



The Caller

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2018 LADIES DAY



Man, Marriage, and God

One does not have to search far today to find someone who will agree with what they think marriage should be. You name it and pretty much someone will support “your idea” of what constitutes a marriage or what will make a marriage work. In a society where for some time we have had the “Burger King mentality” (have it your way) and the continual progress of the humanistic mindset, people feel entitled in almost all areas of their lives, not the least of which is marriage. People demand the right to be happy. All of this is driven from a selfishness that is contrary to God’s will.

Today marriage is viewed by some as a mere arrangement whereby people are free to do just about whatever they want as long as their actions bring themselves happiness. Some have gone so far as to scorn marriage and simply choose to commit fornication by practicing a “co-habitational” relationship with sexual benefits...“Hey I’m good with the arrangement and she is good with the arrangement” type of arrangement. Often the relationship is a same sex sinful activity that is commonly accepted by man today.

Other so called “sexual experts” will advise livening up your marriage. Consider one such bit of advice by Michelle McGee in *Steppin’ Out* magazine. *Steppin’ Out* is a weekly entertainment industry-oriented magazine published by Chauncey Hayden that bills itself as “New York and New Jersey’s #1 Entertainment Magazine; it has been mentioned numerous times on The Howard Stern Show (need I say more). At any rate McGee writes, “If you’re going to be married to somebody, you need to know that men are not meant to be with one woman. I think you can totally love your spouse and still sleep with other women. That urge will always be there, if you’re a man. I believe you can love your wife 100 percent and still stray.” How many women readers agree? Even Godly men would recognize such advice as foolish.

What drives much of this selfish thinking that leads to such absurd statements regarding marriage and so many other things? Evolutionism, based in Materialism (no place for the spiritual), coupled with humanism and old fashion selfishness are all contributory elements. Man’s wisdom has been placed above God’s wisdom and the results are disastrous. Families are torn apart, souls are lost, all because of a failure to trust our God who created us and knows what is best for us.

Genesis 2 reveals that God provided the avenue of marriage to be the closest of all relationships among his creation. He designed marriage to be one man and one woman for life. He taught that much of the purpose, from the beginning, for this lifelong committed relationship (Matt 19:1ff) was for the stability of the family (the children who would be born into these unions). He taught the proper roles that the man and the woman should fulfill in His plan (Ephesians 5). He indicated the way in which people are to love one another (1 Corinthians 13). A great book written on this topic by various authors and edited by the late Thomas B. Warren and Garland Elkins is entitled “*Your Marriage Can Be Great.*” This title speaks to the truth that if one will follow God’s will for marriage, the marriage can be great!

At times today, individuals will find their marriage not what it ought to be. Many times people will look for happiness in relationships that God has forbidden. What must be done in such instances is not to look at man’s wisdom on how they might find happiness in marriage but look to God and the Scriptures to provide the only path to true happiness. God has provided the way to happiness. Do not allow yourself to be led astray by false standards of wisdom!

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