

God's Blueprint for Marriage

Wylie United Methodist Church - Pastor Jeff Hatcher - July 13, 2008

Genesis 1:27 ... God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 2:7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. 20 ... But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. 23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." 24 FOR THIS REASON a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

God designed marriage...

1. TO BE RELATIONAL

Gen 1:27 ... God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him ...

In His Image (Relational):

- Triune God (Father – Son – Holy Spirit)
- His Body (God – Christ – The Church)
- Marriage (Christ – Husband – Wife)
- Family (Husband – Wife – Children)

God designed marriage...

2. TO BE BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN

Gen 1:27 ... male and female he created them.

Matt 19:4 "Haven't you read," [Jesus] replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female'"

God designed marriage...

3. FOR THE HUSBAND TO LOVE HIS WIFE

God designed marriage...

4. FOR THE WIFE TO SUBMIT TO HER HUSBAND

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ,

so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

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5. TO BE FOREVER

Matthew 19:3 Some Pharisees came to [Jesus] to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" 4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female'" 5 and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? 6 So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." 7 "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?" 8 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning." 9 I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."

In other words, Divorce is NOT God's plan or design.

It is the result of sin in our lives.

But also, God's Grace is Sufficient for those that have been divorced.

It is NOT the unforgivable sin. (ex: Samaritan woman at the well)

God designed marriage...

6. TO BE INTIMATE (ONE FLESH)

Gen 2:24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

Matt 19:5 ... the two will become one flesh? 6 So they are no longer two, but one.

God designed marriage...

7. AS A MODEL OF CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH

Eph 5:30 ... we are members of [Christ's] body. 31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery-but I am talking about Christ and the church.

1 Corinthians 15:44 If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 45 So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. 46–48 ... 49 And just as we have borne the

likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.

1 Corinthians 6:15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

Just as Woman came out of the flesh of Man that the two would be united as One Flesh...

So the Church came out of the flesh of Christ that the two would be united as One Spirit.

Natural Marriage mirrors Spiritual Marriage in that Christ left His Father's bosom to woo to Himself a lost world (His Bride).