Marriage 1 Kings 11:1-13

Introduction:

A. King Solomon's marriage experience proved to be costly to himself and his kingdom.

B. King Solomon's marriage experience should encourage us to study marriage from all angles.

Discussion:

II. Its Design.

- A. To include one male and one female. (Matt. 19:4-5).
- B. To provide happiness on earth.
 - 1. Suitable companionship. (Gen. 2:18)
 - 2. Honorable Sexual intimacy (1 Cor. 7:1-4; Heb. 13:4)
- C. To provide honorable procreation. (Gen. 1:26-27).

III. Its Duration.

- A. Until one dies the general rule. (Rom. 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 7:39)
- B. Until one divorces for fornication one God-ordained exception. (Matt. 5:32; 19:9)

IV. Its Development.

- A. Through Biblical love. (Eph. 5:25; Tit. 2:4;1 John 3:18)
- B. Through *peacefulness*. (cf. Prov. 21:19; 25:24; "take a walk", "75-75"; "leave & cleave")
- C. Through *mutual respect*. (1 Cor. 7:3-5; 1 Pet 3:5-7).
- D. Through spiritual mindedness.
 - 1. Relate marriage to God, Christ and the church. (1 Cor. 7:15; Eph. 5; Tit. 2:5; 1 Pet. 3:4)
 - 2. Relate marriage conduct to prayer. (1 Pet. 5:7)

V. Its Dangers.

- A. Danger of passion, emotions, physical attraction overriding Biblical knowledge and sound judgment.
- B. Danger of ill-timed or unwise marriage.
 - 1. If during a "present distress". (1 Cor. 7:25-28).
 - 2. If emotionally, intellectually or financially unprepared.
- C. Danger of marrying anyone other than a faithful Christian.
 - 1. Potential life-time of conflict or compromise.
 - a. Solomon and Israel's compromise. (Neh. 13:23-26).
 - b. May become *unequal* yoke. (2 Cor. 6:14-18).
 - 2. As Christian grows has less in common with non-Christian.

VI. Its Divorce.

- A. Impact on couple themselves.
 - 1. At least one can never marry again-maybe both.
 - 2. Other hardships: financial, emotional, etc.
- B. Impact on other people.
 - 1. Children and other family members.
 - 2. Innocent parties drawn into adulterous marriages.
 - a. Will have to dissolve the relationship
 - b. May be lost because of it.
- C. Impact on Church.
 - 1. Influence and fellowship. (1 Cor. 5; Rev. 2:20)
 - 2. Day to day association with Christians.

Conclusion:

- A. It is not hard to get married.
- B. It is not hard to get unmarried.
- C. It is not hard to stay married.
 - 1. If both parties love the Lord.
 - 2. If both parties love each other.