

Here We Stand

Lesson Three • Genesis 2:18-25

The Purity of Marriage

The Call to Christ-Followers

To stand strong in upholding the purity of marriage according to the authority of GOD'S WORD.

The Biblical Vision of Marriage

Marriage is a GIFT of God for the GLORY of God.

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

Upholding the Purity of Marriage

1. Foundationally, Marriage Is a GIFT of God—Don't Dishonor It!

What Is Marriage?

We believe marriage is ONE MAN and ONE WOMAN joined together as husband and wife in a covenantal and sexual union for a lifetime.

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply." Genesis 1:27-28

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

God's Gift of Marriage Requires One Man and One Woman:

- The way in which the WOMAN was created indicates that she is the man's divinely designed complement.
- The nature of the ONE-FLESH union presupposes two persons of the opposite sex.
- Only two persons of the OPPOSITE SEX can fulfill the procreative purposes of marriage.

Jesus' Teaching On Marriage

Jesus REINFORCES God's design of marriage as a gift of God for all peoples for all times.

"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." Mark 10:6-9

Therefore...

Any DISTORTION of God's design of marriage dishonors the biblical vision of marriage as a gift of God for the glory of God.

2. Ultimately, Marriage Is for the GLORY of God—Don't Defile It!

What Is the Purpose of Marriage?

Marriage is designed by God to DISPLAY His glory in the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a way that no other act, event, or institution does.

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

Therefore...

Any APPROVAL (either by promotion or participation) of marriage that distorts God's design of marriage defiles the biblical vision of marriage as a gift of God for the glory of God.

Here We Stand

- Stand strong in SPEAKING UP for the biblical vision of marriage.
- Stand strong in LIVING OUT the biblical vision of marriage.