

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE PLUS

Compiled by Lewis A. Armstrong

13

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

How do we reflect God?

Genesis 2:18

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

Why was this a wise action on the part of God?

Genesis 2:20-25

²⁰ So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to

fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

²² Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. ²³ And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they become one flesh.

²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

What happens to become one?

Genesis 3:16

To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

Why did the woman have to bear the pain of childbirth?

Genesis 11:29

Then Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram's wife *was* Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah.

How might they have "taken" wives?

Genesis 20:3

But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, “Indeed you *are* a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she *is* a man’s wife.”

How did God get his attention?

Genesis 20:9-16

⁹ And Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, “What have you done to us? How have I offended you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds to me that ought not to be done.”

¹⁰ Then Abimelech said to Abraham, “What did you have in view, that you have done this thing?” ¹¹ And Abraham said, “Because I thought, surely the fear of God *is* not in this place; and they will kill me on

account of my wife.

¹² But indeed *she is* truly my sister. She *is* the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife. ¹³ And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, that I said to her, ‘This *is* your kindness that you should do for me: in every place, wherever we go, say of me, ‘He *is* my brother.’””

¹⁴ Then Abimelech took sheep, oxen, and male and female servants, and gave *them* to Abraham; and he restored Sarah his wife to him. ¹⁵ And Abimelech said, “See, my land *is* before you; dwell where it pleases you.” ¹⁶ Then to Sarah he said, “Behold, I have given your brother a thousand *pieces* of silver; indeed this vindicates you

before all who *are* with you and before everybody.” Thus she was rebuked.

Why did God allow this situation to occur?

Genesis 24:3-4

³ and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell; ⁴ but you shall go to my country and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac.”

Why this action is necessary?

Genesis 24:67

Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent; and he took Rebekah and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's *death*.

Why was it important for Isaac to have taken such a woman?

Genesis 28:2

Arise, go to Padan Aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother's father; and take yourself a wife from there of the daughters of Laban your mother's brother.

Did Jacob marry a cousin?

Genesis 29:15-30

¹⁵ Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you *are* my relative, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what *should* your wages *be*?" ¹⁶ Now

Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder *was* Leah, and the name of the younger *was* Rachel.

¹⁷ Leah's eyes *were* delicate, but Rachel was beautiful of form and appearance.

¹⁸ Now Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for Rachel your younger daughter."

¹⁹ And Laban said, "*It is* better that I give her to you than that I should give her to another man. Stay with me." ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed *only* a few days to him because of the love he had for her. ²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give *me* my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in to her." ²² And Laban gathered together all the men of the place and made a feast.

²³ Now it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. ²⁴ And Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah *as* a maid. ²⁵ So it came to pass in the morning, that behold, it *was* Leah. And he said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served you? Why then have you deceived me?" ²⁶ And Laban said, "It must not be done so in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷ Fulfill her week, and we will give you this one also for the service which you will serve with me still another seven years." ²⁸ Then Jacob did so and fulfilled her week. So he gave him his

daughter Rachel as wife also. ²⁹ And Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as a maid. ³⁰ Then *Jacob* also went in to Rachel, and he also loved Rachel more than Leah. And he served with Laban still another seven years. **Why did God allow this polygamy to occur?**

Genesis 34:12

Ask me ever so much dowry and gift, and I will give according to what you say to me; but give me the young woman as a wife.”

Why giving so much for a wife?

Genesis 38:8

And Judah said to Onan, “Go in to your brother’s wife and marry her, and raise up an heir to your brother.”

Was this an accepted practice?

Genesis 39:7-12 and Exodus 22:16

“If a man entices a virgin who is not betrothed, and lies with her, he shall surely pay the bride-price for her *to be* his wife.

How well was this followed do you think?

Exodus 22:17

¹⁶ “If a man entices a virgin who is not betrothed, and lies with her, he shall surely pay the bride-price for her *to be* his wife. ¹⁷ If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money according to the bride-price of virgins.

Why might God have allowed for this provision?

Leviticus 19:19

You shall keep My statutes. You shall not let your livestock breed with another kind. You shall not sow your field with mixed seed. Nor shall a garment of mixed linen and wool come upon you.

Why did God not allow crossing of species?

Leviticus 20:17

¹⁷ ‘If a man takes his sister, his father’s daughter or his mother’s daughter, and sees her nakedness and she sees his nakedness, it *is* a wicked thing.

And they shall be cut off in the sight of their people. He has uncovered his sister’s nakedness. He shall bear his guilt.

Explain what is God concern about such a man.

Leviticus 20:19-21

¹⁹ ‘You shall not uncover the nakedness of your mother’s sister nor of your father’s sister, for that would uncover his near of kin. They shall bear their guilt. ²⁰ If a man lies with his uncle’s wife, he has uncovered his uncle’s nakedness. They shall bear their sin; they shall die childless. ²¹ If a man takes his brother’s wife, it *is* an unclean thing. He has uncovered his brother’s nakedness. They shall be childless.

Why was this command given?**Leviticus 21:7**

They shall not take a wife *who is* a harlot or a defiled woman, nor shall they take a woman divorced from her husband; for *the priest* is holy to his God.

Why was this instruction established?**Leviticus 21:13-15**

¹³ And he shall take a wife in her virginity. ¹⁴ A widow or a divorced woman or a defiled woman *or* a harlot—these he shall not marry; but he shall take a virgin of his own people as wife. ¹⁵ Nor shall he profane his posterity among his people, for I the LORD sanctify him.”

How was God's sanctity to be given?**Deuteronomy 24:1-5**

“When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs

out of his house, and if she goes and becomes another man's wife, and the latter man hates her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter man dies, who took her to be his wife, then her former husband, who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she has been defiled, for that is an abomination before the Lord. And you shall not bring sin upon the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance.

Why should the first year be conducted as in these verses?

Judges 11:36 - 38

³⁶ So she said to him, “My father, *if* you have given your word to the LORD, do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, because the LORD has avenged you of your enemies, the people of Ammon.”

³⁷ Then she said to her father, “Let this thing be done for me: let me alone for two months, that I may go and wander on the mountains and bewail my virginity, my friends and I.” ³⁸ So he said, “Go.” And he sent her away *for* two months; and she went with her friends, and bewailed her virginity on the mountains.

³⁹ And it was so at the end of two months that she returned to her father, and he carried out his vow with her which he had vowed. She knew no man.

And it became a custom in Israel

Why did this become a custom?

Judges 14:2

So he went up and told his father and mother, saying, “I have seen a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines; now therefore, get her for me as a wife.”

Was this not strange that the wife should be from a different people?

Judges 21:21-23

²¹ and watch; and just when the daughters of Shiloh come out to perform their dances, then come out from the vineyards, and every man catch a wife for himself from the daughters of Shiloh; then go to the land of Benjamin. ²² Then it shall be, when their fathers or their brothers

come to us to complain, that we will say to them, ‘Be kind to them for our sakes, because we did not take a wife for any of them in the war; for *it is not as though* you have given the *women* to them at this time, making yourselves guilty of your oath.’”

²³ And the children of Benjamin did so; they took enough wives for their number from those who danced, whom they caught. Then they went and returned to their inheritance, and they rebuilt the cities and dwelt in them.

Does this not seem strange that they are marrying other people?

Ruth 1:1-5

1 Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem, Judah, went to dwell in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ² The name of the man *was* Elimelech, the name of his wife *was* Naomi, and the names of his two sons *were* Mahlon and Chilion—Ephrathites of Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to the country of Moab and remained there. ³ Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left, and her two sons. ⁴ Now they took wives of the women of Moab: the name of the one *was* Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth. And they dwelt there about ten years. ⁵ Then both Mahlon and

Chilion also died; so the woman survived her two sons and her husband.

How should a sister be consoled upon losing multiple family members?

Ruth 4:5

Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also buy *it* from Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance."

How significant is buying land from Ruth?

Ruth 4:8-10

⁸ Therefore the close relative said to Boaz, "Buy *it* for yourself." So he took off his sandal. ⁹ And Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You *are* witnesses this day that

I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that *was* Chilion's and Mahlon's, from the hand of Naomi.

¹⁰ Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, I have acquired as my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brethren and from his position at the gate. You *are* witnesses this day."

How did this honor the dead?

1 Samuel 17:25

So the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be *that* the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, will give him

his daughter, and give his father's house exemption *from taxes* in Israel."

What was the anticipation for being exempt from taxes

1 Samuel 18:17

Then Saul said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the LORD's battles." For Saul thought, "Let my hand not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him."

What was the scheme that Saul was planning?

2 Samuel 3:14

So David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Give *me* my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to myself for

a hundred foreskins of the Philistines."

What was this like in what could have been very early in America?

Ezra 9:2

For they have taken some of their daughters *as wives* for themselves and their sons, so that the holy seed is mixed with the peoples of *those* lands. Indeed, the hand of the leaders and rulers has been foremost in this trespass."

How had the remnant been diluted?

Nehemiah 13:26-27

Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? Yet among many nations there was no king like him, who was beloved of his God; and God made him king over all Israel. Nevertheless pagan women caused

even him to sin. Should we then hear of your doing all this great evil, transgressing against our God by marrying pagan women?"

What was the influence of the pagan women?

Proverbs 18:22

He who finds a wife finds a good *thing*, and obtains favor from the LORD.

How should our young men today find a good wife?

Proverbs 19:14

Houses and riches *are* an inheritance from fathers, but a prudent wife *is* from the LORD.

What are the characteristics of a prudent wife?

Proverbs 21:19

Better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and angry woman.

At what point should a man go into a wilderness?

Proverbs 21:9

Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, than in a house shared with a contentious woman. **OR/AND**

Proverbs 25:24

It is better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

Why would this be true?

Proverbs 10:12

Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.

Why should there be no hatred in a marriage?

Ecclesiastes 9:9

Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun.

How can a man really enjoy life with his wife?

Isaiah 4:1

And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, “We will eat our own food and wear our own apparel; only let us be called by your name, to take away our reproach.”

Why were the seven woman asking this?

Isaiah 49:18

Lift up your eyes, look around and see; All these gather together *and* come to you. As I live,” says the LORD, “You shall surely clothe yourselves with them all as an ornament, and bind them *on you* as a bride *does*.

What does a bride do in this example?

Isaiah 61:10

will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorns *herself* with her jewels.

How do we compare these two actions?

Isaiah 62:4-5

⁴ You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the LORD delights in you, And your land shall be married. ⁵ For *as* a young man marries a virgin, *So* shall your sons marry you; And *as* the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, *So* shall your God rejoice over you.

What does God rejoice about?

Jeremiah 2:32

Can a virgin forget her ornaments, *Or* a bride her attire? Yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.

Verbalize how God has been forgotten?

Jeremiah 16:9

For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: “Behold, I will cause to cease from this place, before your eyes and in your days, the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.

Why would God want to let these things cease?

Jeremiah 29:6

Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters—that you may be increased there, and not diminished.

Why did God want such an increase in population?

Jeremiah 31:32

not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.

How did the people break the covenant?

Ezekiel 16:8

“When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time *was* the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,” says the Lord GOD.

Could this be a model for our weddings in the way God felt about Israel?

Hosea 1:2

When the LORD began to speak by Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea: “Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry and children of harlotry, For the land has committed great harlotry by *departing* from the LORD.”

Why was this allowed?

Hosea 2:19-20

¹⁹ “I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, in loving kindness and mercy;²⁰ I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, And you shall know the LORD.

How were the people to know God?

Hosea 3:2

So I bought her for myself for fifteen *shekels* of silver, and

one and one-half homers of barley.

How is this compared to some marriages today?

Hosea 12:12

Jacob fled to the country of Syria; Israel served for a spouse, and for a wife he tended *sheep*.

What can we draw from this passage?

Malachi 2:11

Judah has dealt treacherously, and an abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem, for Judah has profaned the LORD’s holy *institution* which He loves: He has married the daughter of a foreign god.

How did the people profane the Lord's holy institution?

Malachi 2:13-16

¹³ And this is the

13

second thing you do: You cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and crying; So He does not regard the offering anymore, nor receive *it* with goodwill from your hands. ¹⁴ Yet you say, “For what reason?” Because the LORD has been witness between you and the wife of your youth, with whom you have dealt treacherously; Yet she is your companion and your wife by covenant.

¹⁵ But did He not make *them* one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. ¹⁶ “For the LORD God of Israel says that He hates divorce, for it

covers one's garment with violence," says the LORD of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously."

What is the violence?

Matthew 1:18

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.

How perplexed might Joseph be?

Matthew 5:31-32

"Furthermore it has been said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'³² But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her

to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.

What happens if someone divorces without cause?

Matthew 19:2-9

² And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them there.

³ The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for *just* any reason?"

⁴ And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning 'made them male and female,'⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?⁶ So then, they are no longer

two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."⁷ They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?"⁸ He said to them, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so."⁹ And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

Why is this ignored today?

Matthew 22:2

“The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,
Explain this likeness.

Matthew 22:24

saying: “Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.

What did Moses mean by this?

Matthew 22:30

For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.

In what way will we be like angels?

Matthew 25:1-10

1 “Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Now

five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish.

³ Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. ⁵ But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

⁶ “And at midnight a cry was *heard*:

‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming go out to meet him!’

⁷ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ But the wise answered, saying,

‘*No*, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’

¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those

who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

What is meant by this story about the virgins?

Mark 6:17-18

¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife; for he had married her.

¹⁸ Because John had said to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”

How can John's standing up to sinful actions?

Mark 12:19-25

¹⁹ “Teacher, Moses wrote to us that if a man’s brother dies, and leaves *his* wife behind, and leaves no children, his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his

brother. ²⁰ Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife; and dying, he left no offspring. ²¹ And the second took her, and he died; nor did he leave any offspring. And the third likewise. ²² So the seven had her and left no offspring. Last of all the woman died also.

²³ Therefore, in the resurrection, when they rise, whose wife will she be? For all seven had her as wife.”

²⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, “Are you not therefore mistaken, because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God?”

²⁵ For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

Will we recognize family members?

Luke 1:27

to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name *was* Mary.

What was important about Jesus being born of a virgin?

Luke 14:26

“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

How troubling can be accepting Christ be?

John 2:1-5

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. ³ And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus

said to Him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do *it*.”

Is this a model for a party for a wedding?

Romans 7:1-6

7 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?

² For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to *her* husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of *her* husband. ³ So then if, while *her* husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her

husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. ⁴ Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. ⁵ For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. ⁶ But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not *in* the oldness of the letter.

How clear is it that remarriage can occur?

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

⁹ Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

How does this relate to marriage?

1 Corinthians 6:16

Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.”

What happens here?

1 Corinthians 7:1-8

⁷ Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: *It is good for a man not to touch*

a woman.

² Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. ³ Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. ⁴ The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband *does*. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife *does*. ⁵ Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. ⁶ But I say this as a concession, not as a commandment. ⁷ For I wish that all men were even as I myself.

But each one has his own gift from God, one in this manner and another in that. ⁸ But I say to the unmarried and to the widows: It is good for them if they remain even as I am; **Explain the affection due throughout the marriage.**

1 Corinthians 7:12-15

¹² But to the rest I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her. ¹³ And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him. ¹⁴ For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they

are holy. ¹⁵ But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such *cases*. But God has called us to peace.

What authorization is given here?

1 Corinthians 7:39

³⁹ A wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

How long is a couple bound together?

1 Corinthians 9:5

Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as *do* also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas?

What does this verse say about marrying a missionary?

1 Corinthians 11:3

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.

What is the linkage of being the head

1 Corinthians 11:8

For man was not made from woman, but woman from man.

Who was first?

1 Corinthians 11:11-12

¹¹ Nevertheless, neither *is* man independent of woman, nor woman independent of man, in the Lord. ¹² For as woman *came* from man, even so man also *comes* through woman; but all things are from God.

How are men and women tied together?

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

⁴ Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; ⁵ does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Explain how this is the core of a relationship within the marriage.

2 Corinthians 6:14

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

Can this apply to marriage?

Ephesians 5:22-33

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he

who loves his wife loves himself.

²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church.

³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

³¹ “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife *see* that she respects *her* husband.

Relate marriage to Christ and the Church.

Colossians 3:18

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

How would you best describe marriage?

1 Timothy 3:2

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;

Why is having a wife so important?

1 Timothy 3:12

Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling *their* children and their own houses well.

Why should deacons have a wife and children?

1 Timothy 4:3

forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from foods which God created to be received with

thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth

When should marriage be forbidden?

1 Timothy 5:14

therefore I desire that *the younger widows* marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

What could happen if a young widow did not marry?

Hebrews 13:4

Marriage *is* honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

Explain how marriage is honorable.

1 Peter 3:1-13

Wives, likewise, *be* submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, ² when they observe your chaste conduct *accompanied* by fear.

³ Do not let your adornment be *merely* outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on *fine* apparel—⁴ rather *let it be* the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. ⁵ For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, ⁶ as Sarah obeyed

Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. ⁷ Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

How would you advise a young couple based on these verses?

Revelation 19:7-9

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” ⁸ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed

are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.”

What points here can be applied to marriages today?

Hebrews 13:4

Marriage *is* honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

How does a couple keep a marriage honorable?

1 Corinthians 7:10-15

To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband (but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife.

To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

What is enriching about having holy children?

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

What did Paul mean in this verse?

Galatians 6:7-8

⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

How do you explain sowing and reaping?

Ephesians 4:19

who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Explain degenerate activities here?

Ephesians 5:21

Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

How can this be applied to marriage?

Ephesians 5:1-9

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the

kingdom of Christ and God.

What can civil discourse do in a marriage?

Colossians 3:1-9

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

What are we to put to death?

1 Timothy 1:9-10

⁹ knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for *the* lawless and insubordinate, for *the* ungodly and for sinners, for *the* unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, ¹⁰ for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine,

What things are wrong according to sound doctrine?

1 Timothy 4:1-16

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in

hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, ³ forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. ⁴ For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; ⁵ for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. ⁶ If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

⁷ But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. ⁸ For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is

profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

⁹ This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. ¹⁰ For to this *end* we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is *the* Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. ¹¹ These things command and teach.

Name four things that are commanded and should be taught?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

2 Timothy 3:1-5

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

DIVORCE

13

Matthew 5:31-32

“It was also said,
‘Whoever divorces his
wife, let him give her a
certificate of divorce.’

But I say to you that
everyone who divorces
his wife, except on the
ground of sexual
immorality, makes her
commit adultery, and
whoever marries a
divorced woman
commits adultery.

**What is the only
reason for divorce?**

Matthew 19:1-30

Now when Jesus had
finished these sayings,
he went away from
Galilee and entered the

region of Judea beyond
the Jordan. And large
crowds followed him,
and he healed them
there. And Pharisees
came up to him and
tested him by asking,
“Is it lawful to divorce
one's wife for any
cause?” He answered,
“Have you not read
that he who created
them from the
beginning made them
male and female, and
said, ‘Therefore a man
shall leave his father
and his mother and
hold fast to his wife,
and the two shall
become one flesh’?

**What was from the
beginning?**

Mark 10:2-12

And Pharisees came up
and in order to test him
asked, “Is it lawful for
a man to divorce his
wife?” He answered
them, “What did Moses
command you?” They
said, “Moses allowed a
man to write a
certificate of divorce
and to send her away.”
And Jesus said to them,
“Because of your
hardness of heart he
wrote you this
commandment. But
from the beginning of
creation, ‘God made
them male and female.’

**What is the
seriousness of
hardening the heart?**

Luke 16:18

“Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced from *her* husband commits adultery.

What does this say about divorce?

How do we reduce number of divorces?

Genesis 2:21-25

So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

What is unclear about this passage?

Leviticus 19:19

“You shall keep my statutes. You shall not let your cattle breed with a different kind. You shall not sow your field with two kinds of seed, nor shall you wear a garment of cloth made of two kinds of material.

What is the lesson in this?

Leviticus 18:22

You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.

What is specifically told to a man?

Leviticus 20:13-14

If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood *shall be* upon them. If a man marries a woman and her mother, it is wickedness. They shall be burned with fire, both he and they, that there may be no wickedness among you.

Why was this law given?

Proverbs 10:12

Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.

Compare hatred and love.

John 7:24

Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”

What is right judgement?

Romans 1:23-27

²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. ²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against

nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

What were the unrighteous acts being committed?

1 Corinthians 6:9

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, **What is practice?**

1 Corinthians 7:2

But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

How strong can the temptation be?

1 Timothy 1:9-10

Understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, **Understand what?**

1 John 2:16

For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world.

How are the problems created?

Jude 7

as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Why was this account in the New Testament?

How do these verses help us discuss with others about what God expects in this matter?
