

Dear Brother,

Thanks for your good letter and questions.

hello Pastor Blair, I hope you are doing well. I'm a ...student at...University.... I have two questions that I would like to have an answer. 1) What do you think about polygamy, is it biblical or not ./ "we see Genesis 2 that God had created Eve for Adam, which leaves us to believe in the monogamy, but in the biblical current we see that no one quotes Abraham, Moise, David, Solomon .. were all polygamous according to the will of God. Despite the verse of Genesis 2vs24 "and even in the Leviticus it is not mentioned at all "That said, should we condemn polygamy? or is it that living polygamy or monogamy is just a matter of conviction according to in relation and communion with God!

You might know that my wife and I lived in Uganda for 8 years during the 1980's. While there we were teaching pastors for the Church of Uganda (Anglican). We not only taught we also learned much – especially about things we did not encounter in USA, like polygamy. Many of the Christians we became friends with, including some of the pastors, were/are polygamists. So we had to think a lot about this subject...!

Here are the summary points of my opinion (which is just that, MY opinion...only the Bible is TOTAL TRUTH!)

1. God created woman/marriage to help the man better serve God through meeting his needs socially, spiritually, and sexually. Together they are “one” in their walk with God and service for God.
2. The divine pattern was one man for one woman for life. Jesus endorsed this pattern as God's timeless ideal. (Matthew 19, quoting Genesis 2)
3. The Bible is a divinely accurate NARRATIVE, but it is not all NORMATIVE. It tells us many things that happened in the lives of people in relationship with God, but not all those things are good, or endorsed.
4. Clear moral guidance, about marriage for example, is gained from the teaching parts of the Bible, not the narrative of people's behavior.
5. God deals with people in Scripture and in life by grace and mercy. Flawed people are loved and forgiven by God. Their sins are not 'endorsed' or recommended as 'models.' Indeed, many narratives show the damaging consequences of people's sinful choices. But despite their big mistakes, Abraham was a 'friend of God,' David was 'a man after God's heart,' and Peter was the Apostle to the Jews.
6. Polygamy is practiced by many 'Bible heroes' but it is not endorsed or approved. Rather, the Bible just 'tells it like it is.'
7. The Bible's ideal for marriage is one man for one woman for life.

Let me share a couple of websites from Africa that you might find helpful. Unfortunately, they don't have many articles on polygamy, I wish there were more.

The Gospel Coalition is a world-wide group of pastors who are committed to Scripture and service. Here is their Africa ENGLISH site:

<https://africa.thegospelcoalition.org/>

Gospel Coalition FRENCH site:

<https://evangile21.thegospelcoalition.org/>

Another good site about church/theology in Africa is

<https://aeafrica.org/>

Here are a couple articles about polygamy from Gospel Coalition ENGLISH...

<https://africa.thegospelcoalition.org/article/christian-marriage-africa-asb/>

<https://africa.thegospelcoalition.org/article/metoo-misses-concerning-jesus/>

Here is a Master's Thesis that address' polygamy in Africa pastorally <https://rts.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/201302-Schlehlein-Paul.pdf>

Here is another site with articles about polygamy:

<https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/search-results.php?q=polygamy>

Here is a helpful article on whether to baptize polygamists

https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/ajet/34-1_035.pdf

2) Romans 1 v 24 we talk about some of the terrible sexual practices between men and women, Leviticus 18 - 19 also make mention to us in the prescriptions of the law .. on this basis are there any sexual practices abolish for two married people? as the only one often described as pagan .. been all the related practices or conjugal bed are just a matter of conviction .. "since the apostle's Paul mentions" That he has nothing impure but however one thing is unpleasant for those who believe it unpleasant "...

If I understand you correctly you are asking if the husband and wife have any 'sex rules' guiding their married life? The Bible emphasizes that the marriage bed should be honored: "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 The Bible does not offer sexual technique for married (man and woman) couples. Instead, the sex act is described as 'love' and 'serving' – so whatever happens in the privacy of the marriage bedroom should be an expression of serving love for the other. The Bible's emphasis is on giving, not on getting. So, there should be open and honest talk about what is pleasant, positive, and encouraging for one another. And those specific details are the private business of each couple as an expression of their trust and love for one another.

Hope this is helpful.

Blessings to you, Pastor Mark