

THE FIRST WEDDING

Genesis 2:22-25

God invented marriage; although many misuse and alter it, only His original design leads to human _____

I. GOD'S DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE 2:24

A. _____: "a man shall leave his father and mother"

- 1) "Leave" does not apply primarily to physical _____; think of the example of Jacob's 12 sons
- 2) "Leave" defines the primary _____ in a person's life: before marriage parents are primary
 - a) After marriage, this must change completely: the primary relationship is spouse to _____
 - b) It must take precedence over relationships to parents, brothers & sisters, and sons & _____
- 3) This principle applies other relationships: part of saying "I do" is saying "I don't" to _____ else

B. _____: "be joined to his wife"

- 1) A good modern translation of "be joined" is "stick" or _____: Eleazar's hand stuck to his sword
- 2) The illustration of this word is permanent _____: a permanent bond not intended to be broken
- 3) The Israelites were commanded to stick to the LORD in faithfulness: "stick" is a _____ word
 - a) Contracts are between 2 parties; entered for _____ profit; and based on an if-then mentality
 - b) Covenants are between 3 parties: are initiated for the good of the other; and are _____
 - c) We marry in a church before God's people because we are entering a covenant before _____

C. _____: "they shall become one flesh"

- 1) "One flesh" is not solely physical: when a man and woman marry, they become one _____
- 2) Therefore, the goal for any marriage is unity on the 3 levels of personhood: body, soul & _____
 - a) Body: it is normal for there to be some level of physical _____ between a couple who marry
After marriage, the sexual union is holy, good and right, a _____ of the unity in marriage
 - b) Soul: 2 who marry should have similar interests and friendship: they are to be _____ for life
 - c) Spirit: first, this means that both are _____ Christ for salvation & have yielded their lives to Him
Beyond salvation, there must be agreement on spiritual issues & fellowship in the Word & _____
- 3) Often couples try to marry w/ _____ on only 2 out of 3, making a harmonious marriage very difficult

II. MARRIAGE BEFORE THE FALL 2:25

None since Adam and Eve have ever experienced marriage in this way, yet it remains God's _____

A. Their Relationship with _____

Before the Fall, Adam & Eve walked with God completely open to Him; after the Fall, they hid not just their physical undress, but their _____ & disobedience. This is now the condition of every human being

B. Their Relationship with _____

We all learn ways of _____ not just our bodies, but our thoughts, emotions & sin from each other

C. Their Relationship with _____

Most of us use many techniques & psychological tricks to hide our own _____ from our ourselves

APPLICATION: God designed marriage to include the kind of transparency & _____ described in v.25

It requires absolute _____ and freedom from fear that was lost when Adam and Eve first sinned

This ideal is impossible for 2 sinners, but Christians have the resources of the Spirit and God's _____