

Marriage, Home, and Family

The Purpose of Marriage and Family

Genesis 1-3

Marriage is

- God's design for expanding His rule on earth through those who bear His image

Genesis 1.1-2.3: the first creation account

- Mankind is the purpose of the creation, 1.26-31
- 1.26: God decreed that He would make mankind in His image, and that the primary aspect of being His image bearer is dominion

- 1.27: God created mankind in His image, and created both males and females
- 1.28: God blessed THEM and spoke to THEM
- And gave to THEM the responsibilities of image bearing

- 1.28: They are to fill the earth (the word “replenish” is “fill” in Genesis 1.22)
- They are to subdue the earth: bring it under their rule
- 1.29-30: they are to do this under God, not independently of Him. They ruled God’s earth.
- And this was very good

Genesis 2.4-25: the second creation account

- Mankind is the pivot of the creation. He isn't simply the culmination of it, the entirety of it rests on his actions
- 2.4-6: the entire creation is “on hold” until the man is made

- 2.7: God formed the male from the dust of the ground
- 2.8-14: God created a paradise for the male; a portion of the earth which He had created
- 2.15: God placed the male in the Garden and gave him the tasks of working in it and watching over it

- 2.16-17: God gave the male an order: you may not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
- 2.18: God announced that it wasn't good for the male to be alone
- 2.19-20: and in the exercise of his dominion, Adam came to realize this, too

2.21-22: God made the woman from the man

2.23-25: this fact will dominate earthly life:

He wields dominion: she shall be called Woman, and she became his wife

The marriage relationship will be the dominant relationship

And “nothing was wrong”

Genesis 3.1-24: the temptation and fall

- 3.1-5: The serpent was the most shrewd of the creatures, and he tempted the wife
- 3.6-7: She and her husband took the fruit, and sinned
- 3.8-19: God kept His word (2.17) and the curse came

- God's Curse brought evil upon every aspect of humanity
- Spiritually: 3.14-15
- Relationally: 3.16
- Economically: 3.17-19
- Sin has marred and complicated every aspect of life since the Fall of Adam and Eve

But the purpose of mankind hasn't
changed

- There are children (Genesis 4)
- And mankind began to dominate the earth (4.17)
- But the purpose of man always labors now, under the curse of God