

**Ephesians 5 (10-31-10)**

**LEAVE AND CLEAVE:**  
(*GUARDING THE MARRIAGE FROM MEDDLERS, ETC.*)

**TEXT: Ephesians 5:30** For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31 For this cause shall a man **leave** his father and mother, and shall **be joined** unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

**Colossians 1:18** And he is the head of the body, the church...

**Genesis 2:23** And Adam 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.

24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

**2 Corinthians 11:2** For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

**Genesis 2:23** And Adam 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.

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"Technically speaking, no Christian can be a whoremonger, a drunkard, an adulterer, a fornicator, a thief, or a liar...If that isn't the right doctrine, every person in this building is going to hell...in fornication one person's body joins another...**and that constitutes a marriage**...American Christians...think a marriage is a marriage ceremony..."

(Ruckman, *The Books of First and Second Corinthians*)

"I was saved in 1949. It took me about three years to get all this Bible material together that I'm about to discuss. Not once in my ministry from 1952 to 1980 have I ever varied in what I'm about to say. Nor have I ever changed any verse to prove what I'm about to say, nor have I ever had to. I never had to change one verse to make it say what I'm about to teach. What I'm about to teach is quite revolutionary in some Fundamental circles, and it is not a justification of anybody's sins; it is Bible doctrine...Some of our Fundamentalists are rather careless with words. Some of them think a marriage is a marriage ceremony, did you know that?...Marriage in the Bible is a physical affair where flesh joins flesh..."

(Ruckman)

"But marriage per se, is [physical union]...anytime a [physical] union takes place, a marriage has also been made between the two parties..."  
(Ruckman, Bible Notes)

**Hebrews 13:4** Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

**Matthew 1:18** Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was **espoused** to Joseph, **before they came together**, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph **her husband**, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to **put her away** privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary **thy wife**: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

**Malachi 2:14** Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and **the wife of thy covenant**.

**Ezekiel 16:8** Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, **I swear unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine**.

**John 4:17** The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, **Thou hast well said, I have no husband:**

18 For thou hast had five husbands; and **he whom thou now hast is not thy husband**: in that saidst thou truly.

"Fornication is not marriage, and not even the beginning of marriage." (Basil)

**Exodus 22:16** And if a man entice a maid that is not betrothed, and lie with her, he shall surely endow her **to be his wife**.

17 If her father utterly refuse to give her unto him, he shall pay money according to the dowry of virgins.

**1 Corinthians 6:15** Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

**Mark 10:7** For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife;

8 And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh.

9 What therefore God hath joined together, **let not man put asunder**.

"...what it means for the wife, is that the deference [yielding; submission] which she formally paid primarily to her parents, she is now to pay to her husband...is it not obvious, that it is because people have no conception of this teaching that there is so much trouble in marriages, and so many breakdowns?...There is nothing that is so fatal to a marriage as that either partner should be paying deference to a third party...they are breaking the unity...The

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relationships of love should be maintained with the parents on both sides, but never in terms of deference...the whole secret of Christian marriage, and of a happy married life is, that the man and the woman who get married realize this at the beginning, and act upon it, and stand to it at all costs...If there is interference by the parents on either side they are guilty of sin, and of failure to understand and to live according to the Biblical teaching concerning marriage, 'Let the wife see that she reverence her husband.' That is the great adjustment she makes...She must not compete with him, she must not strive with him."

(D.M. Lloyd-Jones)

"He has to assert and to safeguard his new status, and, as I say, defend it against any interference on the part of his parents."

(D.M. Lloyd-Jones)

"The husband cannot endure a co-rival and competitor."

*(The Complete Works of Thomas Manton)*

"[Parents] must re-adjust themselves...They must not interfere in this new married life...Everything is different."

(D.M. Lloyd-Jones)

"...if need be to preserve the relation of husband and wife unhindered, let him bid good-bye to father and mother...a good many [mother-in-laws] have unwittingly made trouble between the young husband and his wife...the father-in-law or other relatives may [also] stir up discord between husband and wife...Divorces are not made up in a few days..."

(A.I. Root, *Our Homes*, 1904)

"In marriage between man and a woman both parties quit their former relatives in some respect, that they may cleave to one another."

(Ebenezer Erskine, 1836)

**Psalms 45:10** Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;

11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.

"Wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love, honor, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and **forsaking all others**, keep thee only unto him, so long as you both shall live?"

*(Declaration of Consent)*

**Deuteronomy 13:4** Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and **cleave unto him**.

**Psalms 101:3** I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; **it shall not cleave to me**.

**Romans 12:9**...Abhor that which is evil; **cleave to that which is good**.