

Lessons from the First Marriage

Genesis 2:18 Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.”

God’s motivation for creation of the first woman is found in Genesis 2:18. **Then the LORD God** Yahweh (from the Hebrew word for *to be*) Elohim (plural, literally “Gods,” teaching the Trinity) supreme God **said**, “**It is not good.**” This is an emphatic negation. Please remember that this is the way God designed and made man. He was designed and created to need a helpmate, a woman. Before man was in need of a Savior, he was in need of a woman.

Let’s also note carefully the context of Genesis chapter one where in verse 31, God declared that **God saw all that He had made and behold it was very good.** But wait! Here in Genesis 2:18 He declares **it is not good.** This is why you have to pay attention to context. Look at Genesis 1:27.

Genesis 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female (sexual distinction) He created them.

Then in

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Genesis 1:31 God saw all that He had made and behold it was very good. (Do you get it ladies and gentlemen – Marriage is Good in God’s design.)

Back to Genesis 2:18: **for the man to be alone.** Remember that he was in the garden of Eden with all the animals God had created. Yet he was ‘alone’ as far as one of his own species, without a helpmate corresponding to him.

I will make. The Hebrew means just that, to make, to construct; performing an activity with a distinct purpose in view. Every aspect of the female, her body, her soul, was designed by God for a distinct purpose in mind in relationship to the man.

him Adam

a helper one who helps

suitable, one worthy of him corresponding

for him. not for any other creature—just him.

a helpmate corresponding to him

1. God made this statement when man was in a state of innocence and in perfect environment. Even in perfect environment it is not good for man to be alone.
2. There was no helpmate corresponding to Adam in the animal kingdom so God made for him a helpmate corresponding to him.

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3. It is in this one Hebrew word, *ezer*, God has given the first foundation regarding marriage and the role of woman in life. And that first foundation is not authority but *a helpmate corresponding to him*. Adam needed a human wife as a soul and body helpmate in perfect environment.
4. So, remember, in spite of all the jokes, all the criticisms, all the speculations, God made man where he would be in need of a woman.
5. The necessity of relationship: First, Adam had an intimate relationship with the Lord. Then he had an intimate relationship with the woman. The first human relationship in all history was marriage.
6. The body of man, Adam, was made by God out of the dust of the ground. But, the body of the woman was made out of the rib of man. The visible body and the invisible soul of the woman were made to be a helpmate corresponding to the man.

Gen. 2:7 Then the LORD God formed. This is a different Hebrew word than used in verse 18 when God ‘made’ the woman. This word means to form or to fashion or shape. The immaterial part of the man and the woman changed with the fall, loss of the human spirit and the imputation of the original sin nature to the physical body of the man and the woman.

Man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; wrong, this is a plural, *the breath of lives*—physical, soul and spirit **and man became a living being.**

Now skipping to Genesis 2:20:

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Genesis 2:20 The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field,

One of the most important studies is the study of language. If evolution were correct, which it is not, language would have evolved from poor to superior. But in fact, language has gotten less refined over time. The fact that Adam named all the animals shows that language did not gradually develop, but existed in perfect form. Man began on the earth with perfect intellect and perfect expression of that intellect in language.

but for Adam there was not found a helper Same Hebrew word as in Genesis 2:18.

suitable for him. Helpmate corresponding to him. Mankind is superior to animals.

Genesis 2:21 So the LORD God (Jesus Christ the great physician) caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept (*kept on sleeping: supernatural anesthesiology*); then He (Lord God) took one of his ribs (not just the rib but also the flesh around the rib) and closed up the flesh at that place.

Man is no longer complete in himself. There is always something missing. And that missing something can only be supplied and provided by a woman! The man is never complete without the woman. The purpose of the woman is to complement, to complete the man and be a

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helpmate corresponding to him. God's design of marriage is perfect and wonderful and fulfilling.

Genesis 2:22 The LORD God fashioned (this word means to build, to construct) **into a woman the rib** (the rib and the flesh around it) **which He had taken from the man and brought her to the man.** (The woman fulfills the man, and the man is completed by having the woman. Note also that it was the Lord who brought the woman to the man.)

There are a few principals that come from the Lord bringing the woman to the man.

1. In bringing Eve to Adam, God was performing the first marriage of history. He was giving away the bride and officiating.
2. In bringing the woman to the man, also indicates divine delegation of authority to the husband over the wife.
3. This also teaches that the man should be content and 'rest' in the Lord, not get involved in promiscuity and go from bar to bar. Just commit yourself to the Lord and He will, in all kinds of ways, bring to the man a woman to be a helpmate corresponding to him.

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**Genesis 2:23 And the man 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.”**

Genesis 2:23 The man said, “This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; From the flesh of Adam, God made or built the flesh of the woman and from the bone of Adam’s rib God built the bone structure of the woman’s body, therefore **bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh.** The building of the woman’s body was a miracle. Remember that in feeding the four thousand, Jesus Christ fed the 4,000 with just 7 loaves and a few fish. And then, after everyone was filled, they gathered seven baskets of leftover food from the loaves and fish. So from just a small amount of Adam’s flesh and bone, God built a woman.

She shall be called Woman, *ishah* Because she was taken out of Man.” *Ish*

This is beautiful in the Hebrew: ‘she’ appears three times in verse 23:

First...**She is now bone of my bone**

Second...**she shall be called**

Third...**because she was taken** and not correctly translated at the end of the verse: **because out from man has been taken she**

Revised translation:

**Genesis 2:23 And the man said,
“She is now bone of my bones,**

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**And flesh of my flesh;
She shall be called Woman,
Because out from man has been taken she.”**

Note: The first word Adam says in the verse is “she.” The last word in the verse is “she.”

She shall be called woman Umberto Cassuto: “She is worthy of being called by the same name as I myself, that is to say; I have given names to all living beings, but I have not succeeded in finding one among them fit to be called by a name resembling mine, thus indicating its kinship with me. She, at last, deserves to be given a name corresponding to my own.”

Genesis 2:24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

There was sex before there were children. The Hebrew word for **be joined** is *dabaq* and is used of something sticking to or clinging to something else. It means to be glued together, to grow together into one body, to be intimately united as pictured in sexual relation of the man and wife.

God is the inventor of sex.

And He designed sex for physical enjoyment and for the oneness of the man and woman. I am so thankful that sex had nothing to do with the original sin, the fall of man. By the way, that was food!!! The man and woman were enjoying sex before the fall. Some teach that if you have sex you are married before God. Well, then where does sin come in? No,

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having sex does not mean you are married. Having sex does not mean you are one with that person. Having sex does not mean there is love. Sex outside of marriage is sin. It is a search for sexual happiness which distorts happiness in a sexual relationship with your husband and wife. So many people today are not happy in their sexual relationship in marriage because of sexual relationships before they married. There is no way that a man can complete another man's flesh nor a woman complete another woman. Only male and female can become one flesh: marriage. What is interesting here is that God established the principle of marriage, of the home apart from in-laws, before in-laws ever existed. The grandness of the Omniscience of God foresaw one of the greatest problems in marriage – interference of in-laws! Of course, many young couples bring on this problem by depending on parents for such things as money, babysitting etc. This phrase in verse 24 does not mean isolation from parents. What this verse is teaching is that marriage, as a divine institution, is based on privacy that causes all other human relationships to become secondary. God has instituted two private and intimate relationships in life. One is family (marriage and family), husband and wife. God ordained the human race to be trained and prepared for life by parents. Now, why is this so important to know and understand from the Bible? Because as the world moves toward globalization, the governments are taking more and more authority over the rearing of children. For example, in Germany, home schooling is against the law. It is the government's responsibility to rear your children. What is so important to know here, is that their justification for this is that the working of both parents means that they cannot see to their children. So, the government is doing you a favor by taking this responsibility off of

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you, whether you want them to or not. In America, leaders like Hillary Clinton, are adamantly opposed to home schooling. They know that parents will not teach these children that globalization is best for them. That being patriotic to America, and, God, forbid to a State is not good for their welfare. So, Satan understands God's design in marriage and family and has set out a world-wide movement to end both of these divine institutions. The cosmic systems around the world understand God's design of marriage and family and moving to end both of these and make the State responsible for the rearing of children so they can indoctrinate them with their global propaganda. Don't just ask the broad question: Is this candidate for political office, for globalization? But also ask where does he/she stand on home schooling and parental responsibility? Know your Bible. Know God's design of the male and female, of marriage, of family, of nationalism. And for the record, even in the millennial reign of Jesus Christ there will be nations on the earth, many of which are in existence right now.

Genesis 2:25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

The Principle of Completion or Fulfillment in the First Marriage

1. The woman is the completion or fulfillment of the man. This is demonstrated by the loneliness of man in the garden, then the incompleteness of man after the rib extraction, and how the woman came into existence by the hand of God. With just a few exceptions, like celibacy or extreme sacrifice by the man, no man is complete without a woman brought to him by the grace of God in divine providence.

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2. While the man fulfills the woman, the woman completes the man. This is God's design in the divine institution of marriage.
3. There are four grace gifts from our Lord.
 - a. The woman as a man's wife. He built her and this is the oldest gift in all history.
 - b. Salvation: He provides it.
 - c. The Word of God: He thought it.
 - d. The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit: He supplies Him.
4. Adam did not design nor construct the woman. He was helpless, just as we are helpless without Jesus Christ, helpless without the Word of God, helpless without the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit. But God, the compassionate, merciful, omniscient God, designed and brought about these wonderful blessings to man: A woman, salvation by grace through faith, His Word and His Spirit. So people, whenever you think of marriage, think of the wonders of our God.
5. Marriage was established by God in the garden of Eden, in the first dispensation: the dispensation of innocence. God also provided salvation for man in this same dispensation after the fall of man.
6. Marriage became a divine institution when God created and brought the woman to Adam. And it has remained a divine institution throughout all history, in every dispensation.

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7. Now here is the genius of God: marriage was originally designed for two perfect people. But after the fall into sin, marriage continued, only now designed for two imperfect people, an imperfect man and an imperfect woman each having inherited sin natures with different trends. We should never make friends or select a wife or husband based on compatibility of sin natures. Compatibility of sin natures simply means friends today and a failure tomorrow. Therefore, when selecting a wife or husband we should pay close attention to the sinful trends of the other person but also to their integrity, their commitment to Christ, their personalities. Remember you are going to be living with this person for the rest of your life!!! But also remember, there is no such thing as a perfect husband or a perfect wife. You are not perfect either!!! How wonderful it is to take your differences, your arguments, your disagreements, to God, together in prayer. Learn to forgive each other and laugh with each other.
8. It is very important to remember that marriage was not designed even in the beginning for happiness. It was designed for completion, fulfillment and finding and being a helpmate. The idea that marriage brings happiness is a myth that has caused many a divorce. Christian, your happiness is from your relationship with Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Please never forget the words of our Savior-friend Jesus Christ:

John 15:11 “These things (teaching by Jesus Christ and of Jesus Christ) I have spoken to you

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**so that My joy (inner happiness) may be in you,
and *that* your joy may be made full.**

and then in

John 16:33 “These things I have spoken to you, (you have to know the Word of God) so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”

So, each of us, individually have our own peace and inner happiness from our relationship with our Savior-friend, Jesus the Christ. It is not only wrong but unfair to put the burden of your happiness or your inner peace on someone else, on your wife or on your husband. And while we are here, do not allow your husband or wife to take away your peace and inner happiness! This is why in God’s original design the wife is a helpmate to her husband and he to her. There will be times, perhaps often, when the husband or the wife will be in need of a helpmate to encourage them through difficult times, to encourage them to get back into the filling of the Holy Spirit, not to be a burden to them and keep them down.

9. Happiness in marriage: each person brings their own happiness into the marriage. If you are not happy in your marriage, do not blame the other person. So many people marry to find happiness and are disappointed when they do not find it. Many people divorce to find happiness, only to discover they take their unhappiness with them. Being single or being married is not a requirement for happiness.

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Happiness is for every believer regardless of circumstances in life. It is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, so if you desire inner happiness or inner peace, don't look to another human being but look to the Holy Spirit. Inner happiness and inner peace are a fruit of the Holy Spirit.

10. So, when a man with inner happiness and a woman with inner happiness come together in marriage, they can really enjoy each other and enjoy the institution of marriage. It is what you bring into the marriage that is important, not what you get out of the marriage.

11. There are three stages of the first marriage from which we are given a great deal of precedence:

a. The stage of perfection where the husband and wife enjoyed each other and enjoyed sexual relationship. But always remember that it was in the stage of perfection that Adam and Eve sinned.

b. The stage of spiritual death:

(1) Spiritual death did not neutralize the marriage between the man and woman.

(2) And very important in our study in Colossians 3:18: It is in this stage that God put the woman under the authority of the husband. We will study this later but read it now:

Gen. 3:16 To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children;

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It is in this stage that sex took on a new role, along with enjoyment of sex was now necessary for bearing of children, which would be physically painful.

Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you.” There you have it from the words of God Himself. But sex did not lose it’s original design and purpose, as being the confined intimacy between a husband and his wife. And neither one is to have sex outside of marriage.

Another important passage:

1 Cor. 7:2 But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.

- (3) The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.
- (4) The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

Sub-points a. and b. from above are repeated before presenting subpoint c. from above for continuity and clarity:

- a. [The stage of perfection (mankind: body, soul & spirit)
- b. The stage of spiritual death (mankind now just body & soul]

now:

- c. The stage of regeneration (restoration of the spirit)

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- (1) Marriage between one man and one woman still in effect under divine institution of marriage.
- (2) Wife is still under the authority of the husband. Col. 3:18.
- (3) The husband and wife shall be joined together and they shall become one flesh.
- (4) Sex is still confined to husband and wife and for enjoyment and procreation. Sex, before the fall and after the fall is either legitimate sex between one husband and one wife or illegitimate sex, which can be premarital or post-marital. And whether or not a man or woman believes in Jesus Christ as Savior, they remain under the divinely established boundaries of sex. The divine institution of marriage is designed for both the believer and the unbeliever. Remember that illegitimate sex always distorts the role of sex and can do great harm to sex in marriage. Adultery does harm in so many ways. It can damage the soul of the other person. It can do great harm to sexual pleasure with your husband or wife. You cannot maintain intimacy in a marriage without privacy. And adultery destroys that intimacy and therefore the marriage.
- (5) They now help each other in their Christian, Spirit-filled life to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ and to glorify Jesus Christ.

12. The blessing of intimacy between a husband and wife which is manifested by sexual relationship, provides fulfillment they will never have in any other relationship. When God designed the body

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of the male and the body of the female, He designed their bodies so that physically, neither the male nor the female is complete without the other. God designed sex for the completion of the two bodies by designing them to become one. Mormonism and Islam are violations of God's design of one man for one woman and one woman for one man. These and any other ideology that allows multiple sex is a Satanic attack against the divine institution of marriage. People get involved with these religions and with all forms of sexual perversions like homosexuality and lesbianism because they do not honor God as God, as Sovereign authority over their lives. If a woman does not submit to the authority of God, why should she submit to the authority of a husband. And if a man does not love God, why should he love one woman as his wife.

Rom. 1:19-22:

Romans 1:19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Romans 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks,

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**but they became futile in their speculations,
and their foolish heart was darkened.**

**Romans 1:22 Professing to be wise, they
became fools,**

13. The foundation of marriage is Jesus Christ, who performed the first marriage in history. A study of Ephesians 5:22-33 and Colossians 1:18-19 makes it clear that the relationship between the husband and wife are patterned after the woman's and man's relationship with Jesus Christ. The husband is to love his wife as Jesus Christ loves the Church, and the wife is to submit to her husband as the Church is in submission to Jesus Christ.

The divine institution of marriage is designed by God for the stability of society itself and for the completion of the man and woman. In youth, sex is important but as you grow older, soul rapport takes the place of sex in both the protection and fulfillment of the man and woman.