

MARRIAGE

A Study in the Scriptures

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh."

Mark 10:7, 8

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I. The institution of marriage is of divine origin.

Genesis 2:18-25

A. It is "honorable in all."

Hebrews 13:4

1 Corinthians 7:36b, 28a

B. Marriage is for life – a permanent union, a bond not to be broken.

Matthew 19:3-6

Mark 10:8

Romans 7:2

1 Corinthians 7:10, 11, 39

C. Marriage is precious in the sight of God. He demands the faithfulness of both marriage partners.

Malachi 2:14, 15

II. Because He recognizes what may be the end result of an unequally yoked marriage (see 1 Kings 11:1-6), God has placed specific restrictions on Christians concerning marriage. A believer may only marry "in the Lord" (that is, to one of the same faith: Genesis 24:37). 1 Corinthians 7:39 2 Corinthians 6:14

III. "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord." "Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her ... She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life." "... a prudent wife is from the Lord." Proverbs 18:22; 19:14; 31:10-12

A. Her character qualities.

Proverbs chapter 31

1 Timothy 2:9-11; 5:13, 14

1 Peter 3:4

B. Her love, honor, and submission toward her husband.

Genesis 3:16

Esther 1:20

1 Corinthians 11:3, 8, 9

Ephesians 5:22-24, 33

Colossians 3:18

1 Timothy 2:11, 12

Titus 2:3-5

1 Peter 3:1, 2, 5, 6

C. Companion, helpmeet to her husband.

Genesis 2:18; 3:12

Proverbs 31:10-12

Malachi 2:14, 15

IV. As head of the wife, the husband is to represent Christ (Head of the church).

1 Corinthians 11:3

Ephesians 5:23

A. Protector and provider.

Ephesians 5:23, 29

1 Timothy 5:8

2 Corinthians 12:14

B. Ruler in government of the home.

Esther 1:22

1 Timothy 3:4, 5, 12

Titus 1:6

C. Spiritual leader.

1. In instruction from scripture.

Deuteronomy 4:9, 10; 6:6, 7; 11:19

1 Corinthians 14:34, 35

2. In spiritual training of the children.

Proverbs 22:6

Ephesians 6:4

D. Lover of the wife, "as Christ also loved the church."

1 Samuel 1:5, 7, 8

Ephesians 5:25, 28, 33

Colossians 3:19

1 Peter 3:7

V. Does not Paul, in his first epistle to the Corinthians, seem to present a negative attitude toward marriage?

A. It is true that Paul attempted to discourage the Christians of his day from marrying (ch. 7:7-9, 27, 32, 33, 38); but he says, "this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you" (v. 35).

B. Why did he consider it "profitable" to remain single?

1. For "the present distress."

1 Corinthians 7:26

2. To give undivided devotion to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

3. Because "the time is short."

1 Corinthians 7:29, 31

C. Peter married (Matthew 8:14; Mark 1:30; Luke 4:38; 1 Corinthians 9:5), as did many of the other apostles (1 Corinthians 9:5). Celibacy was never required of the disciples of Jesus.

1 Timothy 3:2, 4, 5, 12

1 Timothy 4:1-3a

Titus 1:6

VI. God's intention in the marriage union was "that He might obtain a godly seed."

Malachi 2:15

A. God said to "be fruitful and multiply."

Genesis 1:26-28

B. Children are a blessing from the Lord.

Psalms 127:3

Psalms 128:3

VIII. Marriage is typologically referred to in scripture as the relationship between Christ and His church.

Isaiah 54:5; 62:4, 5

Jeremiah 3:14

Jeremiah 31:32

Hosea 6:16

Ephesians 5

THE TYPOLOGY OF CHRIST & HIS CHURCH IN MARRIAGE.....

The Husband	Scripture References	Jesus Christ
head of the wife	1 Corinthians 11:3 Ephesians 5:23	Head of the Church
protector of wife	Ephesians 5:23, 29	Savior of the Church
lover of the wife	Hosea 2:13-14 Ephesians 5:25, 28, 29 Song of Solomon	Lover of the Church
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The Wife	Scripture References	The Church
submitted to husband	Ephesians 5:22-24	submitted to Christ
one with husband	Genesis 2:23-24 Mark 10:8 Ephesians 5:31-32	one with Christ

as bride, betrothed to her husband	Isaiah 54:5 Jeremiah 3:14 Hosea 2:16, 19, 20	as the Bride of Christ, betrothed to know the Lord
bridal gown of white	Isaiah 61:10 Revelation 19:6-9	fine linen, the righteousness of the saints
the wedding feast	Matt. 22:1-14 John 2:1-11 Rev. 19:7, 8	the marriage supper of the Lamb
permanency of the marriage vow	Matt. 19:3-6 1 Cor. 7:10, 11, 39	the promise of eternal life in the kingdom of God

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