



25:2: The Purposes of Marriage

*Marriage was ordained for the mutual help of husband and wife, for the increase of humanity with legitimate offspring, and for the prevention of immorality.*

- Mutual help of husband and wife
  - Genesis 2:18, Eph 5:25-33, 1 Pet 3:7, 1 Cor 7:33
  
- Increase of humanity with legitimate offspring
  - Genesis 1:28, Malachi 2:15
  
- The prevention of immorality
  - 1 Corinthians 7:2, 9; Proverbs 5:18–19

25:3: The Qualifications to Marry

*Everyone who is able to give rational consent may marry.*

- **Hebrews 13:4**

*Yet Christians are to marry in the Lord. Therefore, those who profess the true religion should not marry unbelievers or idolaters. Nor should the godly be unequally yoked by marrying those who lead evil lives or hold to damnable heresy.*

- 1 Corinthians 7:39

#### 25:4: Incestuous Marriage Forbidden

*Marriage should not occur within the degrees of blood relationship or kinship that are forbidden in the Word. These incestuous marriages can never be made lawful, so that the individuals may live together as husband and wife, by any human law or consent of the parties involved.*

- Leviticus 18:6, Mark 6:18, 1 Cor 5:1

#### Next Steps

1. Marriage is meant to be a mutual blessing to husband and wife. Why is this mutual blessing so important to understand and live out?
2. When Christians marry, they are required to marry other Christians. Why is this requirement important?
3. How deep of agreement would it be wise for a Christian to have with a potential spouse?