

Mark 10:1-9 — "God's Great Design & Purpose For Marriage"

Richard Baxter: It is a mercy to have a faithful friend that loveth you entirely" to whom you may open your mind and communicate your affairs." And it is a mercy to have so near a friend to be a helper to your soul and" to stir up in you the grace of God.

"What God has joined together, let no man separate" (Mark 10.12)

Satan's three primary targets of hatred:

- (1)The Word of God (Gen 3 - did God really say?)
- (2)Marriage Bond (Gen 3 - sin, shame, hiding - blame shifting)
- (3)Family Unity (Gen 4 - Cain rises up & kills Abel)

Background to Mark 10

Mark 10 is a "traveling narrative." We journey with Christ as He leaves Galilee (in the North) and heads south to Judea and up to Jerusalem for the Passover, His last Passover where He will be crucified.

- Mk 10 includes many themes on this journey: **(1)** marriage, family, divorce (1-13); **(2)** children (14-16); **(3)** self-righteousness/rich young ruler (17-27); **(4)** encouragements for future rewards (28-31); **(5)** prophesying his own death/resurrection (32-40); **(6)** demand for disciples to humbly serve (41-45) & **(7)** healing power of Christ to a blind man (46-52).

I. THE SINISTER QUESTION (1-2)

2 Schools of Thought Prevailed regarding marriage & divorce:

1. **Shammai** —
2. **Hillel** —

II. THE DIVINE INSTITUTION (3-9)**★ Marriage...**

Mark 10:1-9 — "God's Great Design & Purpose For Marriage"**1. Is God's plan from the beginning (v.6a)****2. Is heterosexual (v.6b)****3. Is leaving father/mother (v.7a)**

Thomas Gataker: There is no society more near, more entire, more needful, more kindly, more delightful, more comfortable, more constant, more continual, than the society of man and wife, the main root, source, and original of all other societies.

- FOR KIDS:
 - (1) *be excited for marriage*
 - (2) *Follow God in marriage*
 - (3) *Be holy before marriage*
 - (4) *Trust Christ the ultimate Bridegroom*
 - (5) *Be open with parents with questions*
 - (6) *Be sexually pure before & throughout marriage*

4. Is total oneness/companionship (one flesh) (v.8a)

William Gouge: An husband's affection to his wife must be answerable to his opinion of her: he ought therefore to delight in his wife entirely, that is, so to delight in her as wholly and only delighting in her.

5. Is joined together by God (v.9a)

6. Is intended to be permanent (v.9b)**Summary // to review:**

- ✓ The **DESIGNER** of marriage - GOD
- ✓ The **BEGINNING** of marriage - the beginning of creation
- ✓ The **PEOPLE** of marriage - one man and one woman
- ✓ The **PURPOSE** of marriage - companionship
- ✓ The **PERMANENCE** of marriage - does not end
- ✓ The **PICTURE** of marriage - the gospel of Jesus Christ

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THIS FOR YOUR MARRIAGE...

A healthy marriage:

1. Orders the home around Scripture
2. Prioritizes the spouse above everything else
3. Dies to self to serve the spouse
4. Gives the best gift to children
5. Serves the local church together, as a team.
6. Glorifies God & reflects the gospel

Richard Baxter: Husband and wife must delight in the love and company, and lives of each other. When husband and wife take pleasure in each other, it unites them in duty, it helps them with ease to do their work, and bear their burdens; and is a major part of the comfort of marriage.

Paul Tripp: "This side of heaven good marriages are good marriages because the people in those marriages are committed to doing daily the things that keep their marriages good. Things go wrong when couples think they have reached the point when they can retire from their marital work and chill out, lie back, and slide.... I have become more and more persuaded that marriages are fixed vertically before they are ever fixed horizontally. We have to deal with what is driving us before we ever deal with how we are reacting to one another. Every relationship is victimized in some way when we seek to get from the surrounding creation what we were designed to get from God. When God is in his rightful place, then we are on the way to putting people in their rightful place. But there is more. I am convinced that it is only in the worship of God in our marriages that we find reason to continue."

Mark 10:1-9 — "God's Great Design & Purpose For Marriage"**THE SANDS OF TIME ARE SINKING**

The sands of time are sinking,
 The dawn of Heaven breaks;
 The summer morn I've sighed for,
 The fair, sweet morn awakes;
 Dark, dark hath been the midnight,
 But dayspring is at hand,
 And glory, glory dwelleth
 In Immanuel's land.

The King there in His beauty,
 Without a veil is seen;
 It were a well spent journey,
 Though sev'n deaths lay between;
 The Lamb with His fair army
 Doth on Mount Zion stand,
 And glory, glory dwelleth
 In Immanuel's land.

O Christ, He is the fountain,
 The deep, deep well of love;
 The streams on earth I've tasted,
 More deep I'll drink above;
 There to an ocean fullness

His mercy doth expand,
 And glory, glory dwelleth
 In Immanuel's land.

Oh! I am my Beloved's
 And my Beloved's mine!
 He brings a poor, vile sinner
 Into His "house of wine;"
 I stand upon His merit,
 I know no other stand,
 Not e'en where glory dwelleth
 In Immanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garments,
 But her dear Bridegroom's face;
 I will not gaze at glory
 But on my King of grace;
 Not at the crown He giveth,
 But on His pierced hand;
 The Lamb is all the glory
 Of Immanuel's land.

Additional hymns on "The Family"

O happy home, where Thou art loved the dearest,
 Thou loving Friend, and Saviour of our race,
 And where among the guests there never cometh
 One who can hold such high and honored place!

O happy home, where each one serves Thee, lowly,
 Whatever his appointed work may be,
 Till every common task seems great and holy,
 When it is done, O Lord, as unto thee!

Happy our home when God is there,
 Binding our hearts in love,
 Blessing each day with moments shared,
 Drawing our thoughts above.

Happy our home when daily prayer
 Bears every daily need;
 When parents share God's Holy Word
 And daily let Him lead.

O HAPPY HOME!

O happy home, where Thou art not forgotten
 When joy is overflowing, full and free;
 O happy home, where every wounded spirit
 Is brought, Physician, Comforter, to Thee--

Until at last, when earth's day's work is ended,
 All meet Thee in the blessed home above,
 From whence Thou camest, where Thou hast ascended,
 Thy everlasting home of peace and love!

HAPPY OUR HOME

Happy our home when children praise,
 Lifting our Savior's name;
 When parents speak and show His love,
 Faithful each day the same.

Father of all, our God of Peace,
 We look to You alone;
 Come with Your precious gift of love
 And make our house Your home.