

Genesis 2.18-25

"Man and Woman"

God's BENEDECTION over ALL CREATION on 6th Day

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the sixth day. Genesis 1.31

God KNOWS WHAT is GOOD > PERFECT Understanding of GOOD & EVIL TREE with Fruit of KNOWLEDGE of Good & Evil SYMBOLIZED His Authority ONE who made ALL VERY GOOD / Who KNOWS Perfectly what IS Good, says:
v. 18 The LORD God said, "It is *not good* for the man to be alone.

1. God our Creator: He Knows our Needs

a. Identified keep Trusting

GOD KNOWS US BETTER than WE KNOW Ourselves - PERFECT ANALYSIS

"He knows our frame and remembers that we are dust" Psalm 103.14

Man is a social being, made for fellowship, not power: he will not live until he loves, giving himself away to another on his own level. Derek Kidner

EVEN "SINGLE" PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE ALONE - ROLE OF CHURCH

v. 18 The *LORD God* said, "It is *not good* for the man to be alone.

...twenty times in chapters 2 and 3 the compound name Lord God (Yahweh Elohim) is used...this combination occurs less than twenty times in all the rest of the Old Testament...it is plain to the reader that the God of Creation (Elohim) and the God of Redemption (Yahweh) are one and the same O.T. Allis

Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens. Psalm 68.19

LONGEST Distance in Christian Life > Between HEAD and HEART

BELIEVING and TRUSTING the PRECIOUS PROMISES of SCRIPTURE

Whether here in VERY FIRST Century in EDEN up until the FINAL CENTURY

IF you NEED Something – He ALREADY Knows – GIVE IT or WORKING on It

God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9.8

b. Intensified keep Serving

v. 19 Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.

MIND more BRILLIANT than EINSTEIN & ARISTOTLE applied to CREATION
PREMISE of EVOLUTION > Man getting BETTER and BRIGHTER – WRONG!
DEVOLUTION of HUMAN Race > Getting More FOOLISH & FAR from God

ADAM using 100% of BRAIN – ALL CYLINDERS were FIRING in his HEAD
God and Adam stood Together as ANIMAL PARADE passed: Aardvark to Zebra

v. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found.

1st BIOLOGIST – STUDY, CATEGORIZING, NAMING the Created ORDER
Not just NONSENSE words like Product Names at IKEA – Drunken SWEDES
HERE I HAVE A NEED and ALL I Get are GRASSHOPPERS and POLLYWOGS

RADICAL DISTINCTION from ALL OTHER Creatures

IF RECENTLY EVOLVED from Lower Creatures, Still Dripping from Slime Pool
PARADE include – PARENTS, SIBLINGS, AUNTS, UNCLES, COUSINS

NOT ALONE! Parade of FAMILY Few CLICKS OFF Normal // MOST Families
NOTHING in Common w/ PARADE / Cannot MEET Deepest Needs

NO SOUL Mate for Adam – NO INTIMATE Life Partner – No HELPMATE

The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. 1 Thessalonians 5.24

Applies to FAMILIES, FEELINGS, FINANCES, FUTURE > ALL of LIFE

c. Satisfied then Rejoice

vs. 23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

Someone LIKE him but WONDERFULLY DIFFERENT: **WOW! MAN** spoke CA
WHAT a Woman – in PRISTINE GLORY – Wonder Woman / Miss Universe
God himself, like a father of the bride, leads the woman to the man. G. von Rad

Man and Woman / COMPLEMENTARY / True Partnership

NOT A COSMIC EVOLUTIONARY ACCIDENT - PERFECT COMPLIMENT

There are three things that are too amazing for me, four that I do not understand:
the way of an eagle in the sky, the way of a snake on a rock, the way of a ship on
the high seas, and *the way of a man with a maiden.* Proverbs 30.18,19

HELPER = Lit. 'a help as opposite him', i.e. 'corresponding to him'

Adam FRUITLESSLY SEARCHED Elsewhere among ALL the OTHER Creatures

Eve is MADE out of the VERY STUFF of Adam / yet WHOLLY NEW BEING

The woman is presented wholly as his partner and counterpart; nothing is said of
her as a childbearer. She is valued for herself alone. Derek Kidner

2. God our Provider: He Meets our Needs

ALONE > Man/Male ALONE is NOT ENOUGH God makes COMMUNITY

a. Creation of Eve Further Explanation of Brief Account

God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and
female he created them. Genesis 1.27

NT draws much of its teaching on Male/Female from this Section of Bible

1) From man v. 22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

FROM Man = PERFECT COMPANIONSHIP / WOMAN FITS MAN'S NEED

The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be loved.

Matthew Henry

2) For man v. 18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Words STING in EARS of MANY WOMEN TODAY > Obnoxious, Archaic

Bible WRONGLY Used – Even by Christians – ABUSE, DEMEAN Women

TODAY Emphasis on EQUALITY between SEXES – What does this MEAN?

In what sense is red equal to blue? They are equal in one sense that both are colors in the spectrum. Apart from that they are different. In what sense is hot equal to cold? They are both temperatures, but beyond that it is almost meaningless to talk about equality.

Elizabeth Elliot

EQUALITY OF MAN AND WOMAN

- 1) Created in image of God
- 2) Morally Responsible to Obey God's Commands
- 3) Both guilty of disobeying God's command
- 4) Alike object of grace and mercy in Jesus Christ

There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gal 3.28

Salvation does not ERASE Differences: Jew/Gentile, Slave/Free, Male/Female

MOST SIGNIFICANT Measure – Standing BEFORE GOD – We are EQUAL

LEVEL GROUND at Foot of CROSS of CHRIST

b. **Complement** vs. 23,24 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called `woman,' for she was taken out of man." For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

1) **Social** v. 18 "It is not good for the man to be *alone*" SAD & LONELY WORD
NO EVE > SAD and LONELY WORLD > ALL PEOPLE come from HER

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.
Genesis 3.20

HELL will be ALONE > DARK, LONELY, ISOLATED from All Good > God
...With such violence the great city of Babylon will be thrown down, never to be found again. The music of harpists and musicians, flute players and trumpeters, will never be heard in you again. No workman of any trade will ever be found in you again. The sound of a millstone will never be heard in you again. The light of a lamp will never shine in you again. The voice of bridegroom and bride will never be heard in you again.
Revelation 18.21-23

Next Time SQUEEZED Subway on THANK EVE for all our HUMAN FAMILY!

2) **Service** Adam CREATED to be WORKER > Eve made to HELP him WORK

...and there was no man to work the ground Genesis 2.5

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.
Genesis 2.15

TEACHING about MARRIAGE in Ephesians & Colossians FOLLOWS SERVICE

Building UP the Body of Christ – Comes BEFORE – Teaching on Marriage

Looking for HUSBAND or WIFE? Look who WASHES Dishes, Teach S. School,

Feeds the Homeless, Looks Beyond Self to Others, Kind, Compassionate

SELFISHNESS brings DEATH to MARRIAGE

3) **Sexual** v. 25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.
 EMBARRASSING EVEN TO READ - WE FEEL SHAME - WE ARE SINNERS
 VS. EULOGY OF GLORY OF ADAM AND EVE IN GOD'S PERFECTION

May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A
 loving doe, a graceful deer-- may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be
 captivated by her love. Proverbs 5.18,19

SEX is GIFT of GOD for Pleasure not just Procreation

HEDONISM Chief Goal is Pleasure/ Holiness seeks Glory of God even in Bedroom

c. **Commitment** MAN and WOMAN Made FOR EACHOTHER > Become ONE
 WITHIN MARRIAGE - NOT EVERY WOMAN for EVERY MAN

VOLUNTARY: NOT KIDNAPPED like Kazakh's or Forcefully ARRANGED
 ARRANGED by WISE, LOVING Parents > TRUSTING Children > WORKS!

IF MAN & WOMAN CANNOT SUBMIT for LIFE to their ROLES – Stay Single!

1) **Ultimate** v. 24a “a man will leave his father and mother”

God joins 1 Man & 1 Woman for Life / Not just Convenience, Contract > Covenant

Other important things: Parents, Children, Friends, Work, even Church 2nd Place

2) **Permanent** v. 24b “and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh”

The marriage covenant is only to be broken by death.

Those who live in sin before marriage have an even higher rate of divorce.

Not surprising > Cannot honor one another and wait - fundamentally selfish.

Marriage only works when both parties give and not just take.

3) **Intimate** v. 25 “The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame”

Helped one another Socially, Spiritually, Sexually – Best Friends

Sacred trust: Loving, Forgiving, Keep Communication – word & deed – wide open.
Being ‘naked’ before God and one another means there is nothing to hide.

We must live in a house with no roof and no walls. East African Revival

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139.23,24

MARRIAGE: ACCEPTANCE OF ONE ANOTHER DESPITE IMPERFECTIONS

JAMES BOICE "We see the principle on a humorous level when the young man and woman are just getting to know one another. When they go out on their first date each is very much concerned with making a good impression. She washes her hair, applies her make - up, brushes her dress, then tries to appear as beautiful, sophisticated and charming as possible. For his part, the young man combs his hair and tries to be as "cool" as Fonzi...this first date goes well. The young man and woman each go to their homes and begin to think about their next date. Each has this problem. He asks himself, "What is going to happen when she finds out that I am not quite as cool as I pictured myself tonight?" She asks, "What will he think of me if he learns that I am not really sophisticated, or even consistently charming?"

Then they begin, ever so slowly, to reveal their true selves. On the second date he will say something like this: "You know, you probably think of me as a pretty cool person, and it's true, I am. But I wasn't always this way. About ten years ago, when I was just a kid in grade school, I was a little bit awkward. And (can you believe it?) I was even ill at ease with girls." Then he stops. He does not confess anything else. Because he is waiting for her to say, "That's funny. When I was a kid in high school I wasn't very sophisticated either. I even wore braces, and I was afraid to go out with boys." He is waiting for that because he knows that if she makes a confession to match his, then she has accepted him insofar as he has revealed himself, he can open up some more.

On their next date the fellow and the girl may confess what they were like as recently as five years ago, on the following date they get closer to "now." Perhaps, if the relationship goes very well, they may really let their hair down and share what are almost their innermost thoughts. It is a beautiful thing. Still, even in the best of relationships, even in the best of marriages, there is much of inner feelings and past deeds that is never revealed to the other person. Isn't that a shame?

Even in the best of relationships we cannot fully be ourselves. Yet Adam and Eve knew none of this. They were perfectly open and unashamed with each other. They had no sin. There was nothing in either one to hide. James Boice

3. God our Lord: We Need Him Today

a. Societal not Private

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this? Even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. And I have already passed judgment on the one who did this, just as if I were present. 1 Corinthians 5.1-3

VERY TAME Event in CORINTH – In PRIVACY of Own BEDROOM

MAYBE just SAVING on RENT and UTILITIES > Don't Ask, Don't Tell

TALKING About It – In Corinth, In Church, ALL the Way to EPHESUS

VOWS EXCHANGED BEFORE WITNESSES, REGULATED BY STATE

MARRIAGE IS FIRST AND MOST BASIC OF ALL HUMAN INSTITUTIONS

Marriage does not exist for me, but for us - for the children and society, and the glory of God. James Boice

ALL ELSE FLOWS FROM IT -

1. AUTHORITY of Father - Clans, Tribes - GOVERNMENT

2. RESPONSIBILITY to Train Children - EDUCATION, Schools, University

3. CARE for sick - HEALTH CARE, HOSPITALS

4. OBLIGATION worship- SYNAGOGUES, eventually CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Every SOCIAL ORGANIZATION Derives from THE FAMILY

b. VirginitY is VirtuouS

Society > People want to MARRY Virgins, but do not want to BE a VIRGINS
Wife and I – 2 Virgins – ALREADY 30 – 2 DESPERATE PEOPLE!

Word VIRGIN – Someone who has NOT had SEX is INSULT – Boring, Prudish

Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads...And they sang a new song before the throne...These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless. Revelation 14.1-5

APOSTLE John Searches Vocabulary to Describe Redeemed: Pure, Undefined

More influenced by HEDONISM than HOLINESS / HAPPINESS thru Hook-Ups
Even 'Christian Books' support HARMLESS, LOVING, Sex Outside Marriage
Who NEEDS to KNOW what goes on BEHIND Locked Doors with Another?

1. GOD – IF Knows All, Sees All – His BEST for us is Exclusive Monogamy

2. YOU Know – Sex not just Giving BODY but your SOUL – ONE FLESH
How many PIECES of your SOUL get SCATTERED and TRAMPLED?

3. Widespread ACCEPTANCE of ADULTERY – Nobody TRUSTS Eachother
People are SHOCKED – HURT – OUTRAGED – WOUNDED

4. Widespread ACCEPTANCE of DIVORCE – World of EASY Divorce
Children GROW up MISSING Love and Care of a MOM or DAD

5. Widespread HOMOSEXUALITY – People are EMPTY and ANGRY

6. Widespread ABORTION – Behind LOCKED DOORS Children CREATED
Called MISTAKES – Do NOT Know how KIDS are CREATED! – or KILLED!

Christians are the key to the recovery of marriage...only they have a gospel adequate to do what needs to be done...the innate selfishness of the human heart must be broken. It is a poisonous weed that must be attacked at the root and struck down...It happens supernaturally and then only through the *surrender of self* to God in salvation.

James Boice

c. Life not Death

Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

1 Corinthians 6.16-20

SOCIETY WORRIES ABOUT SEX - DONE RIGHT NO DANGER

SEX IS A LIFE-GIVING ACT – God NOT a PRUDE but a PROTECTOR

FALL HAS MADE IT TRANSMIT DISEASE AND DEATH

HOLY AND GOOD BECOMES DIRTY

PRESIDENT of Uganda > Yoweri Museveni “Cure for AIDS” / GOSPEL Living

d. Permanent not Passing World Promises - EASY DIVORICE

"I hate divorce," says the LORD God of Israel Malachi 2.16

NOT Saying – Hates divorced PEOPLE – Hates what DIVORCE DOES to ALL
Husbands – Wives – Kids – Grannies – Uncles – Friends – Colleagues – Nations
Everyone AFFECTED – GAME-CHANGER – Breaks Hearts, Homes, Societies

Jesus: "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh' ? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." Matthew 19.4-6

YOUNG LOVERS THINK - AS SONG SAYS - THIS WILL LAST FOREVER
WANT FOREVER WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED - NO "piece of paper"

Marriage is MEANINGLESS Piece of PAPER

Those People can GIVE ZGC Meaningless Red Papers Mao / Green Franklins

e. Eve not Steve

They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised. Amen. Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

Romans 1.25-27

Paul describes DEVOLUTION of MAN > SINKING Deeper into Sin & Perversion
GOD GAVE THEM OVER – OVER to Consequences of their Heart-felt Choices
OVER to Principles of MORAL GRAVITY – Leaving God means Falling Down

WHY does PAUL CONCENTRATE on SEXUAL SINS? Visible? Painful? Tragic?

– Sex ONE OF GOD’S GREATEST GIFTS FOR MAN /

TO BE CELEBRATED IN THE CONFINES OF MARRIAGE

GREAT GIFT OF GOD IS TRASHED BY WICKED PEOPLE

The fact that we live in a society that can even conceive of—let alone defend—two men or two women entering a relationship and with wild inconceivability calling it marriage, shows that the collapse of our culture into debauchery and barbarism and anarchy is probably not far away.

John Piper

KEY IDEA – UNNATURALNESS OF SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS

UNDERSTAND HOW PEOPLE WITHOUT SCRIPTURE PRACTICE SEXUAL
IMMORALITY –SEEMS Natural – Popular Song asks Question of Immorality

“How could it be wrong, when it FEELS SO RIGHT?”

BUT EVEN NATURE TEACHES THE ABSURDITY OF HOMOSEXUALITY

Grotesque Distortion of Obvious DESIGN of Human Body / Defies Creation

"Gay marriage" is an oxymoron. Marriage is a conjugal union of one man and one woman, so how can marriage be between two people of the same sex. Charles Colson

MODERN DISTINCTION btwn Sexual Orientation and Practice / Foreign to Bible

BORN – Gay? – Born SINNERS AND CHRIST HAS COME TO SET US FREE

HOMOSEXUAL Partnership – No matter how Loving and Committed

AGAINST NATURE, SCRIPTURE, AND GOD’S BEST FOR MAN & WOMAN

“AIDS a vague sort of retribution, an Old Testament style revenge... AIDS pushes monogamy right back up there on the priority list” TIME

HOPELESS SITUATION? – “Gone Cases?”

JOHN NEWTON – Slave trader, who himself became a Slave, wrote “Amazing Grace” – Anglican pastor and preacher – Chaplain to Queen of England

“I have never despaired for any man since God saved me” John Newton

ONLY REMEDY FOR EVIL IN GOD’S UNIVERSE IS JESUS CHRIST

f. Renewed by Redemption

ALL of us FALLEN Short of God’s Perfect Standards – Married & Single

FAILED as Men & Women and Husbands & Wives / Words, Thoughts, Deeds

NT Marriage Restored in Jesus > Only by Grace can you Fulfill High Calling

...be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Ephesians 5.18-21

Genesis 2

18. The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

19. Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.

20. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found.

21. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh.

22. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

23. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

24. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

25. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.