

Purpose of Marriage

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I. Introduction.

- A. One of the great reasons we are having trouble in the streets is that we are failing in the home.
- B. The Christian home gives stability to children later in life.
- C. Suicide rates among children are up.
- D. Executive collapses are traced to trouble in the home.
- E. The heart of the home is the husband-wife relationship.

II. What God had in mind with marriage.

- A. Jesus authenticated Genesis 1-2. (Mark 10:6-8)
- B. Three purposes for marriage in Genesis 1.

1. For reproduction - to have children. Both the kids and the couple grow up when a couple has kids.

- a. Man is to populate the earth to subdue it.
- b. God wants life to be an adventure.
- c. Joy comes as a result of victory - no victory, no joy.
- d. Too many die as if they had never lived.
- e. Eden was a headquarters from which man was to subdue the earth - man was meant from the beginning to work and expand.

2. For companionship.

- a. God said that it was not good that a man should be alone.
- b. Man needed someone to share with.
- c. God Himself is a Trinity and the Persons share in love. Man is created in His image and must share with someone in love too.
- d. Life is progress. You do not progress by yourself. At the end of selfish life is a lonely old person.
- e. It is not good to be alone. Man needs a helper to be share with.

3. For a fulfillment.

a. Man needed something greater than a career or an assistant.

b. The Lord let Adam wait for a bit because he wanted him to know that he was made for something deeper.

c. The fundamental description of the marriage relationship: they become “one flesh.”

1) A husband and wife are a unity, a whole. One affects the other.

2) Steps to get an ulcer: get under pressure, get frustrated, get resentful, let resentment eat away at you. Your body, mind and spirit will be negatively impacted. We are a whole. (Romans 1)

3) Becoming one flesh means the unity of two whole personalities.

4) Love is a thing of the spirit. So love means that the whole person is joined together in marriage and a mark is left upon the person you are most intimate with. (1 Corinthians 6:18, Romans 1:26-27)

d. Being one flesh is good. The higher the good, the greater the perversion when it is violated.

e. Love binds, and love builds. (Colossians 1:13, 1 Corinthians 8:1)

III. The spoiler of the marriage relationship: sin.

IV. Because of sin, there is only one basis for a truly happy marriage: the atonement of Christ continually cleansing us. (1 John 1:7)

Application questions

1. What are the purposes for marriage?

2. How does the purpose of marriage encourage you in your marriage relationship or a prospective one?

3. How does an understanding of the Christ’s sacrifice help the marriage relationship?
