



Decade of Availability God's View of Marriage

"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled..." says *Hebrews 13:4*. However that which is honorable is now being challenged as 'marriage' is

being redefined to include 'same-sex marriage' in every state and probably soon, from the highest court in the land.

Isaiah said (*Isa 5:20*):

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil;
That put darkness for light, and light for darkness;
That put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

A. God's View of Marriage

Biblical marriage is a life-long union between one man and one woman. Moses, Jesus and Paul all declare this truth!

1. Leave and cleave: *Matt 9:5; Gen 2:24; Eph 5:31* "Leave and cleave" form the 'covenant' nature of marriage. It is to sever one loyalty and commence another.

2. Become one: A man by himself is not one flesh nor a woman by herself is not one flesh. Neither are two women or two men. **To become one...**

...is first physical where the marriage vow declares the power of a 'blood' relationship and sanctifies the marriage bed between a man and a woman.

...is second spiritual/covenantal. *Matt 19:6* makes it clear that it is GOD who does the joining...Literal Greek: To be joined (yoked) together. I can't yoke myself to someone!

...is a picture of the Church. In *Ephesians 5* God uses the marriage as an example of the relationship between the Church (the Bride of Christ) and her beloved (the Messiah).

B. Redefinition of Marriage

1. New normal or abnormal? Making same-sex marriage equivalent to heterosexual marriage is calling evil good in a most offensive and destructive manner. *Isa 5:20*

2. Evolving or devolving? Many are changing their view on same-sex marriage claiming they have 'evolved.'

3. Is 'gay' the new 'black'? Many want to claim that this is a civil rights fight. However, race cannot be compared to homosexuality since there is no way to test for being gay. It's simply self-proclaimed.

4. Is 'gender' now neutral? Same-sex marriage means that sex (gender) no longer matters for society's most important institution, so it no longer matters in general. Men and women as distinct entities will no longer have significance. Changing what it means to be made in the image of God.

C. How To Stand for Biblical Marriage

1. We are the salt of the earth: *Matt 5:13* As salt we are OUT OF STEP with the values of the world and in step with the values of God.

2. Walk in *Hebrews 13:1-6* Love fellow believers, love strangers, love prisoners, honor marriage, don't love money and let God be the judge.

Compassion without affirming ungodly behavior!

Matthew 19:4-6 (KJV)

4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,

5 And said, **For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?**

6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. **What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.**

Genesis 2:18-25 (KJV)

18 And the LORD God said, **It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.**

19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam 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 **Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.**

25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Ephesians 5:30-33 (KJV)

30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31 **For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.**

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.