

GOD'S SIMPLE MARRIAGE RULE

Gen. 2:18-24

Introduction:

- A. God's will on marriage is as basic as creation itself.
- B. God's will on marriage needs to be considered from two angles:
 - 1. His basic rule for marriage.
 - 2. His rules for maintaining marriage.

Discussion:

II. God's Basic Rule Of Marriage.

- A. One woman for one man for life. (Rom. 7:1-3; Matt. 19:3-6).
- B. Exception to this rule have been granted.
 - 1. Without Divine Approval.
 - a. By Moses. (Matt. 19:8; cf. Mal. 2:16)
 - b. By Many Moderns - in and out of the church.
 - 2. With Divine Approval - Twice stated by Jesus - only one with right to make exception (cf. Matt. 18:20)
 - (1) Matt. 5:31, 32.
 - (a) Either causes or makes her an adulteress by temptation placed on her.
 - (b) Or "makes her an adulteress" in sense of "making Him a liar" (cf. 1 John 1:9)
 - (c) In either case, the second marriage is adultery without the exception.
 - (2) Matt. 19:1-9.
 - (a) Question nor answer is not hard to understand.
 - (b) Application may be hard on some. (cf. v.12).
- C. After men have given all their reasons to the contrary, there is still only three kinds of people who can be marry with it being adultery:
 - 1. One who has never been married.
 - 2. One who has been married, lost partner to death.
 - 3. **An innocent party who has divorced a partner for fornication".**

III. God's Basic Rules For a Good Marriage.

- A. **Love.**
 - 1. Not Soap Opera or fairy tale variety.
 - 2. But, real love that can be taught, learned and cultivated. (Eph. 5:25; Col. 3:19; Tit. 2:4)
 - 3. Love demonstrated by deeds. (1 Cor. 13:4-7; 1 John 3:18)
- B. **Peace.**
 - 1. Wedding ring shouldn't be symbol of fighting ring. (cf. Prov. 21:19; 25:24)
 - 2. Wedding bells should not signal beginning of round one.
 - 3. Wedding ceremonies can be followed by peace if:
 - a. Will not let disagreements degenerate into strife. (cf. take a walk)
 - b. Will work for peace. (Not 50-50, but 75-75 proposition)
 - c. Will resist outside agitation of family and friends. ("Leave & Cleave")

C. **Consideration.**

1. Make role of partner easy to fulfil.
 - a. Wives make it easy for husband.
 - (1) To rule his house. (Eph. 5:25; 1 Tim. 3:5)
 - (2) To be a breadwinner. (1 Tim. 5:8)
 - b. Husbands make easy for wife.
 - (1) To submit and obey. (1 Pet. 3:7; Eph. 5:28)
 - (2) To be a keeper at home. (Tit. 2:5)
 - c. Each makes other's parental role easy.
2. Attend to partners's basic needs. (1 Cor. 7:1-5).
 - a. Failure results in, but no excuse for infidelity and broken marriages.
 - b. Failure often caused by being too busy with other things.

D. **Spirituality.**

1. Mutual respect for God and His will makes a good marriage.
2. Bible re-enforces marital responsibility with spiritual motives.
 - a. Peace because GOD has called us to peace. (1 Cor. 7:15).
 - b. Love and submit like CHRIST and THE CHURCH. (Eph. 5)
 - c. Behave lest WORD OF GOD be blasphemed. (Tit. 2:5).
 - d. Behave because it is a great price in GOD's sight. (1 Pet. 3:4)
 - e. Behave lest PRAYERS be hindered. (1 Pet. 5:7)

Conclusion:

- E. God has spoken on marriage.
- F. "Let God be true, and every man a liar".
- G. Let us be governed by what Bible says, not by what our emotions would like for it to say.