

THE CHRISTIAN HOME

Int.

1. Aim: To discuss some of the important truths and principles in the Bible about the home and marriage.
2. Gen. 2:18-24
 - a. Marriage was ordained by God for the well being of man.
 - b. God has given instruction about marriage and the home.
3. Four important days in the life of every person -
 - (1) birth,
 - (2) when we obey the gospel,
 - (3) marriage,
 - (4) death
4. Many dangers to marriage and the home today!
5. God teaches us how to have a good marriage and a good family

Discussion

I. GOD EXALTS MARRIAGE

- A. It was instituted by God and is therefore holy.
- B. Christ used marriage to illustrate the relationship between himself and the church -
 1. Eph. 5:23-33
 2. Rm. 7:3-4
- C. Marriage is honorable - Heb. 13:4
- D. Marriage is so holy that "forbidding to marry" is classified as a departure from the faith - I Tim. 4:1-5

II. MARRIAGE IS TO BE MONOGAMOUS

- A. In the beginning there was one wife for one husband and one husband for one wife
 - 1. Gen. 2:18-23
 - 2. God only made one companion for Adam
- B. Definition:
 - 1. Monogamy = noun the state of having only one husband, wife, or sexual partner at any one time.
 - 2. ORIGIN = from Greek monos 'single' + gamos 'marriage'
- C. Rm. 7:3 -
 - 1. Not polygamy [man with many wives]
 - 2. Not polyandry [women with many husbands]
- D. Elders and Deacons have the qualification of "one wife" 1 Tim. 3:2 & 12

III. MARRIAGE IS HETEROSEXUAL

- A. Definition - sexually attracted to the opposite sex
- B. This defines marriage as between a male and a female
 - 1. Gen. 1 & 2
 - 2. God created man and then created a woman as his companion
 - 3. Gen. 2:18, 21-22, 24
- C. It is not:
 - 1. Male + Male
 - 2. Female + Female

IV. MARRIAGE IS FOR LIFE

- A. Rm. 7:1-4 - till death
- B. No such thing as trial marriages
 - 1. A common-law cohabitation or a trial marriage which does not bind one to another cannot constitute a Christian home.
 - 2. The Bible calls this fornication and clearly condemns it (I Cor. 7:1,2).
- C. Mt. 19:3-9
 - 1. Only one cause for divorce with the right of remarriage
 - 2. "Fornication"
- D. God hates putting away - or divorce - Mal. 2:16 **"For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away..."**
- E. "Let no man put asunder" your marriage
 - 1. The husband must not let it be put asunder
 - a. Never let a former girlfriend enter your marital thoughts
 - b. Refrain from social gatherings without your wife
 - c. Never look lustfully upon another woman - Mt. 5:28 **"But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."**
 - 2. The wife must never put asunder her own marriage
 - a. She must let no competitors enter her thoughts; forget about old boy-friends
 - b. She must work to make her house a desirable place for her husband to come to from his work.
 - c. Learn to live on your husband's income.

F. Sometimes the other mate may choose to be unfaithful

1. This is the reason for Matt. 19:9 - the innocent person would then have a right to re-marry
2. Under the Law of Moses it said: LEV 20:10 "**And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.**"
3. Today God allows the innocent party to remarry.

V. PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE

- A. Provide companionship & happiness - Gen. 2:18
 1. Leave parents - Gen. 2:24 - Mt. 19:5
 2. Cleave to one another - Gen. 2:24 Mt. 19:5
 3. Becoming one flesh - Gen. 2:24 Mt. 19:5
- B. Procreation - Gen. 1:27-28 Acts 17:26 I Tim. 2:15 5:14
- C. Prevent immorality - I Cor. 7:2 Mt. 13:4 Pro. 5:18-21

VI. FOUNDATION OF THE HOME

- A. **Fear of God**
 1. Eph. 5:21-33
 2. V. 21 Both husband and wife must live in the fear of God
 3. Fear - respect
 4. Pro. 1:7

B. Love

1. Love for each other can come only when there is the fear of God in control of our life
2. Husband loves the wife / Wife loves the husband
3. Everyone yearns to love and be loved:
 - a. Marriage, the family and the home were designed by God to provide the setting for love.
 - b. Love is the tie that binds husband and wife together
 - c. This love demonstrated and shared with children is the foundation to a well rounded and developed life.
4. A person starved for love is a prey to temptation
 - a. Husbands and wives who are starved for love often become entrapped through temptation
 - b. Problem children sometimes are problems because of a lack of love.
 - c. The Bible teaches that when we have a society made up of people who are without the natural affection of love in the family that we are living in perilous times. II Tim. 3:1-5

C. The foundation of the home is Fear and Love!

VII. THE CHRISTIAN HOME

A. Christian Husband & Father

1. Loves his wife and children
2. Supports - I Tim. 5:8
3. A genuine Christian - not in name only - but a faithful child of God

4. Head of the wife and the home - Eph. 5:23
5. Does not provoke children to wrath - Eph. 6:4 Col. 3:21
6. But nurtures them and admonishes them
7. He is an example

B. Christian Wife & Mother

1. Subject to her husband
2. Keep the home - Tit. 2:5 Pro. 31:27-28
3. Bring up the children
 - a. I Tim. 5:9-10
 - b. Loves her children
 - c. "Guide the house" I Tim. 5:14

C. Train them to be Godly children

1. Obey and honor your parents
2. Eph. 6:1
3. Col. 3:20
4. Teach your children about God and how to obey him. Plan of Salvation should be learned early in life. When they are old enough encourage them to obey gospel.

D. Train them in how to live the Christian life

1. Teach them to say "please" and "thank you." They ought to learn good manners and respect early in life.
2. Teach them to pray as soon as they can talk.

3. See that they have their own copy of the Bible.
 - a. They should realize that it is a precious book.
 - b. Each person should have their own Bible just as they have their own toothbrush.
 4. Encourage Bible memorization. We are told about Timothy that "**from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus**" (II Tim. 3:15).
 5. Monitor the TV and the radio.
 - a. What your children listen to on the radio should be of concern to you.
 - b. So much filth and sin is on TV we dare not let our children just watch it without any restriction !
 6. Control the company they keep.
 - a. Never feel hesitant about asking them who they were with, where they went and what they did. It is your responsibility to know all about it.
 - b. If they need to be separated from bad company, God expects you to do it.
- E. Have a family life that is an example of what Christianity should be.
- F. Single parents
1. Mother or Father have a bigger job to do
 2. Do not think it is useless to try - your children are important and you need to do all within your power to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord

Conclusion

1. Four important days in the life of every person - birth, when we obey the gospel, marriage, death
 - a. Marriage is such an important day in our life
 - b. It influences the rest of our life and eternity.

2. As goes the marriage so goes...
 - a. Happiness in our life
 - b. A strong church
 - c. A good community
 - d. A home with God in heaven
3. Marriage is for those who love God and one another.

Sermon by Arthur Pigman -
Evans Church of Christ
515 Gibbs Road
Evans, Ga. 30809
706-855-1249
arthurpigman@cybrtyme.com