

## **God's Design of Marriage** **Hebrews 13:4 (NKJV)**

4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

There are a number of different world views competing in our world today. Most of the new comers are opposed to almost everything that Christianity promotes. Especially in the area of morality there are dissension. When you remove God from whom all law and morality flows the sky is the limit.

The teaching of evolution has infiltrated and now controls almost all world views outside of Christianity.

The difference between the way the Christian sees marriage and the secular humanist is that the Christian sees marriage as a God given institution and the secular humanist says there is no God and marriage is what the society has decided.

In that case, if society has created marriage and defined it, they can change it as the society desires. That is the basic battle over marriage. It boils down to do you believe in God or not.

We are fast approaching a lawless society where most of the things that were once thought wrong are openly practiced and some promoted by our society and enforced by government.

You can stand on the floor of the Senate and just plain lie and later say well it worked didn't it. Or you can avoid answering questions by saying, "At this point what difference does it make." how come I never thought of that one when I was a kid. Or you can cause a federal agency to persecute in a real way their political opponents and then just have all the evidence disappear. Or you can destroy thousands of federal documents, take bribes and kickbacks and then use the money to run for president. And most people do not care. We are approaching a day of lawlessness. One of the titles of the Anti-Christ is "the lawless one" 2 Thess 2:8-9.

And since the law is no longer based in the "laws of nature and nature's God" we are able to fashion it as a character in a wax museum.

The government sees marriage as a civil contract governed by the laws of the state. The Bible sees marriage as a covenant instituted before God and is not dissolvable by man or man's governments.

As we saw last week Jesus said that whoever divorces his wife except for sexual immorality and marries another commits adultery. They thought that if they received a lawful divorce they were free to marry again, but Jesus said no. Remember God may allows things that he is not pleased with in this old world.

But God designed marriage for a several purposes. Let us consider what they are today.

And then let us compare that to what is being offered today as a better way.

And then let us do all that we can to defend and uphold God's plan for mankind.

- I. God has established marriage, as we find it in the Bible, for all people for all time.
  - A. The normal relationship for the home throughout history has been a father, mother and their children.
    - 1. This was what made the Roman and Greek empires so great.
    - 2. They had at the foundation of their society traditional marriage.
    - 3. But it is almost a universal truth accepted in almost every society that the family of father, mother and children are the normal and successful pattern.
  - B. There are some truths that are self evident.
    - 1. More than we are endowed by our creator with certain unalienable rights.
    - 2. I propose to you that Biblical marriage is a self evident truth.
    - 3. It is a truth that is so obvious that it needs no proof.
    - 4. It works so well that it does not need to be re-engineered.
  - C. For many people the very idea that we would go to the Bible to find a universal truth that is true for all people for all time is in itself a colossal error.
- II. The marriage bed is undefiled
  - A. God created Adam and Eve with sexual desires.
    - 1. Sex is not wrong in marriage but everywhere else it is wrong.
  - B. Part of the design for marriage is children.
    - 1. Even before the fall God had told them to be fruitful and multiply.
    - 2. The natural desire for most people is to be married and have children.
  - C. It is only when we try to satisfy that sexual desire outside of marriage that we get into trouble.
    - 1. In Leviticus chapter 18 and chapter 20 there are list of almost every possible forbidden encounter.
- III. God desires godly offspring.
  - A. Malachi 2:13-15 (NKJV) 13 And this is the second thing you do: You cover the altar of the LORD with tears, With weeping and crying; So He does not regard the offering anymore, Nor receive it with goodwill from your hands. 14 Yet you say, "For what reason?" Because the LORD has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, With whom you have dealt treacherously; Yet she is your companion And your wife by covenant. 15 But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth.

- B. That passage seems to indicate that outside of marriage we are going to receive ungodly offspring.
- IV. There is a judgement of God for those who operate outside Biblical marriage.
  - A. But fornicators and adulterers God will judge.
    - 1. In these two words every sexual perversion of God's plan is covered.
    - 2. There are lists and list of the sexual sins so that there is not confusion.
  - B. There is no sin beyond God's grace for those who repent and put their trust in Jesus.
  - C. As I said last week we are all sinners.
  - D. We all have a tendency toward sin.
  - E. But to destroy the institution of marriage to justify sexual perversion is a high price to pay.
  - F. Our children and grand children will be the ones who will suffer for our sins.
  - G. Let us do what we can to fight against these things.