



Marriage from the Beginning

Gen 1:26-27



Creation Reveals the Greatness of God

- ▶ Man is the pinnacle of God's creation
- ▶ Including male and female
- ▶ It is very good! Gen 1:31
- ▶ Gender may be the best of what we are.



Male and Female

- ▶ Purpose in Creation

- ▶ Male Gen 2:15

Gen 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.



Male and Female

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 - ▶ Male Gen 2:15
 - ▶ Female Gen 2:18

Gen 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him."



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 - ▶ Male Gen 2:15
 - ▶ Female Gen 2:18
- ▶ Because of sin gender roles were modified
 - ▶ Female Gen 3:16

Gen 3:16 To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you."



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 - ▶ Male Gen 3:17-19
- ▶ **Gen 3:17-19** Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life. (18) "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you will eat the plants of the field; (19) By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."



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 - ▶ Females Tit 2:4-5; Eph 6:22

Tit 2:4-5encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, (5) *to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.*



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Eph 5:22 Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

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1 Tim 5:8 *But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*



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Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,



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Eph 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.



Appropriateness of the Assigned Roles

- Innate behavioral differences between males and females
 - Males are more aggressive
 - Females are more verbal
- Two leadership roles in every small group (Parsons and Bales)
 - Task leader
 - Socioemotional leader
 - Which is more important in a family?



From the Beginning Marriage is a Three-Fold Act

Marriage is a Three-Fold Act

Gen 2:18-25 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him." (19) Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. (20) The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him. (21) So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. (22) The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and 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, Because she was taken out of Man." (24) For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. (25) And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

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Marriage is a Three-Fold Act

- ▶ This statement **reveals the three-fold nature of marriage**: Leave-legal-wedlock. Cleave- affectional-love. One flesh-physical-sex
- ▶ Leave, a legal public act
- ▶ Cleave-personal love
- ▶ One flesh- total union, heart and body
- ▶ Marriage is a blessing Eccl 9:9; Prov 5:18; Prov 18:22; Jer 29:11

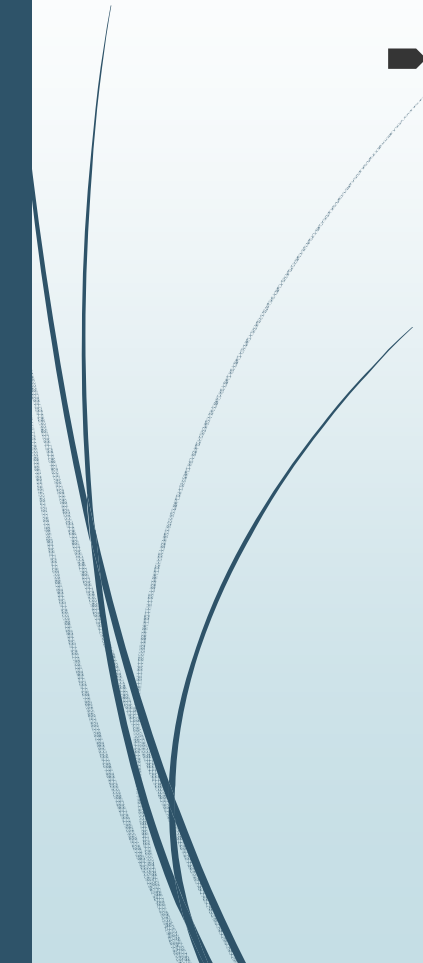


A Godly Marriage Is a Joy

Ecclesiastes 9:9 Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun.



A Godly Marriage Is a Blessing

- ▶ *Psa 128:3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine Within your house, Your children like olive plants Around your table.*
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It Is a Joy and A Blessing Because it is God's Plan

- It is good and it works for our good!
- *Jer 29:11 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.*
- So too does the Plan of Salvation