

The Creation of Marriage

Lesson for Sunday, April 24, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

- Review: We are walking through the first chapters of Genesis and learning exactly how relevant the Bible is on both a cultural and personal level.
- From a personal level, these chapters answer the big questions of life such as: Where did I come from? Why am I here? What is my purpose in life?
- From a cultural level, the big issues of the day are addressed: Does God exist? Creation vs. Evolution? What about the gender issues? Why is there evil?
- One of the hottest topics in today's society centers on marriage and sexuality. In many ways it is THE issues today and the Christian must know what they believe, and be able to intelligently represent the biblical position in a manner that is full of both grace and truth.

BIBLE STUDY:

GENESIS 2

1. God knows our needs.
 - a. Verse 18: God introduces the first problem that Adam would eventually face – he would need help.
 - i. In 1:28 God commanded Adam to be fruitful and multiply. That would be impossible on his own.
 - ii. He also gave Adam the responsibility to have dominion over God's creation. That would be a big job! God knew Adam would need help.
 - b. Vs. 19-20: God shows Adam his need by bringing a number of animals for him to name. God used this exercise to show Adam his need.
 - c. Don't miss the obvious point: God knew Adam's problem before Adam knew he even had one!
 - d. Question: Are you facing a problem today? God knows all about it. God knew about your problem before you knew about it. Adam's wife was in the mind of God long before she was ever in the arms of Adam. You can trust God with your problems.
2. Only God can meet your needs.
 - a. Notice in verse 18 that God identifies the problem, but he also identifies the solution. "I will make someone to help him." This is an important point. God never awakens a desire that He cannot and will not satisfy.
 - b. In verses 21-22 we see God's final act of creation – a miracle.
 - c. Vs. 21 – God causes Adam to fall into a deep sleep. There is a picture here for you and me.
 - i. When Adam recognizes his need, we don't see him depressed that God has left him alone. We don't see Adam panicking, running around the garden searching for something he is missing.
 - ii. He went to sleep. He was at peace knowing that the God who created Him would also take care of his every need.
 - iii. Question: How do you react to the problems of life? Are you depressed? Are you stressed? If you are in God's family, you can rest knowing that God knows and that God will provide.
 - iv. Adam went to sleep and let God go to work.
 - d. The Bible says God took a rib from Adam (first surgical procedure).
 - i. God took that rib and made a woman.
 - ii. 2:7 – God made Adam from the dust of the ground.
 - iii. 2:22 – God made Eve from a rib from Adam.
 - iv. Only God can do that!
3. God's plans are always the best plans.
 - a. Verse 23 Adam wakes up and God introduces him to his companion.

- i. Can you imagine when Adam woke up and saw Eve? Remember that this was still a perfect world at that time – no sin, no lust – just joy and gratitude.
 - ii. Adam’s greatest need had been met by His great God.
- b. In verses 23-24 Adam breaks into song, declares his vows to Eve and God oversees the first wedding in history. This is history’s first wedding and when God established the institution of marriage.
- c. What is the biblical definition of marriage?
 - i. Marriage is a lifelong, binding, holy covenant between a man and a woman with God which involves physical intimacy, emotional support, mutual encouragement and spiritual unity.
 - ii. God’s equation for marriage is $1 + 1 = 1$.
- d. In our world today, this view of marriage is defined as “narrow.” Why shouldn’t a person be allowed to marry anyone they want? Why is marriage even important or necessary?
- e. It is critical to see that this issue always centers around one’s sexual desires that the Bible clearly calls sin. To biblically define marriage is to also condemn any other view that does not align Scripturally.
- f. When thinking through human sexuality, it is important to remember that God does not just pick on homosexuals or those who choose to simply live together.
- g. How should we as Christians talk about this issue in the world?
- h. First, we often hear the accusation that God hates homosexuals. Reality states that God is love and hates no one. God separates the sin (which He hates) from the sinner (which He loves.)
- i. Secondly, when one looks at the entire Bible, God is consistently against all sexual behavior outside covenant marriage between a man and a woman. Consider:
 - i. God prohibits prostitution (Lev. 19:29; Deut. 23:18; Proverbs 6:25-26).
 - ii. God prohibits sexual violence (Deuteronomy 22:25-27).
 - iii. God prohibits sex with animals (Leviticus 18:23; 2:15-16).
 - iv. God prohibits sex with relatives (Leviticus 18:6; 1 Corinthians 5:1-2).
 - v. God prohibits sex between a man and a woman who are not married to each other (Ex. 20:14; Lev. 20:10; Pro. 6:28-32; Matt. 19:7-9; Rom. 13:9; Heb. 13:4).
 - vi. God prohibits sex with anyone who is not your husband or wife whether it happens before marriage, during marriage, or after marriage.
 - vii. God prohibits sex between a man and a man or a woman and a woman (Leviticus 18:22; Matthew 19:10-12; Romans 1:26-27).
 - viii. God prohibits all sexual looking and thinking outside marriage (Matt. 5:28; 2 Pet. 2:14).
 - ix. God prohibits the act of provoking sexual desires in others outside of marriage including: Immodest clothing (1 Timothy 2:9-10), Seductive speech (Proverbs 5:1-23; 7:1-27), God prohibits any kind of crude speech, humor or entertainment that remotely revolves around sexual immorality (Eph. 5:3-5).
- j. God is against any sexual sin that is outside the biblical boundaries clearly presented in the Bible. God’s standard for sexuality is always holiness.
- k. Have you trusted God with this area of your life? His plans are always the best plans.

CONCLUSION: As we stated in the introduction, human sexuality and the accompanying issues are THE issues of the day! We must be able to defend our biblical position, but we also have the opportunity to live the biblical ethic before a world that is longing for what God has designed them for. Does your life clearly reflect what God’s Word teaches? It has never been easier to be salt and light!