

The Preciousness of Marriage

*Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled;
but fornicators and adulterers God will judge. Hebrews 13:4 NKJV*

*Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure,
for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Hebrews 13:4 NIV*

*Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled,
for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Hebrews 13:4 ESV*

How precious is marriage to you?

Is it precious enough to HOLD ON to that which protects the importance and permanence of marriage?

Holding On to the Preciousness of Marriage:

1. Hold Marriage in HONOR!

What is God's vision of marriage?

Marriage is one MAN and one WOMAN joined together in a covenant relationship for a lifetime.

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. Genesis 2:24-25 NKJV

"But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate." ~Jesus, Mark 8:6-9 NKJV

How do we dishonor marriage?

We dishonor marriage when we CONFUSE God's vision of marriage with the culture's vision of marriage!

2. Keep the Marriage Bed PURE!

What defiles the marriage bed?

Having SEXUAL relations with someone who is not your lawful spouse.

It's called adultery (extramarital sexual relations) if you're married and fornication (premarital sexual relations) if you're not married.

God Is Not a Killjoy!

But God is opposed to what kills JOY!

But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. 1Corinthians 7:2-3 NIV

Keeping the Marriage Bed Pure:

- God's standard is for our PROTECTION—God doesn't want you to experience heartache and pain.
- God's standard flows from His LOVE—God wants you to enjoy His best.

The Warning:

God will JUDGE unrepentant fornicators and adulterers because they destroy what is meant for joy within the boundaries of marriage.

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 1Corinthians 6:9-10 ESV

The Hope of God's Grace:

Turn from your sin and come to God through Jesus for FORGIVENESS.

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1Corinthians 6:11 ESV