

# Series: Biblical Relationships

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## B – Biblical Principles Governing Marriage

### 1. The ENTIRE Bible is an Instruction Manual for Marriage – Eph 5:21-33

- “**AS**” -- verses 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, ... 32 – examples
  - Consider all the examples of marriages and relationships in the Bible (God specifies Adam and Eve) – see Eph 5:32

### 2. The Example of Adam and Eve – the Fall of Man – Genesis 3:1-21

The fall of mankind began with the deception of Eve which led to the disobedience of Adam. Afterward, we see the effect of that “sin of disobedience”. Likewise, in our marriages, we must be aware of similar effects caused by our own disobedience.

#### Vs 1, 6

- The first recorded word out of Satan’s mouth is a **POSITIVE** word: **YEA**
- He begins on a positive note. He is a positive thinker – Examples
- Eve ends their evil rendezvous with positive reinforcement and justification and records for us all the sinful desires of this world! 1 John 2:16
- **NOTHING** has changed. Mark it down, this is where it begins.
- Good/positive thinking that centers on SELF but goes against God’s Word.
- The root of all questioning (**NOT** asking questions) and doubting is Satanic!!
- 2 Cor 11:14 ... Be careful of:
  - New boat, shopping with wife vs church on Sunday morning
  - Mission trip vs Family vacation (or opposite)
  - Good things that cover bad things up!

#### Vs 2-3

- The woman does 3 things to the Word of God
  - 1 - **SUBTRACTS** – “freely”
  - 2 - **ADDS** – “neither shall you touch it”
  - 3 - **CHANGES** – “lest ye die”
- Examples – women say, “I am to submit to my husband”, men say, “I am to love my wife” or “she is to submit to me” – WRONG – read Eph 5:22-25
- Actions begin with your thoughts – Proverbs
- Are you perfect? Adam & Eve were in Gen 3:1-5!
- Do you have a Bible with lots of instructions in it? Adam & Eve did (2:16,17)
- They still ran into trouble!

#### Vs 4-5

- The woman engages in a conversation that makes God out to be a **LIAR**
- The husband is not present
- Adam has not equipped his wife properly – poor leadership
- We learn the following:
  - Watch *where you are located* – where do you go? What do you do there?
  - Watch *your language* – what do you talk about? Who do you talk to? What do you talk about? Will you be quiet and think before talking?

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- These apply to both men and women. However, women, in general, are more susceptible to these potential problems.
- Men and women are different!
  - Gen 2:7, 16-17 = "head", "logic"
  - Gen 2:22 = "heart", "emotions"
  - Both are needed – "HELP MEET"

### Vs 6

- The husband is **TOTALLY** and **COMPLETELY** responsible!
- He is supposed to be the leader, but chooses to follow her!
- He is not **TRICKED** or **TEMPTED** by Satan (1 Tim 2:14) ... it is a role reversal!
- He could have rebuked her and took responsibility.
- He could have fallen in shame on his face before God and repented. He could have begged for mercy...wonder what would have happened?
- MEN: What kind of leader are you?
- The real question is: What kind of follower are you?
- People want to be "as gods" without God! (independent/alone)
- God wants people to be like Him – with Him! (submitted/following/together)

### Vs 7-8

- They tried to cover themselves (and **WORKED** with their hands to do so) with "aprons" and hide from their sin.
- They removed themselves from fellowship with God
  - They knew they were naked – before they were not ashamed
  - They were not like God any more
  - We cannot **HIDE** our sin from God
  - We cannot be fruitful in the mission when we hide those parts that are **KEY** to fulfilling the mission!! – *think about that...*

### Vs 9-10

- When God asks a question – no half-truths.
- Half-truths are covering something up. Example
- Cover-ups begin that steep part of a downward spiral.
- Be **HONEST** with God! 1 John 1:9
- Be honest with each other – covering up a problem just saves it for later!
- Talk about things openly!

### Vs 11-13

- **DO NOT BLAME GOD OUR YOUR SPOUSE OR SATAN for your OWN SIN!**  
James 1:13-14; Prov 28:13
- Avoid: If she/he would just ... (this is key! This is very hard!)
- It is each person's responsibility to **OBEY** the Word of God!

### Vs 14-15

- **THE KEY FOR EVERY BELIEVER!**
  - 1 – The curse and ultimate destruction of the enemy
  - 2 – The **VICTORY** at Calvary's cross and 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ!!

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### Vs 16-19

- We will deal with the issues that come out of these verses later.
- We must understand overall that sometimes there are **LONG** -term consequences of sin that just do not go away overnight.
- This is why problems **MUST** be exposed and dealt with to begin the healing process.
- Examples

### Vs 20

- Adam now names the woman "EVE" – see Gen 5:2
- They were "as one" (Gen 2:25), but now are **TWO**.
- The husband and wife have their own personality and character.
- God uses this for good today in us because it brings a completeness to the practical side of marriage (the "help meet" factor ... more so after the fall)
- Yet, at the same time, we can be completely UNITED with one another in Jesus Christ through His Mind – the Word of God –1 Cor 2:16; Phil 2:13.
- Adam named her "EVE" – it means "mother of all "living" – as a testimony of faith in what God said in verse 15 about a coming Savior.
- Adam believed God or else he would have named her "mother of all "dead"
- THERE IS **HOPE!!!**

### Vs 21

- **REMEMBER**, problems will develop, but God still loves us more than we can ever comprehend.
- His love for us is **UNCONDITIONAL**.
- Therefore, our love to each other (body of Christ AND husband/wife) should model for the world the same unconditional love. See Prov 27:26; Isa 1:18

### NOTE:

**These are very important foundational truths that do NOT change.**

**Remember them, get them down, plug them into your thinking.**

**Remember, the WHOLE Bible is an instruction manual for us!**