

THE LIFE AND WORK THAT CHANGED THE AGE

Special Fellowship

**Knowing the Truth Concerning Marriage
in God's Economy**

Scripture Reading: Gen. 2:18, 21-24; Eph. 5:31-32; Matt. 19:2-9; Rom. 1:24, 26-27; 1 Thes.
4:3;
Heb. 13:4; 2 Tim. 2:22

I. Marriage is on God's heart:

- A. Before creation, God was perfect, but alone and incomplete.
- B. Adam's need for a wife typifies and portrays God's need to have a complement—Gen. 2:18, 24; Eph. 5:31-32.
- C. God operates in His loving seekers until in their entire being they are the same as He is in life, in nature, in image, and in function, but not in His Godhead—Song 1:1; Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 3:18; Phil. 3:21; 1 John 3:2; cf. Gen. 2:20.
- D. The entire Bible is a divine romance, a record of how God courts His chosen people and eventually marries them—Exo. 20:6; Eph. 5:25-27, 32; Rev. 21:2; 22:17.

II. The principle of marriage is oneness: one husband for one wife—Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:3-9; cf. 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6:

- A. God created us not as complete men, but as “male and female”—Gen. 1:27; 2:18.
- B. God ordained that one male and one female are to be joined and yoked together as one flesh and are not to be separated by man—Matt. 19:4-6.
- C. Fornication means to violate God's governing and controlling principle, resulting in confusion—Rom. 1:24, 26-27.
- D. The apostles exhort us not to run together with the unbelievers in the overflowing indulgence of lusts—1 Pet. 4:2-7; Eph. 4:17-20.
- E. Nothing damages the saints and the church life more than fornication—1 Thes. 4:3; Heb. 13:4.

III. There is a practical pathway for a young person to walk in truth regarding marriage—Eph. 4:17; 2 John 4; 3 John 3-4; Prov. 23:23:

- A. Flee youthful lusts—2 Tim. 2:22; cf. Gen. 39:1-12.
- B. Avoid temptation—Matt. 6:13; 26:41; James 4:7.
- C. Pursue with those who call on the Lord—2 Tim. 2:22; 1 Tim. 6:11; Heb. 10:25; cf. 1 Cor. 15:33.
- D. Be together with the brothers and sisters in purity—1 Tim. 1:5; 4:12; 5:2, 22.
- E. Wait on the Lord for the one God has prepared for you—Gen. 2:21-23; Psa. 27:14; Isa. 40:31; Eccl. 3:14-15; Matt. 6:33.
- F. Cooperate with God to be sanctified and preserved complete in your youth—2 Tim. 2:21; 1 Thes. 4:3-4; 5:23; Jude 24; John 17:15.
- G. Be prepared for marriage humanly and spiritually—2 Tim. 2:21; 3:17; Heb. 13:20-21.
- H. At the right time, cooperate with the Lord to be yoked together with the one the Lord has prepared for you—Eccl. 3:1, 11; Matt. 19:5-6.
- I. Have an honorable courtship in the sight of the Lord and in the sight of men—2 Cor. 8:21; Rom. 12:17.

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- J. Be married to the one God has prepared for you, pursue the Lord together as fellow heirs of the grace of life, and serve the Lord together in and for His Body—
1 Pet. 3:7; Josh. 24:15.