

The Role and Responsibility of the Husband – Part 2

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I. The disappearance of the distinctively Christian home.

- A. Christ no longer rules and his truth no longer reigns.
- B. There is little area that needs exposure to truth than marriage and family relations.
- C. To many the Christian family has no longer become a life option because it has not been communicated.

II. Background on Genesis.

- A. Genesis 1-2: creation.
- B. A chapter division should come between Genesis 2:3 and Genesis 2:4.
- C. The text moves from the general to the specific by moving into the creation of man in the second section.
- D. The use of the name God changes.
 - 1. *Elohim* is used in the first section to emphasize God's power.
 - 2. *Jehovah* is used in the second section to emphasize God's personal nature and covenant keeping faithfulness.

III. Content of Genesis 1.

- A. In the image of God was created both male and female.
 - 1. There is no such thing as a human being apart from maleness or femaleness.
 - 2. We have a tragic blurring of roles in our society.
 - 3. We must do everything we can to be male or female in a society that no longer makes the distinction.
 - 4. If man could satisfy another man (homosexuality) then God would have never created woman.
- B. It was 'not good' that man should be alone.
 - 1. God said that.
 - 2. This is one of the most remarkable statements in Scriptures.

- a. Adam had a perfect environment, a creative genius, and even a relationship with God, but it still was ‘not good.’
- b. Personal example of speaker asking a student if he could get along without the person he intended to marry.
- c. Marriage is not the process of finding someone you can live with, but someone you cannot live without.
- d. Have you ever come to the place where you realize that you are desperately impoverished without your wife?—this makes a marriage that won’t quit.

C. God made Adam a ‘help-mate.’

- 1. The picture of the words is a mating call that goes out.
- 2. When the waiting call went out, there was no one to call back and meet his needs.
- 3. God creates a woman that completely answers all of man’s needs—one who meets his specifications completely.

D. “Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh.”

- 1. Adam immediately recognizes that this was what he was looking for.
- 2. The most literal translation is: Here now at last!
- 3. The basic problem is not with your marriage, the basic problem is with you.
- 4. Personal example of a woman who wanted a divorce but did not have legitimate reason for doing so.
- 5. If divorce is a live option, a hundred reasons come up to look for the fire escape.
- 6. The number one need in marriage is commitment.
- 7. Personal example of a student who came in with a list of all his wife’s problems, but was taken aback when asked how many of those were true of him.
- 8. We need to ask what our own problems are.
- 9. The partnership is only as strong as the persons comprising it.

IV. Four principles from Genesis 1.

A. Marriage and sex are of divine origin.

- 1. They are the product of divine intervention.
- 2. Grace perfects; sin perverts.

3. Taking sex out of the marriage bed is taking it out of its design.

- a. Hugh Hefner caricaturizes the Christian view of sex and destroys that view.
- b. People lack a biblical view of sex in the Scriptures.

B. Marriage and sex were given as gifts by God before sin entered.

1. They are not sin.

2. Many do not believe this emotionally.

- a. Personal example of a woman who was damaged emotionally by her parents' view of sex.
- b. If you are a parent, one of the greatest things you can do for your child is to display your affection for your spouse.

C. Reproduction is the normal but not the exclusive purpose of sex.

1. Threefold purpose of sex as designed by God.

a. Propagation (Gen 1:28).

- 1) God always advocates responsibility here.
- 2) Your responsibility before God in a marriage relationship is to understand that children are not a curse nor are they an accident.
- 3) God gives us children to help us grow up.
- 4) Children are a blessing (Psalm 127:3-5).
- 5) The speaker's ministry in his home is not apart from his other ministries—it is a part of it.
- 6) Ministering to the family extends ministry through them.

2. To prevent fornication (1 Corinthians 7:2-5)

- a. In the preceding context Paul discusses the negative; do not prostitute your body.
- b. Paul then proceeds to talk about a prohibition against fornication (not sex).
- c. Because of a fornicatious [sic] society, let each man have his own wife and each wife have her own husband.
- d. Speaks of conjugal rights.

- 1) No reference to children here.

- 2) You must have a magnet in your own marriage.
 - 3) Your greatest attraction should be on the inside of your home.
 - 4) You have a responsibility to be a magnet to your mate.
3. To promote mutual love (Hebrews 13:4).
- a. Both the illegitimate and legitimate use of sex.
 - 1) Legitimate within and illegitimate without.
 - 2) Intercourse is a visual aid of the one-flesh commitment (Genesis 2:24).
 - 3) The physical merely portrays the spiritual relationship that God has called us to.
4. One relationship must be broken before another relationship can be established (Genesis 2:24).
- a. Leave father and mother.
 - 1) We still have responsibility to our parents, but the relationship changes.
 - 2) Do not do things for your child that he can do for himself, otherwise you will make the relationship harder to sever.
 - 3) Do everything you can to make it easier for your children to leave so that they can cleave.
 - b. Cleave to your wife.
 - 1) This is an unbreakable weld.
 - 2) To cleave you must first leave.
 - 3) The average student on the college campus carries his umbilical chord around looking for a place to plug it in.
 - 4) Most psychological problems today come from either a failure to cleave or a failure to leave.