Second Divine Institution – Marriage God's design of Marriage (which differs significantly from our society today)

Colossians 3:18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them.

Last hour we studied how God designed four Divine Institutions for the stability of the individual and society itself: volition, marriage, family and the nation. First thing we need to note today is that Satan went after all four of these Institutions, to keep man in his Kingdom of Darkness.

Joe Stalin (1878-1953), in 1932, devised a Plan for the decline and destruction of the USA by peaceful means. He devised a program the first two points of which are related to our study. He said, if this program is followed to the letter, the USA would be destroyed in a generation, or at the most in 50 years.

Point 1: The use of philosophy, mysticism, the development of liberal cults, the furtherance of atheism, agnosticism. Purpose: to nullify, to discredit, to destroy the teaching of the Word of God. Joe Stalin realized first of all, the importance of getting rid of biblical teaching, and the

influence of the Bible on America, something that many Americans do not realize.

Point 2: The destruction of marriage and the introduction of theoretical racial practice (marriage of black and white). Think about this. How or what would be the best way to bring down the institution of marriage and family?

Karl Marx (1818-1883), writing in the 'Communist Manifesto' said Communism abolishes <u>eternal truth</u>, it abolishes all <u>religion</u> and <u>morality</u>. It therefore is the enemy of the truth of the Word of God. He also wrote: "Religion (namely Christianity and Judaism) is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. <u>It is the opium of the people</u>. The abolition of **religion** as the illusory happiness of the people is the demand for their <u>real happiness</u>."

He wrote on the subject of morality and human nature. "As a materialist, Marx rejected the idea that moral rules have a divine source and are imposed on human society from the outside. But he also rejected the idea, defended by the eighteenth-century German philosopher Immanuel Kant, that morality had a purely rational basis." [International Socialist Review, Issue #82, "Marxism, morality, and human nature" at <u>https://isreview.org/issue/82/marxism-morality-and-human-nature</u>]

Another principle in which Marx firmly believed was that of 'dialectical materialism.'

- 1. The word "dialectics" has a very special meaning for Communists. It represents the idea of conflict in all material things.
- 2. The dialectical method consists of three elements:

- a. The thesis which is the positive force or concept. (Like the existence of a True God).
- b. The antithesis which is the opposing force or concept. (Like there is no god).
- c. The synthesis which is the New Concept produced by the conflict of the other two. (Communism).
- 3. Marx combined this idea with the atheistic view that the universe is completely material. He believed everything in the universe is constantly changing and at the same time is in conflict. Thus, he arrived at the principle of dialectical materialism.
- 4. Marx regarded bourgeois society (the middle class) as the thesis and the proletariat (wage earning class) as the antithesis while the Communist society was the synthesis (a class-less society) which would eventually result from the conflict between the employer class and the working class. Question: who will do the work in this classless society? Everyone except for the self-appointed top rulers.
- 5. Marx demanded change be forced to bring about the synthesis of Communism. "*The philosophers have only interpreted the world in various ways. The point, however, is to change it.*" You will recall that the political campaign of Obama was 'change:' Change from the Constitution, Change from the Bible. While the campaign of Trump was simply 'Make America Great Again.' Remember that in just the last Presidential election in this country a self-declared Communist influenced a large number of young people in this country, and he plans on running again in 2020.

6. In any discussion of the principles regarding Marx, it should always be remembered that a denial of the existence of God is the foundation upon which his entire philosophy rests.

The evolution to becoming a communist is:

$Liberalism \Rightarrow Socialism \Rightarrow Communism$

All three of these are antithetical to the teaching of the Word of God.

The question we will be noting is how to destroy the institutions of volition, marriage, family and nationalism? We know that nationalism is under severe attack by globalization. This is why the UN and many political leaders in America must get rid of patriotism in America, i.e. Trump and his supporters.

But what about the destruction of marriage and family?

This is simple:

- 1. Get rid of the idea that marriage is between a man and a woman, i.e. same sex marriage.
- 2. Scoff at the idea that a wife is to submit to her husband or anyone. In other words: breakdown authority.
- 3. Completely remove anything that 'the Lord' may have to say on the matter of marriage, family and morality.
- 4. Again, abandon the idea of the husband and wife in marriage.
- 5. Re-define the whole concept of love. And if love is absent, terminate the relationship.

A sound study of the divine institution of marriage will start revealing the answer.

Colossians 3:18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them.

Wives The first word introduces God's defense to man against the Satanic attack on marriage. This is the plural of the Greek *gune* plus the definite article and should be translated **The wives.** This Greek word, in classical Greek or Biblical Greek means woman or wife, as the word for man is also translated husband. This introduces the institution of marriage by God's design, one man and one woman, not multiple wives or husbands and certainly not the same sex. This is a Satanic movement to bring down America and the structure of marriage in the world. The evolution as to how we got to same sex marriage:

promiscuity⇒prostitution⇒adultery⇒homosexuality⇒lesbianism⇒ same sex marriage

This is a gradual breakdown of morals and morality thinking.

Christianity is in great contrast with Islam on women. Jesus Christ raised the social standard of 'women.'

He talked with women. John 4:27;

Forgave the sins of prostitutes. Luke 7:36-48;

Healed a woman on the Sabbath. Luke 13:10ff;

Received support from women. Luke 8:2ff

Jesus declared women equal to men as children of God. A study of the book of Acts reveals that women are viewed as full members of the Church.

The wives be subject to your husbands. This is the present middle imperative of the verb *hupotasso*. This word is so complex that it covers over five narrow columns in a Lexicon.

I want to start out with an understanding of this verb commanding the submission of the wife to her husband. Being subject has nothing to do with being inferior. Being in authority has nothing to do with being superior. Just because the husband has the authority in a marriage does not mean that he is superior to the wife. In the military, you are subordinate to one above you in rank. This does not mean that he or she is superior in intelligence, ability or moral character. This submission has to do with the orderly function of marriage in a society.

Because the institution of marriage is under severe attack in America and because the stability of America is dependent upon the Divine Institutions of volition, marriage, family and nationalism, we will take the time to examine the <u>Divine Institution of marriage</u> from the Divine perspective. We will also have to look at the <u>doctrine of authority</u>. I call it the doctrine of authority because we will examine authority from God's perspective. We have to look at <u>the difference in woman and the difference it makes</u>. The cosmic system is doing its best to strip the male of his identity by God's design and to promote the female above God's design.

Divine Institution Number Two: Marriage: From God's Perspective (After all He designed the male and female for marriage.)

I. It is very important to always remember that Divine Institution #2, marriage, is from Divine Institution #1 volition. In most societies you decide if you want to marry or not. So, when we think of marriage, think of volitional responsibility. You are responsible for your decision to marry. It does not matter if your decision turns out good or bad. You made it. You are responsible to stay with it...before God. The male likes to think that he initiated the question to marriage, and that is OK with most ladies. But, he did ask and she did respond with a yes or at least, I guess so! No matter how the details work out, once you say yes, and are married you made that decision. This is a sober warning to all single people and a firm reminder to all who are married.

II. There are a multitude of doctrines to be learned...as Peter exhorts in

2 Peter 3:18 grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Or Paul in

Colossians 1:10 ...increasing in the knowledge of God.

We are to learn past, present and future actions of God in history. It is always so nice to study the Rapture, the Judgment Seat of Christ, the 2nd Advent and the Millennial Kingdom and eternity future. But, oh, dear people, what we are studying right now is where you live right now, whether single or married. Many

single people desire to marry, and unfortunately many married people desire to be single. But if while single we learn God's perspective of marriage, God's purpose in the design of marriage, your marriage can be one of the most rewarding blessings in your life.

III. What is interesting as we look at marriage in the New Testament: God chose Paul to write about marriage and Paul was a bachelor! Paul probably protested to the Lord, not me Lord, let me write deep theology! To which the Lord responded, yes, but along with theology is the doctrine of marriage. If I had some married man write it, his wife would want to help!!! Col. 3:18-19 is a shortened version of Ephesians 5:22-33:

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.

Ephesians 5:24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

Ephesians 5:26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

Ephesians 5:27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

Ephesians 5:29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church,

Ephesians 5:30 because we are members of His body.

Ephesians 5:31 For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

Ephesians 5:32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:33 Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

The husband is to love his wife.

The wife is to respect her husband.

And both need the filling of the Holy Spirit to fulfill their responsibility in marriage.

IV. Notice God's design in the development of the four Divine Institutions.

Divine Institution # 1—volition: one individual

Divine Institution # 2—marriage: two individuals

Divine Institution # 3—family: three or more individuals

Divine Institution # 4—the nation: a multitude of individuals

And as we will see for the orderly function of all four it is necessary to understand authority. Authority under each one determines proper function in God's plan.

- 1. Marriage is God's design as the basis of order in the human race.
- 2. Marriage establishes the boundary for sexual activity.
- 3. Marriage is designed to establish a stable environment for the rearing of children.

- 4. Marriage is designed for the stability and completion of the soul of both the man and woman.
- V. The guiding motivation in marriage is Love! Love is the foundation for marriage and should be the basic concept for marriage. True love for one another has many ways of expressing itself in marriage: conversation (Biblical things, family things, personal issues, funny things, cabbage, kings and shoe strings and all kinds of things!). Love expresses itself in companionship, intimacy, sex, kindness, thoughtfulness. Remember, love sees a need and then meets that need the best it can.
- VI. Love happiness, love intimacy must precede sexual pleasure. There must be the touching of the souls, before there is an enjoyment of touching of bodies. Soul oneness before body oneness! Always remember God created sexual love between a man and a woman. Yes, sex causes a great deal of trouble in a multitude of people's lives. Most of the time this is trying to enjoy sex outside of marriage, or legalism attached to sex. But the abuse of sex, the torment that sex can bring into one's life does not do away with something so wonderfully designed by God. He gave us His Word. But look at what man has done with the Word of God: everywhere from a false gospel to legalism, to a distortion of the Christian life. But a correct understanding of the Word of God brings an intimate relationship with the Sovereign God, and with our Savior-friend, Jesus the Christ and is the cure of worry and stress (SAD).

- VII. One of the subtle distortions of God's design of marriage is the 'role,' the 'place,' the 'responsibilities' of the husband and wife in marriage. The Word of God is very clear that the husband is the authority in marriage. He is the head of the wife as Jesus Christ is the head of the Church. Col. 3:18 and Eph. 5:23. Some people, especially women do not like it when this comes up in a study of Scripture. Yet, they all agree that in many cases something is definitely wrong in many marriages. We will study what this means. Many women and men do not understand this important part of a marital relationship. Leadership involves responsibility. At least 51% of the responsibility in every marriage lies with the husband, Not 50/50.
- VIII. The wife is always commanded to submit to her husband and the husband is always commanded to love his wife. As we will see this does not mean she submits only when she agrees with him, nor does this mean he loves his wife only when everything is going his way.
- IX. What is really interesting is that the wife is not commanded to love her husband but to respect him. (Eph. 5:33) Why? The wife is to be taught to love her husband. You see men, according to God's design, your wife will learn to love you by responding to the way you love her. In simple terms, some husbands do not deserve to be loved by their wives, because of the thoughtless ways they treat their wives. This is the principle in 1 John 4:19 we love, because He first loved us. We are to love as Jesus Christ loves us. Principle: We learn how to love by the way that

He loves us! And the same principle applies in marriage. The wife will come to love her husband by responding to the way he loves her. So, men, if your love is 'you do for me, then I will do for you' then do not be surprised if her love for you is on the same basis. If she has to earn your love, then do not be surprised if she thinks you have to earn her love. When a husband loves as the Lord loves us, with compassion, slow to anger, abundant in lovingkindness and faithful, then she will learn how to love him in the same way. Contrary to what many believe, a wife loving her husband is not natural or automatic. She has to learn how to love him. She learns how to love him by the way he loves her. The love of a wife is a responsive love, as our love for the Lord is a responsive love.

X. The husband's love, both mentally and physically, should be predominantly aggressive and protective. The woman fulfills the man; man is completed by having a wife — they become One:

1 Corinthians 11:7-12:

1 Corinthians 11:7 For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man.

1 Corinthians 11:8 For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man

1 Corinthians 11:9 for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake. (Remember, this is the Word of God.)

1 Corinthians 11:10 Therefore the woman ought to have *a symbol of* authority on her head, because of the angels.

1 Corinthians 11:11 However, in the Lord, neither is woman independent of man, nor is man independent of woman.

1 Corinthians 11:12 For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man *has his birth* through the woman; and all things originate from God.

Something we will see later, but from this verse, God first put a male under the authority of a female—his mother, she is to teach him how to love and protect his wife.

The man initiates. His love should be aggressive and protective while her love is responsive and respective.

1 Corinthians 7:3 The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

XI. The real adjustment in marriage for both the husband and wife is in the area of mental attitude. We are what we think:

Proverbs. 23:7 For as he thinks within himself, so he is.

You maintain a successful marriage by the faithfulness of your thought pattern as a husband and a wife. What happens in so many marriages is that either one or both begin to think of themselves not as a husband and wife but as a free individual. They begin to think about themselves. This does not necessarily involve sinful thoughts. They just start thinking of themselves, not inclusive of their wives or husbands. It is all about my interest, my hobbies, what I want to do, not inclusive of the wife or husband. It is very difficult for some professions to maintain a successful marriage. A dedicated policeman or doctor or pastor etc. These are things that everyone should consider before they ever get married.

Your life is no longer just yours once you marry.

And since marriage is founded on the mental attitude of love, the older you become, the more wonderful marriage should be.

Once you are married, start thinking in that pattern. If your marriage becomes a 'bad marriage' even early on or later, do not start looking for loopholes to get out of the marriage. Start working on your thought process. Do you submit to his authority? If not — start! Do you love her? If not — start! Listen carefully to this entire series on marriage, not to find a way out but to strengthen your own marriage. Talk with one

another, daily, and be honest in talking with one another. Do not hold back some fears or desires. Learn to communicate with one another. We will cover things from the Word of God that you will not like. We will cover some things from the Word of God that will cause you to rejoice. And most important do not meditate on past failures. Past failures in this marriage or a previous marriage. Learn to forgive and forget---even forgive yourselves.

Marriage is the most basic plural organization under the Laws of Divine Establishment. It is designed for your stability and happiness. Learn to respond to what the Word of God says. Trust Him. He knew what He was doing when He designed male and female.

He designed marriage for your happiness, so you can now grow in the Word of God with your corresponding helpmate!

In all things give thanks!!!



Retrieved from: <u>https://www.gocomics.com/pickles/2019/01/12</u>