

The New Testament!
Matthew 19:1-12
Marriage, God's Creational Intent!

Matthew 19:1-12 Now when Jesus had finished these sayings, he went away from Galilee and entered the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. 2 And large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

3 And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" 4 He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, 5 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'? 6 So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate." 7 They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?" 8 He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed 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."

10 The disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." 11 But he said to them, "Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. 12 For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it." from your heart."

Introduction

Where are we at in Matthew

In Matthew 18

Matthew 19

Matthew 19:6b "What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

Do we see what Jesus does when questioned by the Pharisees about putting a wife away?

Seeing how the well-being of the family, the church, the society and the nation are closely connected to the right views on these 2 subjects!

The good of the family depends upon the right view of marriage and the training of children

Malachi 2:14-17 But you say, "Why does he not?" Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. 15 Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. 16 "For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless."

How bad had it become in the days of Jesus?

Matthew 19:10 The disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry."

What they said is obvious, "in that case it would be better if we did not marry!"

Deuteronomy 24:1 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.

If Jesus answered "yes" He would contradict **Matthew 5:32 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.**

They were using this verse and Deuteronomy 24:1 to trap Him

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.

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."

Genesis 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

He tells them that no relationship is to be so highly regarded as that of the husband and wife

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

The relationship between child and mother may seem very close

How could this be?

Job 1:21 And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Isaiah 57:1 The righteous man perishes, and no one lays it to heart;

***devout men are taken away,
while no one understands.***

For the righteous man is taken away from calamity.

But scripture says...

5b 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

One flesh, "glued together", a permanent part of one another

It is clear from the tone of this passage that marriage is to be highly honored by Christians

It is a relationship that is to have enormous influence on those who are brought together by it

J.C. Ryle says, "*It will effect our entire lives for good or for evil*".

What therefore God has put together let not man separate!

But even in the church what is happening in many cases is that men and women are putting each other away, quickly and often

Nearly 1 in 2 marriages end in divorce

Not much better in the church

We see the destruction of that all around us

What are we to do with these statistics when we see in God's Word his "creational intent"?

When His Word requires purity before marriage, faithfulness after marriage and lifelong unions of wives and husbands

We learn to do what Matthew has told us in Matthew 18, learn to be quick and often to forgive

And we always, regardless of our success or failures go back to God's "creational intent"

2022 Changing the Dynamic at Home!

God a priority
Growing spiritually is a priority
Church is a priority

Individuals

Bible Reading Plan
Don't try too much
Time to pray daily and continually
ACTS
Singles-Time to pray with someone

Couples

Pray together daily
Study together weekly
Answers in Genesis

Families

Raising the children to know, fear, love and
follow the Lord
Daily Prayer
ACTS
Weekly Family Time to study
Answer's in Genesis

Church

Make it your home away from home
Make it a priority
Know the budget and support the budget
Know the calendar and support the calendar

God's work of grace in the soul, Letters of John
Newton

"The soil produces grain:
first the blade,
then the stalk, and
then the ripe grain on the stalk."
Mark 4:28

The Lord compares the usual method of growth in
grace--to the growth of grain, which is perfected by
a slow and almost imperceptible progress.

The seed is hidden for a time in the soil; and, when
it appears, it passes through a succession of
changes--the blade, the stalk, and lastly the ripe
grain.

And it is brought forward amidst a variety of
weather: the dew, the frost, the wind, the rain, the
sun--all concur to advance its maturity, though some
of these agents are contrary to each other; and
some of them, perhaps, seem to threaten the life of
the plant! Yet, when the season of harvest returns--
the grain is found ready for the sickle!

Just so is God's work of grace in the soul. Its
beginnings are small, its growth for the most part
slow; and, to our apprehensions, imperceptible and
often precarious.

But there is this difference in the comparison: frosts
and blights, drought or floods, may possibly

disappoint the gardener's hopes. But the great Gardener of the soul will not, and cannot be disappointed. What He sows shall flourish in defiance of all opposition! And, if at times it seems to wither, He can and He will revive it!

For the most part, God's people are exercised with sharp trials and temptations; for it is necessary they should learn not only what He can do for them--but how little they can do without Him! Therefore He teaches them not all at once--but by degrees, as they are able to bear it.

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