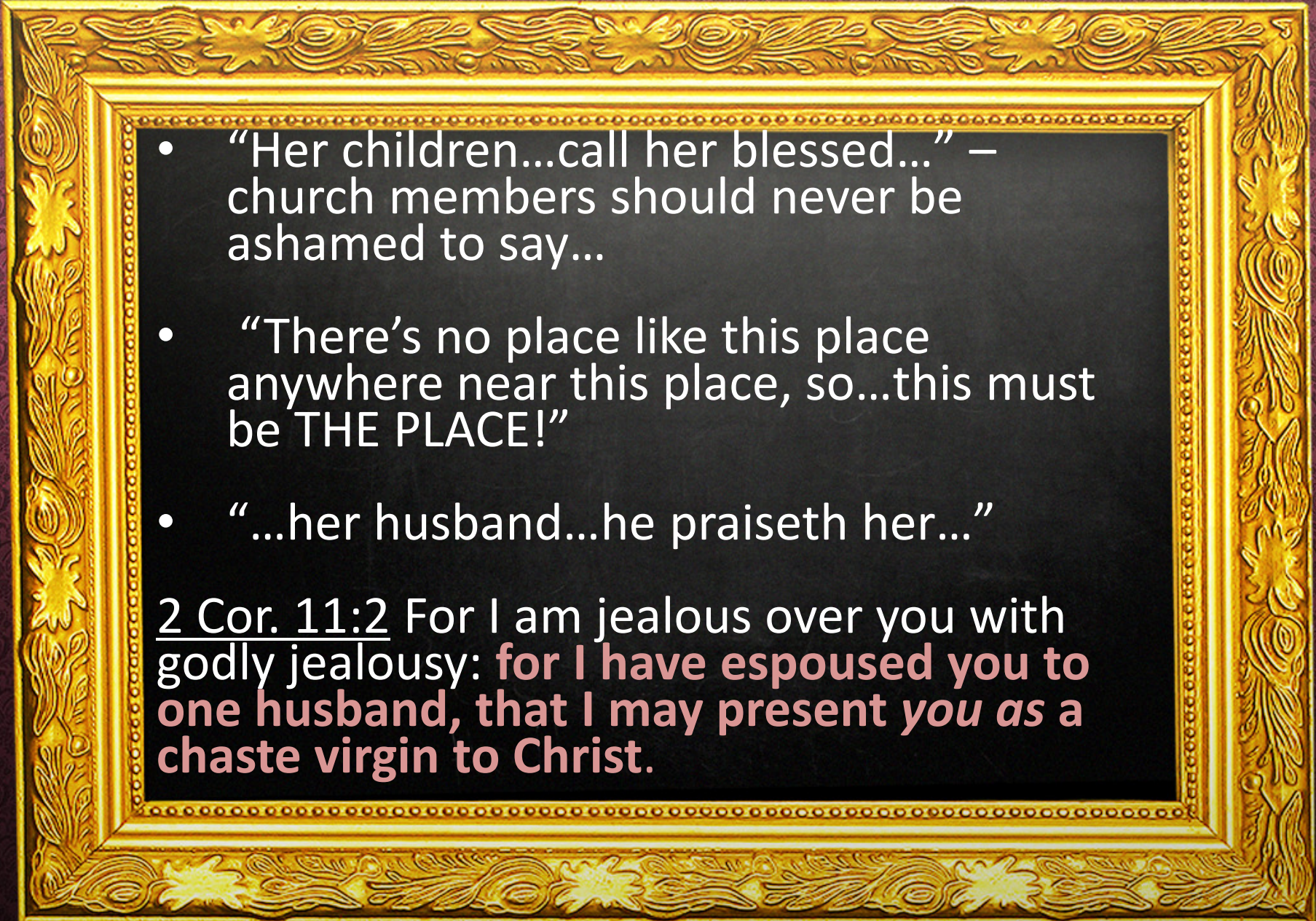
1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover **it is required in stewards**, that **a man be found faithful**.

B. His Praise, 31:29-31

1. She is Respected, 31:28-29

Prov. 31:28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband *also*, and he praiseth her.

29 Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

- 
- “Her children...call her blessed...” – church members should never be ashamed to say...
 - “There’s no place like this place anywhere near this place, so...this must be THE PLACE!”
 - “...her husband...he praiseth her...”

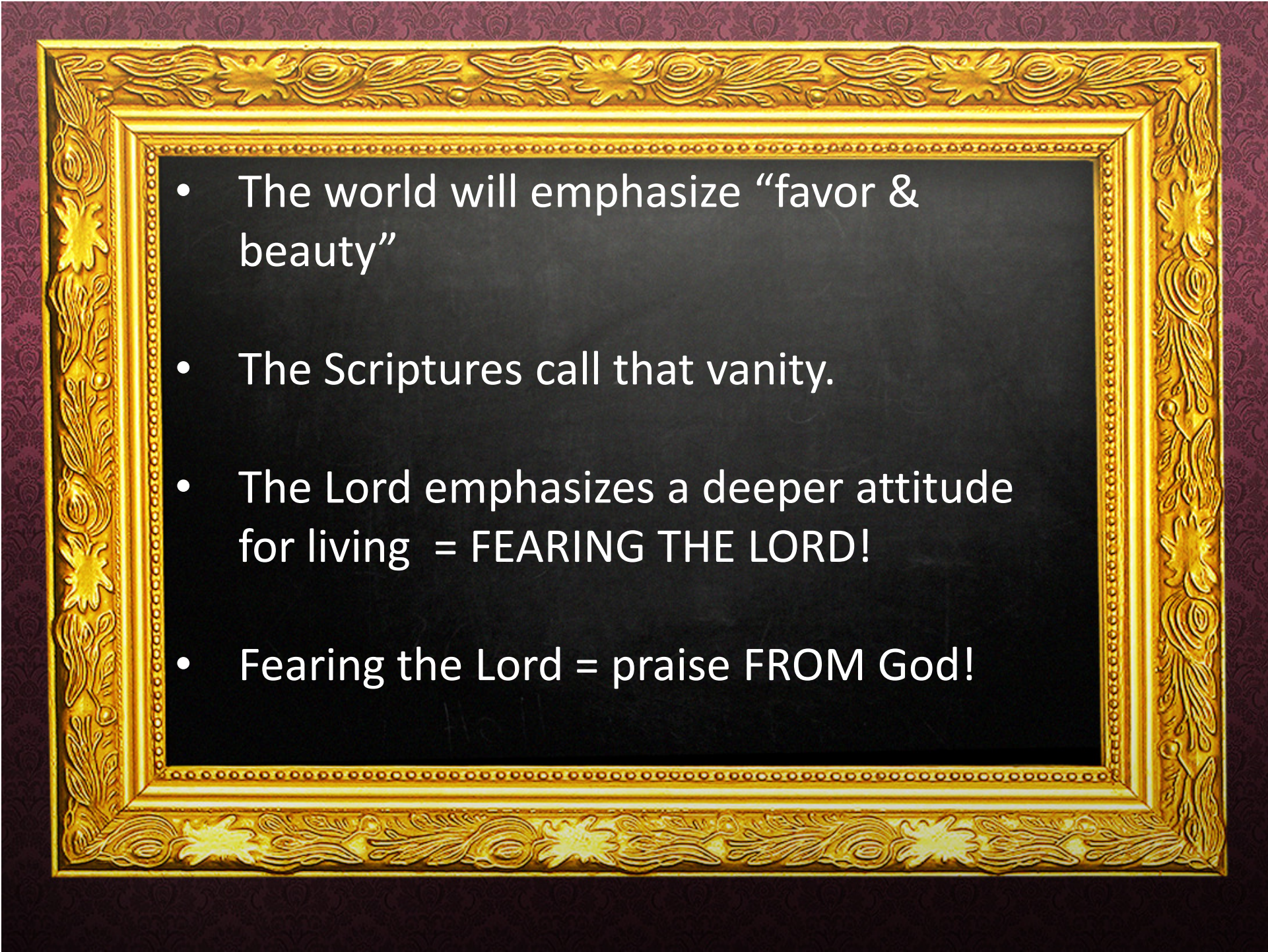
2 Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: **for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.**

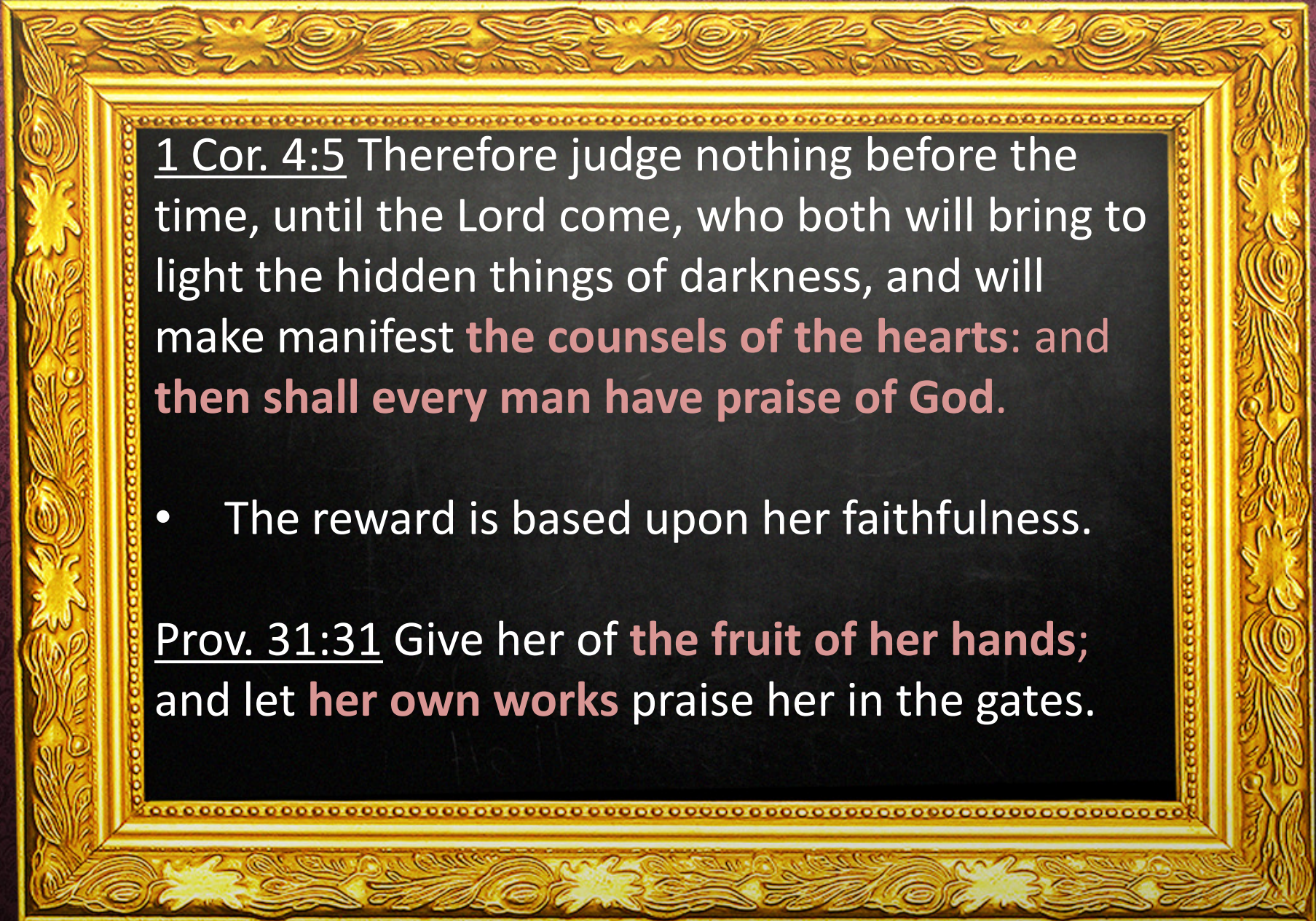


2. She is Rewarded, 31:30-31

Prov. 31:30 Favour *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

31 Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

- 
- The world will emphasize “favor & beauty”
 - The Scriptures call that vanity.
 - The Lord emphasizes a deeper attitude for living = FEARING THE LORD!
 - Fearing the Lord = praise FROM God!



1 Cor. 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest **the counsels of the hearts:** and **then shall every man have praise of God.**

- The reward is based upon her faithfulness.

Prov. 31:31 Give her of **the fruit of her hands;** and let **her own works** praise her in the gates.

Conclusion

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that **a man be found faithful**. ...

5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and **then shall every man have praise of God.**



Eph. 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints,
for the work of the ministry, for the
edifying of the body of Christ: