

PROPER MARRIAGE PART 1

15 November 2024

A One-Time Event for Old Testament Israelites (Ezra 10:1-3)

- Put away your strange wives, and such as are born of them (vs 3).
- This passage cannot be used by New Testament Christians to justify divorce.

THE FOUNDATION FOR GOD'S ESTABLISHMENT OF MARRIAGE: "FROM THE BEGINNING."

1. **Psalm 119:160** God's word is true **from the beginning**.
2. **1 John 1:1-2** with **John 1:1** Jesus Christ (the **Word**) is God and has been **from the beginning**.
3. **Mark 10:6-9** God established marriage between a man and a woman **from the beginning**.
 - To reject what the bible says about marriage is as significant as rejecting the deity of Christ and the truth of the word of God.
 - A society that rejects what God says is a proper relationship between a man and a woman is a society that will also reject what the bible says about Jesus Christ and then will reject all that the bible says about everything else.
 - If the bible isn't true, what authority forbids adultery, fornication, and perversions?
 - If Jesus isn't God, why would anybody listen to what He tells them to do?
 - A society that permits adultery, fornication, and premarital relations is a society that has clearly rejected Jesus Christ and the bible.
4. **Matthew 19:4** God "**made them at the beginning...male and female.**"
 - If you don't believe in God and you reject the bible, you're free to create transgenders, no-genders, and LGBTQ's. When you dismiss God, anything goes.
5. **Matthew 19:8-9** "**from the beginning**" God's intention "was that the man and woman who were joined never separate."
 - When man's heart grows hard against God, the result is broken marriages and families.
6. **Matthew 19:5** Marriage is more important than parentage or lineage.
7. **Mark 10:7-9** "**For this cause...**" This is the key. What is the cause? What is the reason you are to cleave to your spouse? Verse 6 "**From the beginning of the creation God made them male and female.**"
 - When you divorce, you are rejecting God.
 - The cause is not that your marriage is so important, but because God is so important.
 - If you reject God on something as major as marriage, you'll reject Him on everything.
8. **Ephesians 5:31-33** Staying married is so important because it is a picture of Christ and the Church.
 - People today don't want to trust the Heavenly Father because the only father they ever knew deserted them and their mother.
 - When you tell people Jesus will never leave them or forsake them, they're not going to believe you. That's what their dad said to their mom at the altar.
 - Your marriage is a very important example to others of true faithfulness.
9. **Hebrews 13:4** "**Marriage is honourable in all...**" That means in all the relationships a person might consider, marriage is the only one that is honorable.

“...and the bed undefiled.” It defiles you to be in a bed with someone you’re not married to.

“...but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.”

- The bible teaches that you will reap what you sow. You must reject God and the bible if you don’t believe God will judge you—because you’re you. No exceptions.

10. **First Corinthians 6:13** God didn’t make your body for fornication. He made it for Himself.

- Fornication is a violation of what God made your body for. You must reject God first before proceeding to fornicate.
- You can’t expect to have a good marriage if your starting point was a rejection of God.

11. **First Corinthians 5:9-13** God commands us to not keep company with fornicators. They must not be allowed to remain in fellowship while they are rejecting God and defiling their bed.

THE MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP

12. **Ephesians 5:22-33**

- **“²² Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.”**
 - The reason wives have difficulty submitting is because their husband is nothing like the Lord.
- **“²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church...”**
 - The church is not obedient to Christ. Nevertheless He continues to love His church.
 - Husbands should not withhold love from the wife even if she won’t submit. Don’t put conditions on your love.
- **“²⁴ Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.”**
 - It is easy to trust Christ and subject ourselves to Him because He is worthy of our trust. He has never let us down.
 - It is more difficult for a wife to submit to a husband because he can’t always be trusted.
- **“²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.”**
 - Everything Christ gave up was for your benefit. He did not gain anything from it.
 - He didn’t complain about what it cost Him.
 - Husbands gripe about how much their wife has cost them. They are selfish.
- **26-27** Christ’s Church has spots, blemishes, wrinkles, and “any such thing,” yet He never lets that change who He is. He never stops loving His church through many imperfections.
 - If a man is like Christ, he will love his wife in every stage of their life together.
- **28-30 “So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies.”**
 - Don’t love them only when they love you (Luke 6:32, 1 Peter 2:20-23).
 - Deny yourself and put the other person first (Mat. 16:24, Php 2:3-4).
- **31-33 “let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.”**
 - Don’t lower your standards once you’re married. Earn the respect of your spouse by continuing to be just as respectful as you were when you were dating.