

“THE ORIGIN OF EVERYTHING”

“THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF CREATION, CORRUPTION AND COVENANT”

PART 11

“A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN... DESIGNED FOR LIFE ON EARTH”

“What God Hath Joined Together”

(Genesis 2:18-3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:14, 15; Ephesians 5:22-33 Part 4)

INTRODUCTION:

1. MARRIAGE IS THE PRODUCT OF THE CREATIVE WORK OF GOD.
2. MARRIAGE IS TO BE PATTERNED AFTER THE COVENANT FAITHFULNESS OF GOD.
3. MARRIAGE HAS BEEN PERVERTED (LIKE EVERY OTHER RELATIONSHIP) BY THE CORRUPTING PRESENCE OF SIN.
4. MARRIAGE IS POSSIBLE THROUGH THE CONSTRAINING LOVE OF CHRIST.
5. MARRIAGE IS TO BE A PICTURE OF THE QUINTESSENTIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

- **DEFINITIONS: MARRIAGE IS AN EXCLUSIVE, PERMANENT, ONE-FLESH RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN WHICH IS ESTABLISHED, GUARDED, GOVERNED AND GUIDED BY A COVENANT.**

1A. MARRIAGE IS THE PRODUCT OF THE CREATIVE WORK OF GOD:

- *The Divine Intent and Edenic Objective was that marriage, as with every other aspect of life lived within God’s Creation, would result in man’s flourishing.*

2A. MARRIAGE IS TO BE PATTERNED AFTER THE COVENANT LOVE OF GOD.

- As such, it is unconditional, based upon a promise, maintained by faithfulness and expressed in sacrificial commitment.

3A. MARRIAGE HAS BEEN PERVERTED (LIKE EVERY OTHER RELATIONSHIP) BY THE CORRUPTING PRESENCE OF SIN.

- *Paradise Lost - What man briefly enjoyed in the original creation before the Fall—the unmediated presence of God and the unprecedented absence of shame—was immediately forfeited by man’s disobedience.*

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and death spread to all me, because all sinned...”

PART 4:

4A. MARRIAGE IS POSSIBLE (AS GOD DESIGNED) THROUGH THE CONSTRAINING LOVE OF CHRIST AND THE CONTROLLING POWER OF THE SPIRIT.

- The Christian life is not simply a life of _____,
but is supremely a life of _____.

1B. It is our relationship with Jesus by means of the _____ that we find the grace and power to transform our marriages (and all our relationships). (2 Cor. 4-5)

- 1C. The _____ of Jesus through the Gospel. (2 Cor. 4:1-6)
- 2C. The _____ of Jesus through the Gospel. (2 Cor. 4:7-15)
- 3C. The _____ of Jesus through the Gospel. (2 Cor. 5:14-15)

“For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.”

2B. It is our relationship with Jesus by means of the _____ that we find the grace and power to transform our marriages (and all our relationships) (Eph. 5:18-21)

“...be filled with the Spirit...”

- Do you want to be filled with the Spirit...?

- 1C. ...enough to _____? (_____)
- 2C. ...enough to _____? (_____)

5A. MARRIAGE IS TO BE A PICTURE OF THE QUINTESSENTIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE CHURCH. (EPHESIANS 5:22-33)

- _____ of _____, but _____ of _____.

1B. The Pattern for Wives: _____ Love. (v. 22-24)

“Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord...”

2B. The Pattern for Husbands: _____ Love. (v. 25-31)

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church...”

- 1C. It is a _____ love. (v. 26)
- 2C. It is a _____ love. (v. 27)
- 3C. It is a _____ love. (v. 28)

CONCLUSION:

“Lord, I want my marriage to be a... _____ of the _____.”