

God's Cause for Marriage: To Picture Jesus and His Bride

Elder Jeff Winfrey, Pastor
Dawson Springs Primitive Baptist Church
101 East Walnut Street
Dawson Springs, KY 42408
www.dspbc.com

I. *Is there not a cause?* (A life that is given to a God-given cause is a life worth living)

A. Jesus: A God-given man with two God-given causes (*that became life-giving causes*)

Joh 12:27 Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but **for this cause** came I unto this hour.

Joh 18:37 ...Jesus answered...**for this cause** came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth.

B. Preaching and preserving the true gospel is a God-given cause for the church

2Ti 1:12 **For the which cause** I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able...

C. Responding to the preached word of truth is a God-given cause for the believer

1Th 2:13 **For this cause** also thank we God...because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it*...as it is in truth, the word of God...

D. A cause is not always profound—Picturing Jesus in marriage is a God-given cause

Eph 5:31 **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.

Eph 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

II. Marriage is an institution of God—Marriage is the story of the Bible

Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Gen 2:23 And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman (*womb-man*), because she was taken out of Man.

III. Ephesians 5—Marriage is a picture of Christ and His church

A. Both husband and wife are to submit to each other

Eph 5:21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

B. Wife—Subjection to your husband is your picture of Jesus' church to the world

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Eph 5:24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in every thing.

C. Husband—Agape love for your wife is your picture of Jesus' love for His church

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Eph 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Eph 5:28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

Eph 5:29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

Eph 5:30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

Eph 5:31 **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.

Eph 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

D. Whether you get the church part or not—You still need to do marriage this way

Eph 5:33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband.

IV. Other Bible pictures of Christ and His bride

Eze 16:6 And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee...Live; yea, I said unto thee *when thou wast* in thy blood, Live.

Eze 16:7 I have caused thee to multiply as the bud of the field, and thou hast increased and waxen great, and thou art come to excellent ornaments: *thy* breasts are fashioned, and thine hair is grown, whereas thou *wast* naked and bare.

Eze 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 swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.

Rth 3:9 And he said, Who *art* thou? And she answered, I *am* Ruth thine handmaid: spread therefore thy skirt over thine handmaid; for thou *art* a near kinsman.

Son 2:13 (*He said to her*) ...Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Son 3:4 (*She said to him*) ...I held him, and would not let him go...

Hos 2:16 And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, *that* thou shalt call me Ishi (*Husband*); and shalt call me no more Baali (*Master*)...

Hos 2:18 And in that day will I make a covenant for them...

Hos 2:19 And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

Hos 2:20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD.

2Ti 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his...

Rev 21:9 ...Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

V. Bible teachings on how to do a good marriage

A. God's way of marriage is the way to reform husbands—And keep God's ear

1Pe 3:1 ...wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

1Pe 3:7 ...husbands, dwell with *them* according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

B. A Biblical marriage is a life-long contractual relationship to be and stay friends

Mal 2:14 ...yet *is* she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

Son 5:16 ...he *is* altogether lovely. This *is* my beloved, and this *is* my friend...

C. Only in marriage do the friends become lovers—'Thou shalt not commit adultery'

Pro 5:18 ...rejoice with the wife of thy youth.

Pro 5:19 ...let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love.

Pro 5:20 And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?

Pro 31:10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies.

Pro 31:11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her...

D. In any Christian relationship—(But especially marriage)—Forgive without delay

Eph 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

Eph 4:27 Neither give place to the devil.

E. Faithfulness to God and His house—Will sustain you and your house

Ecc 4:9 Two *are* better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.
Ecc 4:10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him *that is* alone when he falleth; for *he hath* not another to help him up.
Ecc 4:11 Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm *alone*?
Ecc 4:12 And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Jos 24:15 ...choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Heb 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some...

VI. Fathers—Bring up your children—Children—Honor and obey your parents

Eph 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.
Eph 6:2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)
Eph 6:3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
Eph 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

2Ti 1:5 ...the unfeigned faith...in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice...

2Ti 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures...

Gen 18:19 For I know him (*Abraham*), that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD...

Deu 4:9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;

Deu 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

Deu 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Exo 12:26 And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?

Exo 12:27 That ye shall say, It *is* the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover...

VII. The Biblical wife/mother—And the implied church—Are foundations for society

Pro 31:10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies.
Pro 31:11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.
Pro 31:12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.
Pro 31:13 She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands...
Pro 31:15 She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household...

Pro 31:16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it...

Pro 31:20 She stretcheth out her hand to the poor...reacheth forth her hands to the needy...

Pro 31:26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.

Pro 31:27 She looketh well to the ways of her household...eateth not the bread of idleness.

Pro 31:28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband *also*...praiseth her

Pro 31:29 Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

Pro 31:30 Favour *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

Pro 31:31 Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.