

WORSHIPING ON THE LORD'S DAY

February 23, 2020

Worship, as God intended, is a supernatural event. As we enter into this service of worship, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy. Prepare yourself therefore for this most holy convocation!

Prelude

Worship Theme

God is Spirit

John 4:21-24: "Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, shall you worship the Father. You worship that which you do not know; we worship that which we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.'"

God Calls us to Worship Before the Cross Rev. 19:6b-7

+We Adore Him

Insert, "Let The Earth Resound"

We Confess Our Sin

Father God, You are righteous in all your ways and loving toward all You have made. That love and righteousness is wonderfully displayed in Your Son, Jesus Christ. But we sadly admit to You, Father, that we have sinned against Your love and Your righteous standard. You would lead us in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake, but we have refused to follow. You would guide us by Your Spirit through the Scriptures, but we have not listened as we should.

Forgive us, Lord! Show us Your mercy! Grant that we may hereafter serve You in newness of life. We pray these things trusting in the Name of Your sent Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

We Thank Him For His Forgiveness

Hymn #455, "And Can It Be"

God Calls us to Worship Thru Dedication

Rev. 3:11

We Give Him Our Offering & Concerns

We Give Him Ourselves

Hymn #427, "Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands"

God Calls us to Worship Thru Fellowship

Rev. 22:6-7

We Read His Word

Sermon

*We Partake Of The Lord's Supper

Hymn #584, "Go, Labor On"

God Blesses us in the Benediction

Welcome and Announcements

Postlude

(Containers have been placed at the front for communion cups and small trash)

+You are invited to raise your hands during the prayer of adoration.

*Visitors, please see note below on the Lord's Supper.

Godly Living in a Hostile World: Living with a Rebellious Spouse, Pt. 4

1 Peter 3:1-7

Study Notes for February 23, 2020

I. Introduction

THE Posterchild of a Difficult Marriage... Hosea and Gomer!

Why did God call Hosea to such a marriage? What is God's designed behind the conflicted marriage involving a faithful husband and yet a difficult woman? Listen to the answer God gave Hosea (Hos. 1:2)...

II. Godly Living in a Hostile World: Living with a Rebellious Spouse, 1 Peter. 3:1-7.

A. As it Relates to the Wife, vv. 1-6.

B. As it Relates to the Husband, v. 7.

1. The Calling, v. 7a.

In a word, the Calling of every man in marriage, much less the man in a Difficult Marriage, is "submission"...

1. To God

2. To your Spouse

***Where We Live:** In the context of a Conflicted Marriage this will be demeaning!

...yet that is exactly what Christ did when He died on the cross! He did not die for the worthy, righteous, or beautiful, but for a bride most unworthy (cf. Rom. 5:7-8)!...

2. The Power Behind the Man's Submission, v. 7a.

The word that we discussed last time in this regard was that of "Trust"! For that is the example Christ gave us in His ministry (cf. 1 Pet. 2:21b-23)...

...for a sinful being- albeit in love with Christ- to fulfill the Call God has placed on their life regarding their marriage, they must do it in the strength of God and so "...entrust themselves to Him who judges righteously"!

***Where We Live:** Men, this raises the question, what is your "right hand"?

3. The Three-Fold Command, v. 7b.

a. Living With

The idea behind this is not endure/survive your wife, but "share life together with her"- emotionally, mentally, relationally (cf. Eph. 5:29)...

***Where We Live**

1. In a difficult marriage the man most certainly can't force his wife to be his companion. Nevertheless, this command ought radically to alter the way a godly man approaches his wife. He does not seek from his wife a good friendship. Rather, he seeks to be a good friend to her!
2. In a bad marriage this undoubtedly will open the man up to all sorts of verbal abuse- which raises two important questions...

Question #1: Does Christ approve of you? And, is that enough?

Question #2: Of the accusations your wife might level against you, are they not true in ways your wife could never know? And, does not Christ still love you?

b. Understanding

As we saw last time, the Greek literally says that husbands are to dwell together with their wives “according to knowledge”- which has a twofold reference here...

1. First, it has Reference to the Woman and so “an understanding” of her as a person- her likes, dislikes, desires, as well as her weaknesses, hot-buttons, and frustrations.

*In this regard, you must be ever mindful that she is “**a weaker vessel**” (v. 7)...

2. Second, the expression has Reference to God and so “understanding” the ministry He has placed on a man in the context of marriage. And what is that ministry?

*That is the point of the expression “**since she is a woman**” (v. 7). It hearkens back to Gen. 2:23-24 and the command God gave to Adam upon the naming of his wife אִשָּׁה (*ishshah*)- which is the Hebrew equivalent of “since she is woman”!

c. Honoring

The word for “honor” comes from τιμάω (*timaō*) which speaks of “worth,” “honor,” and “price”. It is the NT equivalent of the OT, כָּבֵד (*kabed*) which speaks of “the weightiness” of someone or something.

In this regard, men must always approach their spouse as “**a fellow heir of the grace of life.**” That means, before she is a helpmate, a companion, or even a sexual being, a wife is an individual saved by Christ and so most valuable to the Lord!

*Where We Live

1. Accordingly, in a difficult marriage we must be very careful what we allow our minds to think about when it comes to our spouse (cf. Prov. 23:7a; 4:23; Phil. 4:8)...
2. Along these lines, Peter/God gives this final command to the man of God living with a difficult woman, “...grant her honor”!

4. The Import/Urgency/Gravity Behind the Man’s Call, v. 7c.

So that your prayers may not be hindered

The basis for this is found in Ps. 34:15-16, quoted in 1 Pet. 3:12...

Accordingly, Peter here is issuing a sober warning to any man who cares a thing about Christ...

Illustration: Surgeon’s Operating Tools (cf. 2 Tim. 2:21)

*Where We Live: What therefore ought to be the goal of a married man as it relates to his wife?

John MacArthur wrote of this, “No more serious divine threat could be given to a believer than that- the interruption of all the promises of prayers heard and answered (cf. John 14:13–14). That is severe, cutting off the divine blessing, which shows how critical is Christian husbands’ loving care of their partners in this grace of life.” (*1 Peter*, MNTC, pp. 182-183)

Thomas Schreiner put it this way, “Husbands who ignore such a command will find that their prayers are hindered, which means that God will refuse to answer their prayers. God does not bless with his favor those who are in positions of authority and abuse those who are under them by mistreating them.” (*1, 2 Peter, Jude*, NAC, p. 161)