

God's Design: Marriage

10-6-19

Genesis 2:24 (ESV)

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

God created marriage as a covenant between a man and woman and for all of 5000+ years of recorded history that has been the case for the human race. When Jesus is asked about the subject of marriage, He doesn't add anything, HE just quotes Genesis 2:24 and confirms what God already said.

Mark 10:6–8 (ESV)

⁶ But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷ 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh.

When the Apostle Paul speaks about marriage, he also quotes Genesis 2:24 and confirms what God has already said.

Ephesians 5:31 (ESV)

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

Clearly marriage between a man and a woman “is” God's creation and God's Design! As Christians we can rely on the clear Word of God and that is the end of the matter.

However, when the Apostle Paul speaks of marriage, he follows up with a profound statement about the sacredness of marriage that goes way beyond human understanding!

Speaking about marriage Paul says:

Ephesians 5:32 (ESV)

This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

Stunning! Paul said marriage refers to Christ and the Church! Look at the correlation when Paul talks about leading people to believe in Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:2 (ESV)

I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

Christians believe that once we trust Christ, we have a relationship with HIM, and we are part of God's family. Paul is telling us that the marriage relationship is a human picture of the oneness and intimacy we will have with Christ and being a part of the family of God.

Last week we saw how man and woman were created in the image of God. This week we see that God's Design of the marriage union between a man and woman represent the eternal intimacy we have with Christ.

When God is closing out Scripture in the book of Revelation, we see the marriage covenant being the picture of Christ and HIS Bride, the church.

Revelation 21:9 (ESV)

“Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

The Bible tells us exactly who the wife of the Lamb is:

Revelation 21:27 (ESV)

Those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

Marriage is not a human institution. Marriage is a covenant from God which pictures our very salvation and relationship with Christ. Marriage is God’s Design reflecting the relationship and intimacy we will have with Christ for all eternity. To twist God’s design of marriage is to twist the picture of Salvation. This would be an abomination to God.

An encouragement for those who are single. God is giving you an unbelievable opportunity.

1Cor.7:32-34

³² **I want you to be free from anxieties.** The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord.

³³ But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴ and **his interests are divided.** And the unmarried woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband.

A single person has the blessing of being completely devoted to God without any distractions.

Satan is running wild on this earth deceiving and lying to people. As Christians, it is important to understand God's Design and behave according to HIS Design. As Christians, operating within God's Design, we become avenues of the Creator God in which nothing is impossible!

Ephesians 3:20–21 (ESV)

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do **far more abundantly** than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,
²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Within God's Design, God is to be able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us! This abundance is God's glory in the church! This glory is for today and will continue for all eternity.

We want to share God's love so others can experience God's love and the abundance of HIS Design!

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.