

## GOD'S PLAN FOR MARRIAGE

### Int.

1. Aim: To discuss what God wishes for marriage.
2. Dearly Beloved we are gathered here..... I wish for you that your lives...
3. Mt. 19:4-6 "And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made [them] at the beginning made them male and female, 5. And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6. Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."
4. Problems in marriage
  - a. The average length of marriage in our country today is seven years.
  - b. 50% of the marriages that fail last only three years.
  - c. 20% of the divorces in this country occur before the second anniversary.
5. Many disregard and show indifference for God's plan about marriage and the home.
  - a. Years ago, divorce was uncommon, but not so today.
  - b. Today many do not even care about God's laws!
  - c. IT IS A LACK OF RESPECT FOR GOD'S AUTHORITY !
  - d. It is not only the world, but also about God's own people who disregard and show indifference about God's plan.
6. Here is what God teaches about Marriage. This is His Plan.

## Discussion

### I. WHAT IS MARRIAGE ?

#### A. Definitions

1. "The state of being married; united in wedlock; having a husband or wife; joined in matrimony." (Webster's)
2. A God approved marriage takes place when two eligible people, having met the legal requirements for marriage, are joined together by God.
3. We are to meet legal requirements for marriage.

#### B. Oldest of God's institutions.

1. GEN 2:18-25 God created Eve as a companion for Adam
2. God ordained marriage from the beginning, not man.
3. Uniting of male and female.
  - a. **GEN 2:24 "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."** When a marriage takes place you need a new address.
  - b. **GEN 5:1-2 "This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; 2. Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created."**
  - c. Nowhere does the Bible allow for sinful, unnatural relationships.

C. An honorable institution.

1. HEB 13:4 **"Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."**
  - a. **Honorable** - valuable, costly, or honored, esteemed, or beloved:--dear, honorable, (more, most) precious, had in reputation.
  - b. **Undefiled - unsoiled**
2. Being ordained by God, it could be nothing less than honorable.
3. This is the Beginning of the family.
4. Marriage is only authorized place for conception.
5. Marriage is God's lawful arrangement.
  - a. GEN 2:24
  - b. **MATT 19:5-6 "And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6. Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."**
6. Man has tried a number of alternatives.
  - a. Cohabitation = living together outside wedlock.
  - b. Trial Period = "I'll see if I like it first"
  - c. Premarital sex = No respect or obligation.
7. THESE ARE SINFUL DEEDS OF THE FLESH !

## II. PURPOSES OF MARRIAGE

### A. Social

1. Primary reason for marriage is companionship.
2. GEN 2:18 **"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."**
3. I Cor. 11:8-9 "For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."
4. Adam was alone and needed a help suitable for him.

### B. Biological

1. Sexual drive in man is given by God.
2. It is only logical that God would make an acceptable way for fulfillment.
3. Once said: "Hunger and thirst are man's greatest desires and sexual desire is a close second."
4. I COR 7:2-5
  - a. Husband and wife are to render due affection.
  - b. Failure to do so, violates command in verses 4 & 5.
5. Satisfying this desire any other way is sinful.
  - a. Adultery - Gal. 5:19
  - b. Homosexuality ROM 1:26-27 I COR 6:9 JUDE 7
  - c. Bestiality GEN 2:20 EX 22:19 DEUT 27:21
  - d. Polygamy ROM 7:2-3

### C. Reproduction

1. **GEN 1:28** "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."
  
2. **GEN 9:1** "And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth."
  
3. I TIM 5:14 "I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."
  
4. Some falsely believe this is the only reason for marriage.
  
5. Again, this is the only authorized way for multiplying.
  
6. Yet, hundreds of thousands of children are born out of wedlock every year.

### D. Religious

1. I COR 7:2 Purpose for having husband / wife.
  
2. GAL 5:19 Fornication is sin / sexual relations in marriage honors God.
  
3. HEB 13:4 - marriage is honorable
  
4. Living & acting in accordance with God's will glorifies Him.
  
5. Marriage is no exception.

### **III. GOD'S REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE**

#### A. Preparation

1. Need to prepare many things of life.
  - a. Physical (recreation, meal, etc.)
  - b. Spiritual (Prayer, study, worship, etc.)
2. Marriage also requires proper preparation.
3. Learn all that is involved before entering blindly.
  - a. 1 PET 3:7. "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to **knowledge**, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered."
  - b. knowledge - knowing (the act), i.e. (by implication) knowledge:--knowledge, science.

#### B. Recognition that we are made in the image of God.

1. GEN 1:26-27
2. **JAS 3:9 "Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God."**
3. Anything "In His image" must abide by His laws.

#### C. Realize that some are eligible for marriage and others are not!

1. Only 3 groups of people are eligible.
  - a. Those never married.
  - b. Those whose companions have died. ROM 7:2-3
  - c. Those who have put away companions for fornication -

d. MATT 19:9 "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except [it be] for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."

2. Those ineligible for marriage sin by doing so. MT 19:9

D. Required to realize they are "joined by the Lord" MT 19:3-6

1. Marriage is permanent. MATT 19:6

2. One must "Leave father & mother" MATT 19:5 "To leave behind" (W.E. Vine)

3. Then "cleave to partner" MATT 19:5 "To join fast together; Glue; Cement" (W.E. Vine)

4. Two become "One Flesh" MATT 19:6

5. What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

### **Conclusion**

1. It is possible to have a successful, Godly marriage in today's wicked society.
2. One must understand his / her place in relation to God.
3. Marriage should be the greatest relationship we have on earth.
4. Only God's way will endure.
5. Marriage is ordained by God, and is to be governed by God.