

# MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, AND REMARRIAGE (II)

## *Origin, Purpose, Perversions, and Challenges of Marriage*

### Introduction

- 1) When asked a question about divorce, Jesus reminded his listeners of God's **original design for marriage** when man and woman were created by God in the beginning (Matt. 19:3-6)
  - a) God joins a man to his wife, and this union is not to be separated
  - b) Marriage is to be held in honor among all who seek to please and follow God
- 2) We need to be reminded of the basic principles of a godly and scriptural marriage

### I) **Origin of Marriage**

- A) ***Ordained by God in the beginning of man's existence*** (Gen. 2:18-24)
- B) ***Universal for all men*** (Heb. 13:4)
  - 1) Not church ordinance – marriage law applies to Christian and non-Christian
  - 2) One can remain single if he/she so chooses (1 Cor. 9:5; 7:8-9)
  - 3) Religious prohibition of lawful marriage is a sign of apostasy (1 Tim. 4:3)

### II) **Purpose of Marriage**

- A) Creation of a home – relationship of husband and wife
  - 1) ***Companionship*** (Gen. 2:18)
    - a) Male and female compliment each other (emotion, social, spiritual, physical)
  - 2) ***Reproduction*** (Gen. 1:28; 1 Tim. 2:15)
    - a) Avoid fornication (1 Cor. 7:2, 9; Heb. 13:4)
  - 3) ***Role relationship***
    - a) ***Husband*** – leadership, provider, protector, teacher (Eph. 5:22ff; 6:4; 1 Tim. 5:8)
    - b) ***Wife*** – submission, homemaker, nurturer, teacher (Eph. 5:22; Titus 2:4-5)

### III) **Perversions of Marriage**

- A) ***Homosexual "same-sex" unions*** (Gen. 2:23-24; Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11)
  - 1) Proponents successful in legally defining as a "marriage" – God calls it unrighteous and sinful
- B) ***Polygamy*** (Gen. 4:19; 1 Cor. 7:2)
  - 1) Tolerated in olden times, but *from the beginning* it was not so (cf. Matt. 19:8)

### IV) **Challenges in Marriage**

- A) ***Communication*** (1 Cor. 2:11a)
  - 1) Communication must be present and profitable (Eph. 4:32); started when dating
  - 2) Silence and non-verbal communication can send powerful messages
  - 3) Harsh words can deeply hurt those we love most – consider words carefully
- B) ***Sex*** (1 Cor. 7:3-5)
  - 1) Can be used as a powerful tool to punish the other person in a marriage – sinful
  - 2) Patience, understanding, and trust needed, not selfishness, jealousy, or foolish actions
- C) ***Money*** (1 Tim. 6:10)
  - 1) Making, spending, control, credit, debt – avoid selfishness and greed
  - 2) Home must be provided for first (1 Tim. 5:8); full-disclosure and cooperation
- D) ***In-Laws*** (Gen. 2:24); ***Religion*** (1 Cor. 7:12-15); ***Children*** (Gen. 25:28); ***Role Conflicts*** (Eph. 5:22-23)

E) Handle marriage relationship challenges with spiritual attitudes of love, compassion, patience, humility, faith in God, prayer, compromise, contentment, forgiveness, sacrifice, selflessness, and determination to grow and be a better husband/wife

Conclusion

A successful and happy **marriage** takes a total effort by both husband and wife. We must give every effort to please God and be faithful to our vows of love and commitment.

***Part 3 – What the Bible Says Concerning Divorce and Remarriage***