

Marriage: Its purpose

(Genesis 1-2)

INTRODUCTION:

A. The lessons from this series:

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B. Marriage is a fundamental relationship of the family. What is the purpose of marriage?

1. Not having a clear concept of the purpose of something we will find ourselves lost.
2. Notice the following illustration: Driving a vehicle, coming to an intersection, should I turn to the left or to the right? Or, should I keep driving straight forward? It will depend on what is the purpose for driving the vehicle in the first place! (What is the purpose, driving to get to a place for recreation? Am I going to the store? Sick and I need medical attention, going to the hospital?)
3. Without having a good understanding of what is the purpose of marriage many will take the wrong decisions, some will make decisions based on chance (luck), therefore being lost without any aim. Others have the wrong concept of what is the purpose of a marriage, take wrong decisions and lead the marriage relationship into the wrong path thus failure is certain.

C. Some wrong concepts:

1. The primary purpose of marriage is NOT to fulfill **sexual satisfaction**. If a person marries with this sole purpose in their mind after having sexual relations with her spouse then he might lose interest in his wife, divorce comes and marries again and so marriage is view nothing more than an authoritative sanction to give someone the right to have sexual relationship with marriage partner.
2. Also, the purpose of marriage is NOT to have an **edge economically**. Meaning both marriage partners working to gain more salary, money, possessions, or even to have an advantage in tax deductions.

3. Pro-creation, let us remember that to have children is a blessing from God and not simply the purpose for getting married.
4. None of the above concepts are the right purpose to get married and none of them are mentioned in the Bible as the main purpose of marriage established by God.

D. Therefore the objective in this lesson is the following:

1. What is the biblical purpose of marriage? We will see according what the word of God says in (**Genesis 1-2**)
2. And how can we apply this to me? We will see some applications

I. THE PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE (Genesis 1-2)

A. The relationship of 1:26-27 to 2:7-24

1. With respect to the chronological order, 2:7-24 goes back to the time of 1:26-27.
2. 2:7-24 explains in detail the creation of man mentioned in 1:26-27.
3. "And God saw all that He had made, and behold it was very good" (**Genesis 1:31**) came after the events of chapter 2.

B. Man has a problem (Genesis 2:18a)

1. "It is not good for the man to be alone" (**2:18a**).
2. The Holy Spirit introduces for the first time in the Bible the topic about marriage when He says that man has a problem: for man to be alone. Man needs companionship, he needs a mate. This tells us something about the purpose of marriage.
3. Notice the following it will not make any sense, some numbers as an answer to a problem: **36, 107, 42, 89, 7**. it makes no sense! It does not because we do not know what the mathematical problem is. In the same manner, if we do not understand the problem of man from the beginning we will lose any sense of why the existence of the woman. Man without the woman is like the problem without the answer, and the woman without the man it is like the answer without the problem.
4. God did not say, "Well, I have created a lot of things, I think I will create woman today" No! He created woman for a purpose! It is the answer of man's problem

C. God designs the solution to man's problem

1. "Will make him a helper suitable for him" (**Genesis 2:18b**).
 - a. "Helper" is convenient, help, succor, and an aid.
 - b. Notice the following illustration: to a contractor was asked the question by a potential home owner, "I want you to construct me a house", the contractor questioned him, "What type do you need, what kind do you prefer? How many are there in your family? What is the price range? Etc, for the contractor it was crucial making those questions to the potential buyer so that he may build a house suitable, adequate for him and his family.
 - c. God made the woman to correspond to man and his necessities.
 - d. Well, what is man and what are his necessities? (**Luke 2:52**)
 - 1) Man is a **mental** being
 - 2) Man is **physical** being
 - 3) Man is a **spiritual** being
 - 4) Man is a **social** being
 - e. Woman was created by God to correspond, fulfill these different aspects of man. Those who believe that woman sole purpose is to satisfy man sexual necessities do not understand the problem of man in **Genesis 2:18** or the solution to the problem given by God.
 - f. Woman is to be suitable to man and not to be equal!

- 1) Some woman wants to be like man, to be dress like man, talk like a man, to work like a man and to do everything a man does.
 - 2) If God wanted to decide to create another man for Adam He could have done it, but He did not. God created a woman for Adam. What man wants to be married to another man?
 - 3) For the woman give the glory and honor to God for you are a woman!
 - 4) For the parents, let us teach our daughters to be feminine.
2. The woman, a wife is a helper, a unique one of a kind (**Genesis 2:19-20**).
- a. Illustration: consider the following problem, $3 + 3 = ?$ Could any of the previous responses help resolve this problem? No, the answer has to correspond to the problem.
 - b. The problem in the text is man's loneliness. The Holy Spirit wants us to see the woman as an answer a solution to the problem.
 - c. Could it be that there is an error in the chronological order here? Did Moses make a mistake? No! Chapter 2 follows an order of ideas and not a chronological order (the animals there were already created before man, according to **Genesis 1**).
 - d. The point here is that woman is the only suitable helper for Adam. All of the animals are brought before man to make him see that none of them were suitable helper for him, none of them could be a companion, none of them could correspond (**2:20c**).
 - e. Let us note something, if Adam only needed just a helper to work on the garden to cultivated and to keep it (**Genesis 2:15**) then God could have made him a bull or horse or another man!
 - f. Man needed more than just a helper. Only a woman could fulfill Adam's necessities such mental, spiritual, social, etc.
 - g. Therefore the importance of woman is essential, important and unique for no other animal of thing in the universe can help man as a woman can (**1 Cor. 11:9**).
 - h. A screwdriver is an excellent tool for the screws; it will not work if it is used to cut a plank of wood. You will need a saw to cut the wood. Each tool it is excellent when it is used according to the purpose on which they were designed.
 - 1) To say that this teaching according to the word of God undermines the woman as inferior is to say that the screwdriver is inferior to the saw because it cannot saw a plank of wood.
 - 2) The feminist movement with their propaganda, "woman's liberation" confuses the purpose of the woman and frustrates her utility as design by God.
3. Woman is a gift given to man (**Genesis 2:21-23**).
- a. Woman is a gift with a ribbon and a note saying, "To Adam, with love, from God"
 - b. A gift from God expresses His infinite wisdom, love and care by the very Creator of the universe.
 - c. Consider (**Proverbs 18:22**)
 - d. See also (**Proverbs 19:14**)
 - e. (**Proverbs 31:10**)
 - f. Taking care of a present
 - 1) Suppose that you were to give a gift to your friend to express your friendship and love and so to chose the perfect gift for him/her and carefully wrapped with though and care. Some days latter while visiting your friend you see the present you gave him outside on the patio rusting, all bet up and the dog is biting on it.
 - 2) Husbands, what will God think when we do not treat our wives well? We will give an account to God for not treating right what He has given us as a present!
 - g. Nevertheless, what a tragedy when the precious present turns to be a curse
 - 1) Eva participated in the fall of Adam (**Genesis 3:6**).
 - 2) The wife of Job told him, "Curse God and die!" (**Job 2:9-10**).

- 3) Wives, the most important activity you can do is helping your husband reach heaven!
4. The woman is an exclusive helper
 - a. Exclusive, excludes anything else. When Eve came to be the spouse of Adam all the others were excluded from Adam.
 - b. Polygamy was introduced by the family of Cain (**Genesis 4:17-19**).
 - c. Polygamy was a cause of discord in the Biblical family
 - 1) **Genesis 16:4-6; 21:8-21** – Abraham vs. Agar
 - 2) **Genesis 29:21-25** – Jacob with his two wives, Lea and Rachel
 - 3) **1 Samuel 1:1-8** – Elkanah and his two wives, Hannah and Peninnah
 - d. The divine solution: marriage (**Genesis 2:22-25**).
 - 1) God “brought her to the man” (**2:22**).
 - (a) God joints the solution with the problem
 - (b) In the Bible woman is “given” or “taken” into marriage (**Deut. 7:3; Ezra 9:12**, etc.)
 - 2) Man “shall leave...and shall cleave...become one flesh” (**Genesis 2:24**).
 - (a) There is no other relation in the family greater than this; children are not the center of the family!
 - (b) Many of the problems in a family will arise when God’s plan is not respected. The mother in law wants to lead the family by way of her daughter or son and so the problems begin.
 - 3) “They shall become one flesh” (**2:24**).
 - (a) There is many interpretations
 - (b) A physical union, sexual (**1 Cor. 6:16**), is relationship based on this but more than that.
 - (c) An intimate relation
 - (d) Should be a binding relationship that should not be divided or tear apart, loosen. Jesus cited this verse and concluded the following (see **Matt. 19:6**).

II. THE APPLICATION FOR US

A. The woman was created to be with man.

1. The woman who works outside the home
 - a. She is out when the husband is in the home
 - b. She is too tired to be a help meet to her husband
 - c. She becomes independent and he becomes the helper
2. Free time and how it is used
3. When they were courting each other, getting to know each other, always wanted to be together to get married. They get married and then something happens everything changes and now they want to be left alone.

B. The newly weds

1. Want to have children right away?
2. Learn to live together first. We must love our children but sometimes we may want to make them the center of attention leaving no time for husband or wife.

C. Those who have years being married

1. Some used their all of their time and energy taking care of the children
2. The time will come when the children grow up and leave the home, both will be completely bored. Both lived the rest of their years under the same roof and not knowing each other.

D. For those who getting prepare for marriage or in the future

1. Will you notice only the physical aspect of your future partner? “But she is so beautiful” Will you be saying the same when she takes off her makeup and gains some pounds?

2. What should you be looking on a future partner? (**Luke 2:52**) Mental, physical, spiritual and social, do you have these things in common? Marriage should not solely be based on looks and feelings.

E. After marriage a companion that we feel proud of

1. After marriage we should love our spouses even more! Getting closer or he only wants to be in the garage or she only wants to be knitting.

CONCLUSION:

- A. There is no greater purpose than to glorify God, our creator**
- B. From the time of Adam and Eve we have failed**
- C. The plan of salvation give us this purpose once more**

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