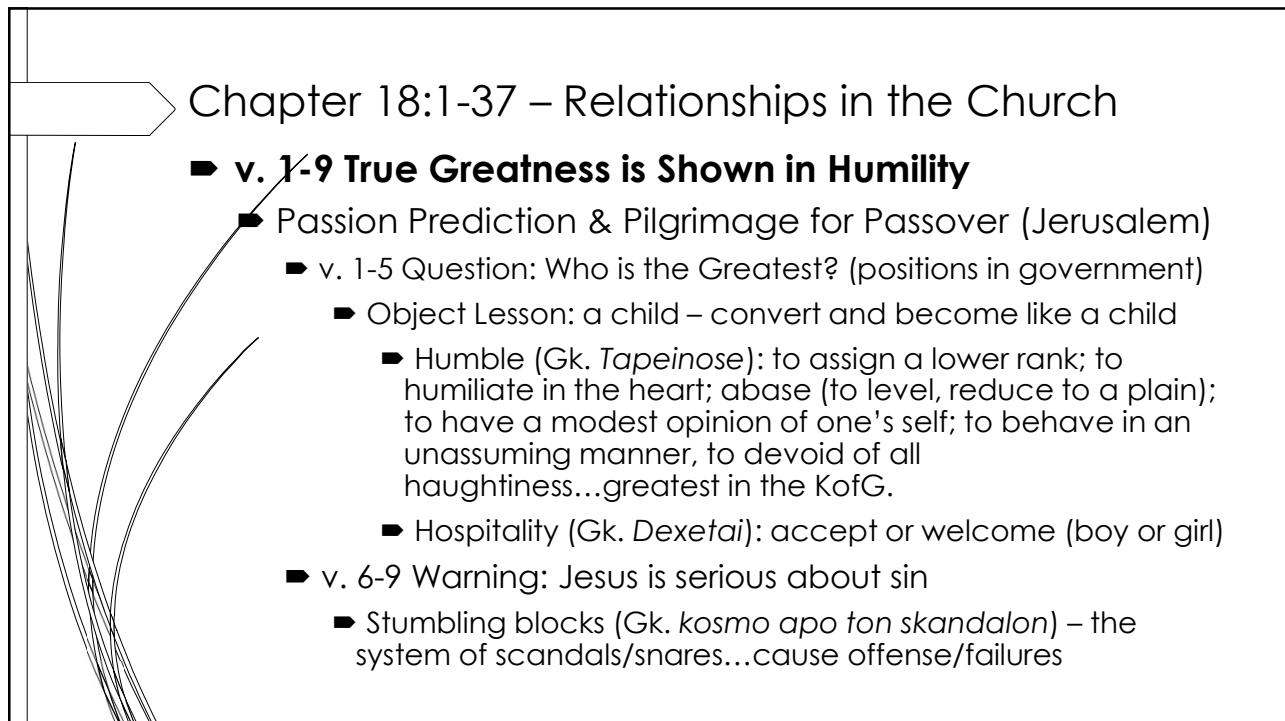


1



2

Chapter 18:1-37 – Relationships in the Church

■ v. 10-14 The Lost Sheep of Israel

- Don't despise (Gk. *Kataphronesete*): scorn, to think down upon; disregard; show active insult
 - Angels in Heaven – guardian (Acts 12:15)
 - Shepherd of a Hundred Sheep – rejoicing over the rescue

■ v. 15-20 Errors in the Ecclesia (the Church)

- Privately: solitary correction is more gracious than public humiliation
- Privately: one or two neutral witnesses (Dt 19); mediation
- Publicly: tell it to the church (fellowship); arbitration
- Publican (Gk. *ethnikos kai ho telones*): nations / tax collector

3

Chapter 18:1-37 – Relationships in the Church

■ v. 21-35 Limits of Forgiveness

- Peter's question: calculating the limits of our forgiveness
 - Forgive "seventy-seven times"; rabbis recommended 3x
- Parable of Forgiveness: king settling accounts
 - Sold into servitude (Lev. 25:39; 2 Kg 4:1)
 - Plea for Patience (Gk. *Makrothumeson*): pity, long-suffering
 - Prosecutes his equal (fellow servant): refuses patience
 - Report injustice to the Master: servant arrested
 - Tortured: determine if he was concealing money/valuables
 - Moral: God will enact justice upon the unforgiving

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