

Make a choice before you make the choice

**Hebrews 13:4 (NIV)** *Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed should be kept pure. For God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.*

A God ordained marriage is not selfishly driven. It is not primarily about sex and mutual adoration. If these are the only motives, authentic trust will eventually be destroyed. Marriage is a “covenant” to contribute to God's plan, both at home and in society.

Our contemporary society, motivated significantly by satanic influence, tries to discredit God by blaming Him for everything that goes wrong while convincing us that He is withholding the good He could be distributing.

God’s primary agenda is not dedicated to being a fixer of bad choices. God is the Spiritual ideal. His original plan did not require fixing. Until the proverbial tree of knowledge of good and evil described in the third chapter in Genesis, humanity was not broken. We were created to possess continuous joy. God is absolute truth, justice, goodness and agape love, a purpose driven verb, not just an emotional feeling. Our ability to perceive God’s ideals is one of the key relational characteristics that make us human (Genesis 1:26).

We are intended to embody and maintain these ideals in this world. If we don't, we will deservedly and absolutely suffer the consequences and so will our progeny. Most people care about their children but pay little heed to the state of the world they will inhabit.

Thus, the proper focus of marriage is not to be on the man and the woman; it is to be on God. In particular, the man should have a *vision* of how he will serve God as the Spiritual Leader. His future wife should be determined to choose a man whose vision she can share. The wisdom to perceive this selection should be from God. Know that love keeps no secrets.

What do women *really* want? What real godly purpose is hidden beneath their worldly surface? They want what God has placed within them to weave a fiber of genuine agape love. As stated above, this love is purpose driven; it will manifest into the creation of a family devoted to spiritual ideals.

We will always know and understand more about ourselves and others by observing motives and reasons for choices than by just observing results. Why do we choose to get married? Why do we choose that very one to whom we will marry? Let our Lord choose!!!

Three unfortunate motives seem to frequently prevail in our modern culture; the first is being a needy person looking for a solution. The second is being a rescuer looking for a needy person to help. The third is to recover from unanticipated consequences. Marriage candidates think these will provide a valid purpose. These motives, unfortunately, are usually fatal to the fulfilling of God’s plan for a “covenant” marriage. This is not to say a bad marriage cannot change, however, focus must realign and begin defining the covenant.

The only genuine values in this world are “relationships.” Anything less becomes only a provisional contribution to the Godly purpose of maintaining relationships. Our Lord created us for the sole purpose of having a relationship with Him (Ex. 34:14). Marriage is the metaphor for that Godly relationship. Anything less is an aberration to the divine inspirations of our Lord and Creator and to the covenant of marriage. Treat marriage like the divine covenant it is – anything less will not please our Lord.

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