

L13 | Divine Institutions | Institution of Family Pt. 1

I. Intro/Review:

- Review of divine institutions (slide)
 - Institution of Business
 - God is the Creator, the Author of all things, thus all things are subject to Him and all angels and man are and will be held accountable by Him.
 - Thus, this Creator created relationship is foundational and impacts all other institutions - namely, 1) what the other institutions are (truth), and 2) how to function therein.
 - Therefore, being one of the created by His means we have the business to know the Creator and His things and how to live therein.
 - These institutions frame society and are part of God that we live and move and have our being. Therefore, even those that don't believe in God live therein and, of course, don't live therein in view of their disbelief - even some Christians don't live therein in view of their belief of God that they are His institutions and He is Author of their instructions and purposes.
 - Institutions of Marriage
 - The commencement of family and society.
 - God made man first, then woman after, of, and for man joined them together to be one flesh.
 - Husband and wife
 - Institution of Family
 - Today, media and the darkness of the world attacks not only the Author of the family, but His definition, and instructions for family - they start where God started marriage, then the children.
 - The world attempts to give an overhaul to family - calling it the "Modern Family". In this modern family parents aren't simply unbelievers (for unbelievers can have a family), but lesbian or gay, and now transgender.
 - The layers of darkness are thick
 - First some parents are not married, but are male and female, but are committing fornication
 - Of course there is "divorce" which doesn't only impact the marriage, but the family (1 Cor. 7)
 - Now parents that are lesbians or gays - never truly married in God's eyes, but seek marriage, some seek it not.
 - When it couldn't get any more depraved and absurd - transgender parents - seek marriage some not.

- Moreover, today it is possible for a trans-woman and trans-man to be parents which strangely would be closer to God's design if it weren't for the "trans" part.
- In many of these instances these vile relationships cannot have children together but use the means honorable marriages use when they cannot have children. Therefore, the world forms this pseudo-family - the modern family - a frankenstein joining of people. The children being victims of darkness. It is dark and wicked.
- The modern family is not family, but a societal invention of evil - one that God's grace loves to redeem and save and forgive - His love and mercy are deep providing the light in the face of this darkness.
 - Romans 1:20-32
- Hence, we must ask at least 1) what is a family? 2) What are the purposes of family? And, 3) how is the family to function?
 - Therefore, we will examine the family from the only source of truth - from the Author of family Himself - God Almighty!
 - We will see family is something even unbelievers enjoy and benefit from, but also how we as believers are to honor God's design of it and how we are to function therein.
 - We will address parents both father and mother (therefore, the impact marriage is upon the family), as well as, sons and daughters and their responsibilities within the family.

II. Preview:

- Initial Observation of Family
- Introduction of The Family

III. Sermon:

Initial Observation of Family

- Family
 - Times - 123x's (78 in the book of Numbers)
 - Usage
 - 1st time used - Lev. 20:5 - setting face against man and his family
 - Last time used - Eph. 3:15 - whole family in heaven and earth in Christ
- Families
 - Times - 174x's (81 in the book of Numbers)
 - Usage
 - 1st time used - Gen. 10:5 - after their families (tongues, nations)
 - Last time used - Zech. 14:17 - come up of all families of the earth
 - Families not referenced in Revelation (peoples, nations, multitudes, tongues), yet

- Zechariah deals with the restoration of the families (Gentiles)

Introduction of The Family

- **The Honor of Family**

1. God has granted us to temporarily experience and know natural affection within the family now, which points to His eternal experience and know love within the divine family to come.
 - Ephesians 1:3-6, 3:15
 - 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
2. God in view of His eternal purpose in Christ to have a divine family He has taken on such identity
 - Davidic Covenant - 2 Samuel 7:12-15 - "father - son"
 - Jn. 1:14, 18, 3:35
 - Romans 1:3-4, 7 - "His Son"
 - Ephesians 1:3
 - Romans 8:17 - our baptism into Christ makes it that we are the sons and daughters of God
 - Ephesians 2:1-3, 5:1ff - We are not the children of God by nature - but rather the children of wrath

- **The Headship of Family**

- Just as in the institution of business there is headship - Creator to created, so in marriage there is headship husband and wife.
- In family the oneness of husband and wife as parents serve as headship to the children.
 - Proverbs 1:8
 - 1 Tim. 2:11-15, 3:4-5
 - Ephesians 6:1-2
 - Colossians 3:20
- Significant issue - oppression and suppression
 - Ex. 22:22
 - Ps. 68:5 - "a father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widow, is God in His holy habitation."
 - Isa. 1:17, 10:2 - nation of Israel failed
 - Mal. 3:5 - God's judgment
 - Jas. 1:27 - pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."
- Infidel
 - 1 Tim. 5:8

IV. **Conclusion:**

- The family is the nursery of the church and....state

- God from the natural family gives being to His church and cultivates His divine family
- 1) what is a family? 2) What are the purposes of family? And, 3) how is the family to function?