

“MARRIAGE AS GOD DESIGNED IT”
(Genesis 2:24-25)

E. The DIVINE DESIGN of MARRIAGE. (2:24-25)

1. The *description of marriage* involves:

- a. **“Therefore”** – these are God’s comments on marriage through Moses in light of the creation of the first woman in Genesis 2:18-23 and sets forth the _____ for marriage. Marriage is not a social construct devised by man but a _____ designed by God.
- b. **“a man”** – this refers to an _____ in contrast to a woman. Marriage involves a commitment of the whole person to the other person, not merely a “male” in his sexuality.
- c. **“shall leave”** – this means in this context to “leave or forsake” by way of _____ human relationship and dependence. This does not necessarily require a change of location (many extended families built onto their parents’ home in the OT), and certainly it does not even imply forsaking them by way of appropriate “honor” or responsibility to your parents (Exod.20:12; Eph. 6:2). “Shall leave” involves a chosen independence from your parents & toward your mate which is a very serious _____ that one makes in getting married.
- d. **“his father and mother”** – this refers to the previously priority human relationship that the male has chosen to forsake in forming an _____ in marriage.
- e. **“and be joined”** – this means “to be united, to be firmly glued, to be tightly joined together” by way of a glue-like _____ that intends two individuals to be committed to a permanent “yoke” with one another as a team.
- f. **“to his wife”** – this refers to an individual _____ in contrast to an adult male. She becomes (as does he) the human object of this decisive marriage commitment. This also underscores that marriage is designed to be _____ (not polygamous) and _____ (not homosexual), necessary for Gen.1:28.
- g. **“and they”** – both the adult male and female; two individuals.
- h. **“shall become”** –this marital union now becomes a completed reality (perfect tense),
- i. **“one” (ehad)** – without destroying the personality of the individuals involves, this underscores the _____ of the marriage relationship (note Deut. 6:4 & Numb. 13:23). Two persons become in marriage one family unit, forming the _____ and most basic divine institution in society.
- j. **“flesh”** – this reminds us of verse ____ and underscores that marriage is an _____ that finds expression in _____ - the only approved context for it. Observe Genesis 2:25.

2. The *definition and divine design* of marriage involves one _____ and one _____ in a profound _____ of two individuals making a _____ (in keeping their society's practices / laws) which is intended to be _____ as the #1 _____ human relationship. Marriage should be ideally entered into in order to fulfill God's will together.

- Malachi 2:14-16
- Does the New Testament and Jesus Christ re-affirm these truths about marriage? (Matt.19:1-12; Mark 10:1-12)

3. The *demise of marriage* in our day is due to such realities as:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

4. The *divine purposes for marriage* involves God's wisdom and grace designing marriage for:

- a. _____. (Gen.2:18-25)
- b. _____. (Genesis 1:26-28)
- c. _____. (Proverbs 5:15-19; Song of Solomon)
- d. _____. (1 Cor. 7:1-2; Heb.13:4; 1 Thess. 4:3-8)
- e. _____. (Eph.5:25-30, 33)
- f. _____. (Eph.5:18, 22, 25, 33)
- g. _____. (Eph.5:31-32)

- Some concluding thoughts and applications:

- 1) About marriage –
- 2) About singleness –
- 3) About the greatest issue -