

Sunday Morning, May 28, 2017
Your Marriage Is Precious
Hebrews 13:4

- I. Marriage Is Precious, since Marital Companionship Reflects God the Creator
 - A. God's Loving Relationship in the Trinity
 - Jn 1:1; Jn 17:5; Jn. 1:18; Jn. 8:29; Jn. 11:42

 - B. Marriage's Loving Relationship Modeled after the Trinity
 - 1. Therefore You Marry to Be a Companion to Your Spouse
 - Gen. 2:24, 18; Ps. 54:3–5; Eph. 5:28–31; Prov. 2:17; Mal. 2:14

 - 2. Therefore You Improve Marriage by Improving Companionship

- II. Marriage Is Precious, since the Marital Covenant Is Established by God the Creator
 - A. The Creator Designed and Established the Marriage Covenant
 - Gen. 1:27; Gen. 2:18; Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:4–6; Mk. 12:25; Lk. 17:26, 27

 - B. The Creator Continues to Plan and Ordain Marriage Covenants
 - Ps. 139:16

 - C. Submission to the Creator Is Expressed in a Submission to His Marriage Covenant
 - Mal. 2:14; Prov. 2:17

- III. Marriage Is Precious, since Marital Conjugal Relations Are Protected by God the Judge
 - A. The Scripture's High View of Marital Relations
 - Prov. 5:18–19; Jer. 2:2; Hos. 2:14--20

 - B. The Scripture's Clear Warning Against Marital Unfaithfulness 13:4b
 - 1. All Sexual Sin Is in View
 - Matt. 1:18–19; Jer. 3:1, 2, 6, 8; Lev. 18:23; Rom. 1, Lev. 18:22; 1 Cor. 6:9, 10; Matt. 5:28

 - 2. All Sexual Sin Will Be Judged
 - Eph. 5:5; Heb. 12:16f; 1 Thess. 4:4–7; 1 Cor. 6:9--10; Rev. 21:8, 22:15
 - Gal. 6:19–21; Heb. 12:15–16

Quotes

“The Bible is telling us: Let marriage always be thought of as precious. Let it be treasured like gold and silver and rare jewels. Let it be revered and respected like the noblest, most virtuous person you have ever known. Let it be esteemed and valued as something terribly costly like the long, black, marble Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C. In other words, when you think of marriage, let yourself be gripped by emotions of tremendous respect and sanctity. In relation to marriage cultivate the feeling that this not to be touched quickly or handled casually or treated commonly. In God's eyes marriage is precious and therefore he says, ‘Let marriage be held in honor among all.’”
John Piper

“Communication and compatibility are important to marital success, but taking time to be with each other has been found to be more important . . . “‘Take time’ ie from all the forces in daily life that squeeze in on your marriage relationship. Aside from spending time with God, spending time with your spouse is *the most* important thing you have to do. . . .”
“Couples who habitually dash past each other in the bedroom and bathroom as they hurriedly dress for work, or quickly gulp dinner standing at the kitchen counter before they rush off to separate meetings, or fall exhausted into bed late every night without energy to talk, cuddle or make love, are not building commitment. They are building disaster.”
Jim Conway

“Marriage is not a creation of the law. Marriage is a fundamental human institution that predates the law and the Constitution. At its heart, it is an anthropological and sociological reality, not a legal one. Laws relating to marriage merely recognize and regulate an institution that already exists.”
Peter Sprigg, Family Research Council

“A wife is easily taken, but to have abiding love, that is the challenge. One who finds it in his marriage should thank the Lord God for it. Therefore approach marriage earnestly, asking God to give you a good, pious girl, with whom you can spend your life in mutual love. For sex alone accomplishes nothing in this regard; there must also be agreement in values in character.”
Martin Luther

“God the first Institutor of marriage, gave the wife unto the husband, to be, not his servant, but his helper, counselor and comforter.”
The Puritan John Downname

“It is a mercy to have a faithful friend that loveth you entirely . . . to whom you may open your mind and communicate your affairs . . . and it is a mercy to have so near a friend to be a helper to your soul and . . . to stir up in you the grace of God.”
Richard Baxter

“No State has any right to change the law of marriage, or the conditions upon which it may be lawfully constituted or dissolved, as these have been ordained by God. Neither has any man or woman a right to contract any relation different in any respect, as to its character or duration, from that which God has ordained as marriage.”
A. A. Hodge

“God is not saying that adultery and fornication is the unpardonable sin. That is very good news because there are very many of us who could not be pardoned if it were the unpardonable sin. And I don't say that on my own authority; I say it on the authority of Scripture. The apostle Paul says, as he writes to the Corinthians, “Some of you were adulterers, but you were washed and sanctified and glorified.” We have men and women in our congregation who have committed adultery and through grievous tears have come to repentance and God, in His kindness, has restored their marriages. But none of them would counsel you to take this word of warning lightly. They can show the scars of their hearts to you. And so the author of Hebrews is saying heed God's warning. Listen to the definite language - “God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.” That doesn't mean that there is no forgiveness for the repentant. What it means is, for those who will not turn, for those who persist in that sin, there is certain and terrifying judgment. And for all there are consequences. Heed the warning.”
Derek Thomas