

Strengthening the Bond – What the Bible Teaches on Marriage

Foundations of Marriage

The Institution of Marriage

1. Marriage is not instituted by man to answer some felt need in man's evolutionary developments
2. Gender is God's creation (Gen. 1:27)
3. Marriage as ordained by God is exclusively the union of one man with one woman (Gen. 1:24).

The Essence of Marriage

1. The essence of marriage is a **bond of solemn commitment before God** (that is a covenant ratified by a solemn oath to remain one with, and love my spouse).
2. The **bond** of marriage is not essentially a feeling: it is a **covenant** (Prov. 2:17; Mal. 2:14)
3. The **love in** marriage is not essentially a feeling: it is a **commitment** devoted to the good of another (Eph. 5).

The Regulation of Marriage

1. "The Bible can show a believer how to walk in this world so as to please God. It can teach him how to glorify Christ in all the relations of life, and can make him a good master, servant, subject, husband, father or son..." (J.C. Ryle)
2. The Scriptures tells us all we need to know for faith and practice... also for marriage
3. Example of inventor
4. Reason to ...

The Marring of Marriage

1. Marriage has been marred by sin, such as fornication, adultery, divorce, disharmony, polygamy, mixed marriages, abuse, contention, etc.
 - a. Paul (Col. 3:19): Husbands not ...
 - b. Solomon (Prov. 19:13): Wives not ...
2. It shows our need for the redeeming power of grace

The Purpose of Marriage (Gen. 2:18)

1. C _____
2. P _____

The Blueprint for Marriage (Gen. 2:24-25)

1. Adam is made to feel the empty place (Gen. 2:20)
2. God forms the woman from one of his ribs. Matthew Henry: “not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved.”
3. Then Adam bursts out in praise and humble thanksgiving
4. The Blueprint for marriage consists of 3 things
 - a. L_____. There comes a change in your relationship with the building of a new family unit, which makes the relationship between husband and wife the priority. The young husband is the head of his home, and husband and wife have to learn to make decisions by themselves, for which they must give account to God.
 - b. C_____. According to Malachi 2:14 and Proverbs 2:17, marriage is an irrevocable covenant or contract to which we are bound. It calls for faithfulness even when many things change (in sickness or health, in riches or poverty).
 - c. W_____.
 - i. This includes marital relations.
 - ii. But it is more: it is relational oneness, a total sharing of the total person.
 - iii. It is emotional oneness.
 - iv. It is spiritual oneness
 - v. Seek ...