

"Christian Marriage vs _____" Genesis 2:24

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. Genesis 2:24 (NKJV)

"Marriage, that Blessed Arrangement..." Clergyman, Princess Bride

Marriage, ordained by God – **Genesis 2:24** and blessed with Christ's first miracle - **John 2:1-11**; for the longest time you might say did not distinguish Bible-believing Jews, or Christians from anyone else. The entire world had the same definition of marriage.

- I. *True, real, Biblical, Christian marriage was and still is the unity of a man and a woman -*
... and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. Genesis 2:24 (NKJV)

On June 26th 2015 the Supreme Court ruled that same sex couples had all the legal rights of marriage that opposite sex couples had. Massachusetts and a few other states had legalized same sex marriage as early as 2004. Yet, whichever of these dates you might chose, the following facts remain:

1. Same sex marriage is a new thing. Homosexuality is as old as **Genesis 19**, but claiming "marriage" for same sex couples is new.
2. Allowing same-sex couples to marry (legally recognizing these so-called marriages) is not an expansion of marriage but rather a re-definition of marriage.
3. The connection of marriage to "family" is clear in **Genesis 2:24** and the redefinition of "marriage" necessitates a destructive redefinition of family.

- II. *Biblical, Christian marriage has as at least part of its goal, fulfillment of God's first command & blessing, be fruitful and multiply, procreation –*

²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28 (NKJV)

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother ... Genesis 2:24 A (NKJV)

1. *Husbands and wives, men and women, typically, though not always, become fathers and mothers –*
 - A. *Not every husband (male) and wife (female) have children ...*
 - B. *But every child has a father (male) and a mother (female)*

2. *The re-definition of marriage has happened / is allowed / not because a majority of people are homosexual, but rather because a majority now see marriage in terms of sexual relations, the pleasure of adults, companionship ... To be more central to the idea of marriage / than procreation and the raising of children and family ...*

III. Christian, Biblical Marriage vs an ungodly world's redefinition(s) ...

²⁴ **Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. Genesis 2:24 (NKJV)**

"Love and marriage, love and marriage They go together like the horse and carriage **Dad was told by mother** "You can't have one, you can't have none You can't have one without the other"
Sammy Cahn, Jimmy Van Heusen

The Bible gives us a "let's have children, let's raise a family view of marriage!"

1. *Marriage in the Bible is complementary –*

Men & woman had different roles –

- A. *Adam was to till the garden –*

¹⁵ **Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. Genesis 2:15 (NKJV)**

- B. *His wife was his helpmeet / helper–*

¹⁸ **And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." Genesis 2:18 (NKJV)**

- C. *Men created for tasks, getting things done, as far as providing, protecting. Women created for relationship –*

³ **the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—⁴that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed. Titus 2:3–5 (NKJV)**

- D. *This is something not only seen in Scripture, or by pastors but it used to be obvious to EVERYONE –*

"The complementarity of male and female parenting styles is striking and is of enormous importance to a child's development." ... "The disciplinary approach of fathers (men) tends to be firm, while that of mothers tends to be "responsive." While mothers provide an important flexibility and sympathy in their discipline ... Fathers provide ultimate predictability and consistency." David Popenoe, Rutgers University Sociologist

- E. *The liars in our politically correct society say, 'same sex couples are just as good at parenting as heterosexual couples!'*

⁴⁴ **You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. John 8:44 (NKJV)**

F. Of course, the *complementary aspect of marriage is a HUGE thing, its benefits include but are not limited to giving birth and raising children -*

"That the woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved."

Matthew Henry

A key fit to unlock your door, but only if your lock is complementary to your key, a key won't work with another key, nor a lock with another lock!

Same sex marriage was never God's design, and it never will be –

²² You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination. Leviticus 18:22 (NKJV)

2. *Marriage in the Bible is exclusive, one man / one woman faithful to each other –*

¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery. Exodus 20:14 (NKJV)

A. *Adultery in the Old Testament was a sin punishable by death –*

¹⁰ 'The man who commits adultery with another man's wife, he who commits adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death. Leviticus 20:10 (NKJV)

B. *Jesus' forgiving the woman caught in adultery was not a repudiation or even a relaxation of that rule –*

⁷ So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." John 8:7 (NKJV)

C. *Not committing adultery is part of the Apostle Paul's definition of love –*

⁸ Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Romans 13:8–10 (NKJV)

D. *An ungodly world no longer believes this -*

** Adultery is rarely a factor in divorce settlements*

** The Bridges of Madison County glorified adultery as real love and made faithfulness in marriage seem BORING!*

** In 2011 New York Magazine writer Dan Savage coined the term "monogamish" referring to a marriage that would allow infidelity as long as the partners were honest about it.*

Now, sleeping around always has this potential: unwanted, uncared for children / abortions, faithfulness in marriage is for the advantage of the children... unfaithfulness the disadvantage!

"Cugo" the Book by Stephen King about a rabid dog, a saint Bernard but really about infidelity, adultery! A sin not talked about or repented of! The MONSTER in a little boy's closet ... is made a real monster by sin that was not dealt with properly.

3. *Marriage in the Bible is permanent –*

⁴ And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' ⁵ and 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'? ⁶ So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

Matthew 19:3–9 (NKJV)

The seven promises of marriage traditionally include:

(1) To have and to hold from this day forward (2) For better, for worse (3) For richer, for poorer (4) In sickness and in health (5) Forsaking all others (6) To love and to cherish (7) Until death do us part

A. *As a divorced man this is hard for me to preach on.*

B. *I was faithful in a bad marriage that ended in adultery and her leaving me for another man.*

C. *Nothing I have experienced in life is worse than a bad marriage, and yet we are called to be together, until death do us part!*

This is not the attitude of an ungodly world. Homosexual relationships are NOT USUALLY permanent.

"It is a no-brainer that (same-sex couples) should have the right to marry, but I also think equally that it is a no-brainer that the institution of marriage should not exist. Fighting for gay marriage generally involves lying about what we are going to do to marriage when we get there. Because we lie that the institution of is not going to change and that is a lie." Gay Rights Activist Masha Gessen

Paul Rampell in a 2013 Washington Post article suggested "wed-lease" instead of "wed-lock"

Ryan T Anderson, in his book "Truth Overruled" about the Supreme Court decision to change the definition of marriage says, that we have changed the definition "To serve the Desires of Adults ... Not the Needs of Rights of Children."

Certainly, broken marriages do not help the children involved!

Christian marriage is a blessing! It is a blessing to children and ultimately to society as a whole ... ultimately it glorifies God –

³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. Ephesians 5:31–33 (NKJV)