

What has the world done to the institution of marriage? Has marriage become such a dreadful burden? Do people need to change spouses like they trade cars? Can they even change the definition of marriage?

When God created the world, He saw that it was all very good (Genesis 1:31) with one exception. He said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable to him” (Genesis 2:18).

When none of God’s creatures were found suitable for the man Adam, the LORD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man. He took a rib from Adam and fashioned it into a woman (Genesis 2:19-22).

Genesis 2:23 – The man 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.”

The next verse in Genesis 2 is crucial for our understanding of marriage. The text breaks away from the historical narrative and gives a direct commandment concerning marriage. Consider it carefully.

Genesis 2:24 – For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

The phrase “for this reason” indicates that marriage is a memorial to the creation of woman as a companion for man. Its foremost purpose from the beginning was companionship.

The Lord Jesus quoted this very verse when He was asked about divorce.

Matthew 19:4-6 – ⁴And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵and 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’? ⁶So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”

The Lord showed that God’s original intent and design is still in effect. According to Jesus, marriage is a union between a male and a female made by God. It is not subject to man’s dissolution or redesign.

After God ordained marriage, He commanded the first couple to “be fruitful and multiply” (Gen. 1:28). He made marriage the foundation of the home, and the basis for raising children. When the children grow up and marry, the cycle repeats. A man leaves his father and mother, takes a wife, and they form their own home.

By virtue of being created by God, marriage is a holy union. This means that it is a relationship that is set apart by God and for God. Therefore,

Building a God-Centered Home: Marriage is from God

Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge (Hebrews 13:4).

Marriage is also an enduring, lifelong institution.

Romans 7:2 – For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

The permanence of marriage gives strength and stability to the home. God has wisely devised this, for the home needs strength and stability for the raising of children and endurance through the problems of life.

So let's set the bad stereotypes aside and appreciate marriage for what it really is: a God-given, lifelong source of companionship and family stability for a man and a woman.

“Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:15).