

## BBC - 6/2/24 PM – Home Bible-Study Outline

### Study Title: "A Glorious Church: Holy, without Spot, Wrinkle, or Blemish"

Text: **Eph 5:27** *That he (Jesus Christ) might present it to himself a glorious church (brilliant, splendid "bride"), not having spot (any small hidden stain of disgrace), or wrinkle (surfacing effect of the stain), or any such thing (anything similar); but that it should be holy (sacred, pure, consecrated, blameless) and without blemish (without evident fault, blame that's contagious and spreads).*

Discussion: *What can be the progression from "spot," to "wrinkle," to "blemish" be likened to? Is the call to be holy = sinless perfection? How do we deal with our sinful nature?*

### Supporting texts:

**2 Pet 2:13b** *...Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you*

**Jude 12** *These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are w/o water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots*

**1 John 1:5b** *(our call to be like Him)...God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.*

Discussion: *Who could those "spots" & "blemishes" be that "feast" with you? Should we be aware and unaffected by them, or pluck them out from us? Matt 13:24-30*

### Illustration: Achan

**Joshua 7** *(the Israelites in the exodus are a type of "the Church in the wilderness" - Ac 7:38)*

Discussion: *What parallels can be seen between the Old Testament Israelites & the Church? Why do you think Achan refused to confess until he was caught? Lesson for us?*

### Our Obligation:

**2 Chron 7:14** *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

Discussion: *What stewardship does God demand from His Church ("my people")? Isn't it the sinful unsaved world that's "wicked"? Why is the Church implicated and responsible to act?*