#### **MARRIAGE**

# WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MARRIAGE? BY HAROLD HARSTVEDT

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#### **QUESTIONS**

WHERE DID MARRIAGE ORIGINATE?
WHO GAVE MAN THE LAW OF MARRIAGE?
HOW DID GOD DEFINE MARRIAGE?
WHY SHOULD MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER?
WHO JOINED THEM TOGETHER?
WHAT DID THEY BECOME?
WHAT IS THIS UNION CALLED?
WHY DID GOD GIVE MAN A LAW OF MARRIAGE?

DID MOSES CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE? DID JESUS CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE? DID PAUL CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?

CAN MAN CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE? IS GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE BINDING TODAY?

WHAT IS THE ANALOGY OF MARRIAGE AND THE CHURCH?
WILL THERE BE MARRIAGE IN HEAVEN?

#### WHERE DID MARRIAGE ORIGINATE?

#### **MATTHEW 19:3-6**

- The Pharisees came to Jesus Testing Him And Saying to Him Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?
- 4 Jesus answered and said to them Have you not read That He who made them at the beginning Made them male and female.

#### WHAT DID THE PHARISEES ASK JESUS?

**HOW DID JESUS RESPOND?** 

WHY DID JESUS GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING?

**HOW DID GOD MAKE MAN?** 

#### **HOW DID THE LORD DEFINE MARRIAGE?**

#### **MATTHEW 19:3-6**

- For this reason a man shall Leave his father and mother And Be joined to his wife and The two shall become one flesh?
- So then They are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore What God has joined together Let not man separate. NKJV

WHY SHOULD A MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER?
WHO DID GOD JOIN TOGETHER?
WHAT DID THEY BECOME?
WHAT IS THIS UNION CALLED?
MARRIAGE?
WHAT DID GOD COMMAND MAN NOT TO DO?

#### WHAT DID GOD DO IN THE BEGINNING?

#### **GENESIS 1:26-28**

- God said Let Us make man in Our image According to Our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.
- 27 God created man in His own image In the image of God He created him. Male and female He created them.
- God blessed them and God said to them Be fruitful and Multiply. Fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth. (NKJ)

WHAT DID GOD SAY?
HOW DID GOD CREATE MAN?
WHAT DID GOD TELL THEM TO DO?

#### WHY DID GOD MAKE WOMAN?

#### **GENESIS 2:18-22**

- The LORD God said It is not good that man should be alone. I will make him A helper comparable to him.
- The LORD God Caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam and he slept. He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.

  The rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman and He brought her to the man.

WHAT DID THE LORD GOD SAY CONCERNING MAN?
WHAT DID THE LORD GOD MAKE FOR MAN?
HOW DID THE LORD GOD MAKE WOMAN?
WHAT DID THE LORD GOD DO WITH THE WOMAN?

#### WHY SHOULD A MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER?

#### **GENESIS 2:23-25**

- 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.
- Therefore A man shall Leave his father and mother and Be joined to his wife And They shall become one flesh.
- They were both naked The man and his wife and They were not ashamed. (NKJ)

WHAT DID ADAM CALL HIS HELPER?
WHAT DID THE LORD GOD SAY TO MAN?
WHY SHOULD MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER?
WHAT DID THEY BECOME?
WHAT IS THIS UNION CALLED?

IS THIS GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?

#### WHAT DID THE LORD GOD SAY TO THE WOMAN?

#### **GENESIS 3:16**

To the woman He said: I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception. In pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband and He shall rule over you. (NKJ)

## WHAT DID GOD SAY TO THE WOMAN? WHO DID GOD MAKE THE HEAD OF THIS FAMILY? WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

DOES MAN HAVE AUTHORITY
TO CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?

#### WHAT DID MOSES SAY CONCERNING MARRIAGE?

#### **EXODUS 34:14-16**

- 14 You shall worship no other god For the LORD Whose name is Jealous is a jealous God:
- Lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land And They play the harlot with their gods And Make sacrifice to their gods and One of them invites you and You eat of his sacrifice,
- 16 And You take of his daughters for your sons And His daughters play the harlot with their gods And make your sons play the harlot with their gods.

WHAT DID GOD SAY TO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL? WHAT WILL THIS CAUSE THEIR CHILDREN TO DO?

#### WHAT DID MOSES SAY CONCERNING MARRIAGE?

#### **DEUTERONOMY 7:2-4**

- When the LORD God delivers them over to you. You shall conquer them And Utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them Nor Show mercy to them.
- Nor Shall you make marriages with them. You shall NOT give your daughter to their son NOR Take their daughter for your son.
- For They will turn your sons away from following Me To serve other gods. And The anger of the LORD will be aroused against you And Destroy you suddenly.

# WHAT DID THE LORD GOD COMMAND ISRAEL TO DO? WHY UTTERLY DESTROY THEM? WHY NOT MAKE MARRIAGES WITH THEM?

#### WHAT DID MOSES SAY CONCERNING MARRIAGE?

#### **LEVITICUS 21:7**

7 They (Priests) shall not take a wife Who is a Harlot Or A defiled woman Nor Shall they take A woman divorced from her husband. For The priest is holy to his God.

#### **LEVITICUS 21:13-14**

- 13 The priest shall take a wife in her virginity.
- 14 A widow Or a divorced woman Or a defiled woman Or a harlot These He shall not marry. But He shall take A virgin of his own people as wife. (NKJ)

WHO DID THE LORD GOD TELL THE PRIESTS NOT TO MARRY?

WHO DID THE LORD GOD TELL PRIESTS TO MARRY?

WHY?

#### **EZRA 9:1-2**

- The leaders came to me, Saying The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have NOT separated themselves from the peoples of the lands with respect to the abominations of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians and the Amorites.
- They have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons. So that The Holy Seed Is mixed with the peoples of those lands. Indeed the hand of the leaders and rulers Has been foremost in this trespass. (NKJ)

WHO WERE THESE PEOPLE OF THE LAND?
WHAT HAD THE ISRAELITES DONE?
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HOLY SEED?

HOW DID GOD PROTECT THE HOLY SEED? IN MARRIAGE? HOW DID ISREAL CORRUPT THE HOLY SEED? IN MARRIAGE?

#### **MALACHI 2:15**

Did He not make them One having a remnant of the Spirit? Why One? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth.

WHO MADE THEM ONE? WHEN?

HOW DID THE LORD GOD MAKE THEM ONE? IN MARRIAGE?

WHY DID THE LORD GOD MAKE THEM ONE?

#### WHAT DID MATTHEW SAY CONCERNING JOSEPH AND MARY?

#### **MATTHEW 1:18-20**

- 18 The birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph Before they came together She was found with child of the Holy Spirit.
- Joseph her husband Being a just man And Not wanting to make her a public example Was minded to put her away secretly.
- While he thought about these things. Behold an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream Saying Joseph Son of David Do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife For That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

**UNDER WHAT LAW WAS MARY BETROTHED TO JOSEPH?** 

WHAT WAS JOSEPH GOING TO DO?

**DIVORCE HER?** 

#### WHAT DID MATTHEW SAY CONCERNING JOSEPH AND MARY?

#### **MATTHEW 1:21-25**

- 21 She will bring forth a Son And You shall call His name Jesus For He will save His people from their sins.
- All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet Saying:
- Behold The virgin shall be with child And bear a Son. They shall call His name Immanuel which is translated God with us.
- Joseph Being aroused from sleep Did as the angel of the Lord commanded him And Took to him his wife.
- 25 And Did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And He called His name Jesus. (NKJ)

HOW DID JOSEPH RESPOND TO WHAT THE ANGEL TOLD HIM?

**HOW DID JOSEPH HONOR GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?** 

#### **MATTHEW 19:3-4**

- The Pharisees came to Jesus Testing Him And Saying to Him Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?
- 4 Jesus answered and said to them Have you not read That He who made them at the beginning Made them male and female.

WHAT DID THE PHARISEES ASK JESUS?
HOW DID JESUS RESPOND?
WHY DID JESUS GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING?
WHEN DID GOD GIVE THE LAW OF MARRIAGE?

#### **MATTHEW 19:5-6**

For this reason a man shall Leave his father and mother And Be joined to his wife And The two shall become one flesh?

So then They are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore What God has joined together Let not man separate. NKJV

HOW DID JESUS DEFINE MARRIAGE?
WHY SHOULD A MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER?
WHO DID GOD JOIN TOGETHER?
WHAT DID THE BECOME?
WHAT IS THIS UNION CALLED?
MARRIAGE?
WHAT DID GOD COMMAND ALL MEN?

#### **MARK 10:2-6**

- The Pharisees came and asked Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" testing Him.
- 3 And He answered and said to them, "What did Moses command you?"
- They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to dismiss her."
- 5 And Jesus answered and said to them, "Because of the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept.
- 6 But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.'

WHAT DID THE PHARISEES ASK JESUS?
WHAT DID JESUS ASK THEM?
HOW DID THEY RESPOND?
WHAT DID JESUS REPLY?
WHY DID JESUS GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING?

#### **HOW DID JESUS DEFINE MARRIAGE?**

#### **MARK 10:7-9**

- 7 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,
- and the two shall become one flesh'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh.
- 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate." NKJV

WHY SHOULD A MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER?
WHO DID GOD JOIN TOGETHER?
WHAT DID THE BECOME?
WHAT IS THIS UNION CALLED?
MARRIAGE?
WHAT DID GOD COMMAND ALL MEN?
DID JESUS CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?

#### **ROMANS 7:1-3**

- 1 Do you not know Brethren (I speak to those who know the law) That The law has dominion over a man As long as he lives?
- The woman who has a husband Is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But If the husband dies She is released from the law of her husband.
- So then If While her husband lives She marries another man She will be called an adulteress. But If her husband dies She is free from that law. So that She is no adulteress though She has married another man.

HOW LONG IS A MAN BOUND BY THE LAW?
HOW LONG IS WOMAN BOUND TO HER HUSBAND?
BY WHAT LAW IS A WOMAN BOUND TO HER HUSBAND?

**GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?** 

WHEN IS SHE FREE FROM THAT LAW?
WHAT HAPPENS IF SHE MARRIES WHILE HER HUSBAND LIVES?
WHAT IS SHE FREE TO DO WHEN HER HUSBAND DIES?

#### **1 CORINTHIANS 7:10-11**

- 10 To the married I command Yet not I but the Lord: A wife Is not to depart from her husband.
- 11 But Even if she does depart Let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband. A husband is not to divorce his wife.

WHO IS PAUL SPEAKING TO?

IS PAUL SPEAKING BY COMMANDMENT HERE?

WHAT DID THE LORD COMMAND THE WIFE?

IF SHE DEPARTS, CAN SHE MARRY AGAIN?

WHY SHOULD SHE REMAIN UNMARRIED?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE RECONCILED?

WHAT DID THE LORD COMMAND THE HUSBAND?

#### **1 CORINTHIANS 7:12-14**

- 12 But To the rest I say (NOT the Lord). If Any brother has a wife Who does not believe and She is willing to live with him Let him not divorce her.
- 13 If A woman has a husband Who does not believe and He is willing to live with her Let her not divorce him.
- 14 For The unbelieving husband Is sanctified by the wife and The unbelieving wife Is sanctified by the husband. Otherwise Your children would be unclean But Now They are holy.

WHO IS PAUL SPEAKING TO? CHRISTIANS?
IS PAUL SPEAKING BY COMMANDMENT HERE?
WHAT SHOULD A BROTHER DO WITH HIS UNBELIEVING WIFE?
WHAT SHOULD A SISTER DO WITH HER UNBELIEVING HUSBAND?
HOW IS THE UNBELIEVER SANCTIFIED? IN MARRIAGE?
HOW WOULD THE CHILDREN BE MADE UNCLEAN? DIVORCE?
HOW WERE THE CHILDREN MADE HOLY? IN MARRIAGE?

#### **1 CORINTHIANS 7:15-16**

- 15 But If the unbeliever departs Let him depart. A brother or a sister Is NOT under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.
- 16 For How do you know O wife Whether you will save your husband? Or How do you know O husband Whether you will save your wife? (NKJ)

WHO IS PAUL SPEAKING TO? CHRISTIANS?
IS PAUL SPEAKING BY COMMANDMENT HERE?
WHO IS DEPARTING? UNBELIEVER?
WHO IS NOT UNDER BONDAGE? THE CHRISTIAN?
WHY?

HOW CAN A CHRISTIAN SAVE THEIR SPOUSE?
KEEPING THE MARRIAGE SANCTIFIED?

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 7:39

A wife is bound by law As long as her husband lives. But If her husband dies She is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes Only in the Lord.

HOW LONG IS THE WIFE BOUND BY THE LAW TO HER HUSBAND?

BY WHAT LAW IS THE WIFE BOUND TO HER HUSBAND?

GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?

WHEN IS SHE AT LIBERTY TO MARRY AGAIN?

IF HER HUSBAND DIES?

WHO IS SHE FREE TO MARRY? WHY, ONLY IN THE LORD?

#### WHY, ONLY IN THE LORD? 2 CORINTHIANS 6:14-15

- 14 DO NOT Be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For What fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And What communion has light with darkness?
- 15 And What accord has Christ with Belial? Or What part has a believer with an unbeliever?

WHO IS PAUL SPEAKING TO? CHRISTIANS?
WHAT IS PAUL TELLING THEM NOT TO DO?
DO NOT MARRY UNBELIEVERS?

HOW IS ONE UNEQUALLY YOKED? IN MARRIAGE? WHAT IS THE ANALOGY OF BEING UNEQUALLY YOKED?

#### WHY, ONLY IN THE LORD?

**2 CORINTHIANS 6:16-17** 

- And What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For You are the temple of the living God. As God has said: I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God and They shall be My people.
- 17 Therefore Come out from among them and be separate Says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean and I will receive you.

WHAT IS THE TEMPLE OF GOD? BELIEVING CHRISTIANS?
WHERE DOES GOD DWELL? IN THEM?

WHAT DOES THE LORD WANT THEM TO DO?

**COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM?** 

HOW DOES ONE KEEP HIMSELF SEPARATE FROM THEM?

DO NOT MARRY THEM?

#### **HEBREWS 13:4**

4 Marriage is honorable among all And the bed undefiled. But fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

### WHAT DID GOD MAKE HONORABLE AMONG ALL MEN? MARRIAGE?

HOW IS THE BED UNDEFILED? IN MARRIAGE?

HOW IS THE BED DEFILED? BY FORNICATION AND ADULTERY?

WHO WILL GOD JUDGE?

#### **EPHESIANS 5:22-24**

- Wives submit to your own husbands as to the Lord.
- The husband is head of the wife as also Christ is head of the church And He is the Savior of the body.
- Just as the church is subject to Christ So let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

WHO IS PAUL SPEAKING TO? CHRISTIANS?
WHO ARE THE WIVES TO SUBMIT TO? THEIR HUSBAND?

WHO IS THE HEAD OF THE WIFE? THE HUSBAND?

WHO IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH? CHRIST?

HOW IS THE CHURCH SUBJECT TO CHRIST? IN MARRIAGE?

HOW IS THE WIFE SUBJECT TO HER HUSBAND? IN MARRIAGE?

#### **EPHESIANS 5:25-28**

- 25 Husbands Love your wives Just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her
- That He might sanctify and cleanse her With the washing of water by the word,
- That He might present her to Himself a glorious church Not Having spot or wrinkle or any such thing But That She should be Holy and Without Blemish.
- 28 So Husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. (NKJ)

WHAT IS THE HUSBAND COMMANDED TO DO? LOVE HIS WIFE?
HOW MUCH DID CHRIST LOVE THE CHURCH?
HOW DID CHRIST SANCTIFY THE CHURCH?
THRU HIS DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION?
HOW IS THE CHURCH MADE HOLY? IN CHRIST?
HOW IS HUSBAND AND WIFE MADE HOLY? IN MARRIAGE?

#### 2 CORINTHIANS 11:2

I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. I have betrothed you to one husband That I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

WHO IS BETROTHED TO CHRIST? HIS CHURCH?

WHO IS THE HUSBAND? CHRIST?

WHO IS THE CHASTE VIRGIN?

HIS CHURCH?

HOW MANY BRIDES DOES CHRIST HAVE? ONE?

HOW IS THIS LIKE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?
ONE HUSBAND? ONE WIFE? ONE CHURCH?

#### **REVELATION 19:7**

7 Let us be glad and Rejoice and Give Him glory. The marriage of the Lamb has come And His wife has made herself ready.

#### **REVELATION 21:9**

9 ....Come I will show you the bride The Lamb's wife. (NKJ)

WHAT IS THIS MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP?

SPIRITUAL MARRIAGE TO THE LAMB OF GOD?

WHO IS THE HUSBAND? CHRIST?

WHAT IS THE LAMB'S BRIDE (WIFE)? THE CHURCH?

HOW MANY WIVES DOES THE LORD HAVE? ONE?

HOW IS THIS LIKE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?

ONE HUSBAND? ONE WIFE? ONE CHURCH?

#### WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT MARRIAGE?

LUKE: 20:34-36

(MATTHEW 22:29-30 MARK 12:24-25)

- Jesus said to them The sons of this age marry and Are given in marriage.
- 35 But Those who are counted worthy to attain that age and The resurrection from the dead, Neither marry Nor Are given in marriage;
- Nor Can they die anymore For They are equal to the angels and Are sons of God Being sons of the resurrection.

IS THERE MARRIAGE IN HEAVEN? NO?
WHY NOT?
WHO ARE THE SONS OF GOD? CHRISTIANS?
HOW DID THEY BECOME SONS OF GOD?

#### MARRIAGE SUMMARY

WHERE DID MARRIAGE ORIGINATE?
WHO GAVE MAN THE LAW OF MARRIAGE?
HOW DID GOD DEFINE MARRIAGE?
WHO DID GOD MAKE THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY?
WHY DID GOD GIVE MAN A LAW OF MARRIAGE?

WHAT DID MOSES SAY CONCERNING MARRIAGE? WHAT DID JESUS SAY CONCERNING MARRIAGE? WHAT DID PAUL SAY CONCERNING MARRIAGE?

DID MOSES, JESUS OR PAUL CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?
CAN ANY MAN CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE?

IS GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE BINDING TODAY?

WHAT IS THE ANALOGY OF MARRIAGE AND THE CHURCH?

WILL THERE BE MARRIAGE IN HEAVEN?

### MARRIAGE SUMMARY GOD GAVE THE LAW OF MARRIAGE IN THE BEGINNING

GOD CREATED THEM MALE AND FEMALE
GOD SAID IT WAS NOT GOOD THAT MAN SHOULD BE ALONE
MAN SHOULD LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER
TO BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE
GOD JOINED ADAM AND EVE TOGETHER
AND THEY BECAME ONE FLESH, HUSBAND AND WIFE, A FAMILY
THIS UNION IS CALLED MARRIAGE
GOD MADE THE HUSBAND THE HEAD OF THIS FAMILY

GOD GAVE THE LAW OF MARRIAGE TO KEEP THE SEED HOLY
BECAUSE HE SEEKS GODLY OFFSPRING

GOD COMMANDED HIS CHILDREN NOT TO MARRY HEATHENS
GOD COMMANDED PRIESTS TO MARRY ONLY VIRGINS

#### MARRIAGE SUMMARY

### JOSEPH WAS BETROTHED TO MARY ACCORDING TO GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE

MOSES DID NOT CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE
JESUS DID NOT CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE
PAUL DID NOT CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE
NO MAN HAS AUTHORITY TO CHANGE GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE

GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE IS A FORESHADOW
OF CHRIST AND THE CHURCH
JESUS IS HEAD OF THE CHURCH, HIS BRIDE
CHRISTIANS ARE A PART OF HIS SPIRITUAL FAMILY

GOD'S LAW OF MARRIAGE IS STILL IN EFFECT TODAY
THERE IS NO MARRIAGE IN HEAVEN

SEE FOLLOW-UP LESSON ON DIVORCE AND RE-MARRIAGE