

9/19/04

The Icing On The Cake, Woman
Gen. 2:18-25

The creation of man and woman was for the purpose of marriage, this was and is God's design for society and nothing can substitute it with equal benefit and effectiveness for society.

Did you ever hear of the conversation that went on between God and Adam about the creation of the woman?

*Adam asked God, "Why did you make her so beautiful, so you would look at her, Why did you make her so soft, that you might touch her. But why did you make her so dumb, so she would like you".

Marriage is difficult but the most rewarding, if we live it out in Christ!

We want to look at the creation of the woman for the covenant of marriage, which is described in three ways by:

- I. The declaration about Adam needing a mate. Vs. 18-20
- II. The operation on Adam to obtain a mate. Vs. 21-23
- III. The celebration of Adam with his mate. Vs. 24-25

I. The declaration about Adam needing a mate.
Vs. 18-20

A. The comment and commentary on Adam being without a mate. Vs. 18

* "And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

1. The comment by Yahweh Elohim was that it was not good for man "adam" to be alone. Vs. 18b
 - a. The phrase to be alone simply means to exist in solitude without a mate, unlike the animals.
 - b. The word for good "towb" means pleasant, agreeable, or appropriate.
 - 1) Implication is, man without a mate is not what God ever had in mind.
 - 2) Implication being that it is not in the best interest and benefit of man to live life without a woman.
 - c. This is the eighth appearance of this phrase "Elohim Yahweh", identifying the covenant God.
 - 1) The number eight represents a new beginnings. Gen. 2:4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 18
 - 2) Adam was about to experience a new beginning.

- d. The covenant God would provide the mate for Adam.
 - 1) The covenant was based on the fact that “Elohim” was Adam’s creator.
 - 2) The covenant would provide Adam with everything he would need for life by placing him in the Garden.
- 2. The commentary regarding Adam’s situation was also by Yahweh Elohim regarding Adam’s completion, that He would make a helper comparable to him.
 - a. The phrase a “helper” is “ezer” simply means one who assists and helps.
 - b. The helper is qualified by the preposition comparable “ezer kenegdo”, which appears only two time in the Bible. Gen. 18, 20
 - c. The preposition comparable “kenegdo” means “in front of”, corresponding and matching his distinctiveness of physical, mental and spiritual likeness, which no animal could fulfill.
 - d. The one fit for Adam, who would be his counter-part or complement for life, like him but opposite to him to complete him in what he lacked, a suitable helper.

- B. The common creation of Adam and the animals, with a superior comparison. Vs. 19
 - * “Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.”
- 1. God, Yahweh Elohim created every beast of the field and every bird of the air. Vs. 19a
 - a. The covenant God “Yahweh” and Creator “Elohim” created “bara” made out of nothing as indicated for the sea-life in the fifth day. Gen. 1:21
 - b. The sixth day the beasts of the earth were spoken into existence and are place before the creation of man, here it is the reverse. Gen. 1:25
 - * There is no contradiction, chapter one gives us the general revelation, chapter two the specific details of the creation.
 - c. The text uses the word “yatsar” to form or fashion or mold.
 - d. The word “every” is mentioned twice, there was no exception, nothing evolve into a higher form but were created in a complete and finished state.

2. God reveals the simple common ground of the animal kingdom with man. Vs. 19a
 - a. They both were created “bara” out of nothing, God spoke them into existence.
 - b. They both were formed “yatsar” out of the ground. Gen. 2:7, 2:19
 - c. They both were created on the sixth day.
3. God brought them to Adam that he might assign names to the animals. Vs. 19b-c
 - a. This is the confirmation of the dominion of Adam over the animal kingdom. Gen. 1:26-27
 - b. This is the confirmation of man’s clear distinction and superiority over the animal kingdom,.
 - c. This is the confirmation that the animal kingdom was for the benefit of man, being conscious that God created it for man.
 - f. This is the confirmation of man being created in the image and likeness of God, able to think, reason and be a self determinate being, expressed in speech.

C. The conscious awareness by Adam of having the need of a mate for companionship. Vs. 20

- * “So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.”
1. The man Adam named all the animals that God created. Vs. 20a
 - a. All the cattle.
 - b. All the birds of the air.
 - c. All of the beast of the field.
 2. The ability to perform such a task is a record of the incredible mind that Adam was endowed with at his creation.
 - a. The word name “shem” in the Hebrew indicates the nature and character.
 - b. They say we use a small percentage of our mind.
 3. The naming is simply stated as a fact.
 - a. There is no time element given.
 - b. Yet this is the sixth day and the seventh God rested, so Adam had to of accomplished it in that very day.
 4. The man Adam was allowed by God to perform this task that he might see himself as incomplete without a mate, being unable to communicate with the animals. Vs. 20d
 - a. The word “but” is a contrasting conjunction, marking the sharp contrast between the helper comparable to the animal kingdom.

- b. The animals were all created simultaneously in pairs, with mates, except for Adam, Eve was created subsequent to Adam.
- c. The natural consequence of Adam's created design would be for Adam to desire and expect God to also create a mate for him, having made him in the image and likeness of God, a social being.

Illustration

It is a proven fact that single men and divorce men die sooner than married men.

Application

1. Every man and woman is to know that the norm for life is to have a mate, a monogamous heterosexual relation by marriage.
 - a. "Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully." 1Tim. 5:14
 - b. God's will is one man to one woman for life, "Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband." 1Cor. 7:2
 - c. God will gift some with the gift of celibacy, the exception, "For I wish that all men were even as I myself. But each one has his own

- gift from God, one in this manner and another in that." 1Cor. 7:7
2. Every man is held responsible for the covenant of marriage because of the sharp difference between man and the animals.
 - a. Man is to act in accords with the knowledge of the image and likeness of God.
 - b. Man is a social being, created for commitment to one person in marriage.
 - c. Man is not to act like the animals who just roam and mate with whichever animal will allow them.
 3. Every man longs to communicate with the opposite sex, the problem is that once the marriage takes place and the man has obtained his wife, several things can result.
 - a. In being indifferent, insensitive, uninvolved, unconcerned.
 - b. The Scripture are clear that two are better than one, ever from the general principle, "Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up." Eccl. 4:9-10

The declaration was that Adam needed a mate!

II. The operation on Adam was to obtain a mate. Vs. 21-23

A. The critical surgery was undertaken by God.
Vs. 21

* “And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.”

1. Yahweh Elohim sedated Adam, causing a deep sleep to fall on Adam. Vs. 21
 - a. The phrase deep sleep “tardemah”, means a trance.
 - b. The first man had to experience a type of death to obtain his bride.
2. Yahweh next took a part of Adam’s side.
 - a. The word rib “tesla”, does not mean one rib but literally a side of bone, flesh and blood from Adam
 - b. The part closest to his heart.
4. The Lord closed up the flesh in its place.
 - a. He repaired the opening.
 - b. He returned Adam to consciousness.

B. The creation of woman was completed by God. Vs. 22

* “Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.”

1. God, Yahweh Elohim then constructed the woman Eve. Vs. 22
 - a. God took the bone, flesh and blood and He made it into a woman. Vs. 22a

- 1) Not from his feet to trodden her under foot.
 - 2) Not from the head of man to rule him.
 - 3) But from the closest part to his heart, that she might be by his side and close to complete and console him. (Matthew Henry)
- b.** The word for made is “banah” to build.
- 1) Amos used the word to describe how God built the layers in the sky. Amos 9:6
 - 2) The Creator form “yatsar” Adam “adam” form the ground “adamah”. Gen. 2:7
- c.** The record of creation used four different words to describe the creative activity of God.
- 1) The word “bara”, out of nothing.
 - 2) The word “ashah” out of existing material that He created out of nothing.
 - 3) The word “yatsar” to form and shape.
- d.** Eve was altogether different from Adam, she was built “banah”.
- 1) She was more refined, having been taken form man not the earth.
 - 2) She was created with a lighter skeletal frame, less muscle, and a

greater emotional make-up than Adam.

- 3) She was created with different features, body shape and body parts and sexual organs yet all with a purpose in mind to complete man, not for competing or equating herself with the man.

* “I will praise You, for I am fearfully and **wonderfully**, meaning distinctly and separately, made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. Ps. 139:14

2. God, Yahweh Elohim presented Adam with his bride. Vs. 22b
- a. God brought Eve to Adam.
 - b. They were equals in that God created both of them but not in their design and function for life.
* “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.” Gen. 1:27
 - c. They were equal before God as persons but not as physical or emotional beings.

C. The commentary of Adam at the presentation of his wife. Vs. 23

* “And Adam said: “This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.”

1. Adam’s response identifies her common likeness in relationship to him by acknowledging the woman as an extension of himself, coming from the man in Hebrew poetry employing parallelism. Vs. 23a-b
 - a. “This now is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh”, is a wordplay between his response and the phrase “one of his ribs” in verse twenty-one.”
 - b. The one to complete him, emphasizing his state being different than before this event, by the word “now”
* Paul tells us very clear that the man was not created for the woman but the woman for the man. yet the man is not without the woman, for she is the one who gives birth to every man. 1Cor. 11:8-9, 11-12
 - c. The one to accompany him.
 - d. The one to communicate with him.
 - e. The one to care for him.
 - 1) By being by his side, loving him.
 - 2) By balancing him.
2. Adam also identifies the woman by her opposite gender in delight. Vs. 23c

- a. He called her woman “ishsha”, a female, one opposite to a man, also used for wife.
 - b. The word “iysh” is the word for man, also used for husband.
 - c. The interesting thing is that these Hebrew words were used by the Mayans in the Yucatan peninsula.
 - d. How can this be? Because the entire human race had a common language before the tower of Babel, before God confused the languages and scattered them throughout the earth.
 - e. The American Indian as the Mayas, we know now through DNA that they came from their common ancestors of Asia, crossing over and down through north America, down through Mexico to Central and South America.
3. Adam indicates the reason for identifying her as woman, he was the source and origin of the woman. Vs. 23d
- a. Adam acknowledged that the woman Eve was taken out of man.
 - b. Adam understood this close relationship as the Divine intention for man and society.
 - c. Adam comprehended she was his mate, embracing her with joyful gratitude and appreciation.

Illustration

Benjamin Franklin said, “Before you enter marriage keep both eyes open, after marriage keep one closed.”

Application

1. God desires to perform the same surgical operation on every Christian man.
 - a. Having him to submit to dying to self, to obtain his bride in the proper relation God intends, between a husband and a wife.
 - * “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and **gave** Himself for her.” Eph. 5:25
 - b. Having a wife complete a man as God intended it.
 - 1) “But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.” 1Cor. 11:3
 - 2) “For the husband is head of the **wife**, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.” Eph. 5:23
 - 3) “Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold **cord** is not quickly broken.” Eccl. 4:12
2. God also desires to bring to every man his wife as He did for Adam.

- a. You may say well, Eve was the only woman in town, true but the principle can not be missed.
 - b. If you are walking with God, you are seeking God, not a wife or husband, and all that you will be learning in your growth and maturity, will be preparing you to be the godly husband or wife.
 - c. The problem is that Christians have weird ideas about dating and marriage, living in some self-righteous attitude, being legalistic, wanting a woman or man to either parade, rule over or dominate.
 - d. God brought Isaac his wife, Jacob, etc.
* “He who finds a wife finds a good thing,
And obtains favor from the LORD.”
Prov. 18:22
3. Any man or woman who does not recognize the goodness of God in giving them their mate, will abuse and ruin the marriage.
- a. Men you are the one responsible for your wife.
 - b. She will respond to you, how you treat her, how you speak to her, how you love her.
 - c. She will be a mere reflection of you.
 - d. She is God’s gift to you to complete you and help you to be all you can be in Christ.
* “Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that

your prayers may not be hindered.” 1Pet. 3:7

3. The joy of every man and woman in marriage will be in direct proportion to their joy in relationship to their Savior Jesus Christ.
- a. You can not say you love God and not love your wife. 1Jn. 3:10
 - b. You can not use the past, if you are a new creature, old things are passed away. 2Cor. 5:17
 - c. You have to be like your Lord and die to self, being ready to forgive in the proportion you have been forgiven. Col. 3:13
* “Bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”

The operation on Adam was needed to obtain a mate!

III. The celebration of Adam with his mate. Vs. 24-25

- A. The design of God in marriage was for community influence. Vs. 24
* “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”

1. When God brings that one special woman to a man for marriage, he is to be separated from his parents.
 - a. There is to a severing of parental authority.
 - 1) The statement is interesting the two newly weds, having no parents.
 - 2) This does not mean abandonment or neglect of parents!
 - 3) This is for the protection of the newly wed, so that parents don't create problems.
 - 4) The boundaries have to be set by the husband and wife, for both in-laws.
 - b. There is to be a new authority through the headship and completion of the man.
 - 1) It is transacted by a public ceremony with witnesses.
 - 2) It is entered into by a private devotion and the free will of each person.
 - 3) It is recorded as a legal document for the order of society.
2. When God bring that one special woman to a man and they enter marriage, he is to be joined to his wife.
 - a. There is to be a cleaving to the new authority.

- 1) The word joined “dabaq”, means gluing to one’s wife as no other for life till death and is used for the way Israel was to be in her married covenant with God. Deut. 10:20, 11:22, 13:4
 - 2) The closest and most binding of all relations.
- b. There is to be a submission to the new authority.
 - 1) For efficiency, inferiority is never the issue.
 - 2) But the glory and honor of God.
- c. There is a commitment to the covenant of marriage as God’s institution for the Christian.
 - 1) To be marked by steadfast love, faithfulness, confidentiality, forgiveness, patience, tenderness, sacrifice, blessing and comfort.
 - 2) To not be based on emotions, circumstances or an unrealistic views of romance but reality.
 - 3) To dying to self constantly.
3. When God brings that one special woman to a man and they enter marriage, they will become one flesh.
 - a. The one flesh takes place at the alter, before God and the witnesses.
 - 1) This word for one is “ached” one with a compound unity.

- 2) The same that is used for God as a Trinity, in Deuteronomy, known as the “Shema Of Israel”. Deut. 6:4
- 3) They are no longer two people but one unit, complements to accomplish the purposes of God in and through marriage.
- b. The one flesh also indicates the sexual oneness but the focus is community.
 - 1) As the most intimate expression of their love and commitment, being physical, emotional and spiritual beings.
 - 2) As a means to strengthen their commitment and love.
 - 3) As a means to celebrate their oneness as the two bodies become one.
 - 4) As a means to be forever united through the children that are a unique combination of both of them.
 - 5) As a manner of obtaining a unique form of pleasure and joy from and with each other.
 - 7) A woman makes a better man, being all he can be.
 - * “Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.” Heb. 13:4

- B. The design of God in marriage was for contentment sexually. Vs. 25
 - * “And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”
 - 1. Their nakedness was perfectly normal and right, due to marriage.
 - a. Prior to the fall the principle of sin or sin nature was not present.
 - 1) The word naked “arom” meaning bear before each other, unclothed.
 - 2) The commentator Delitisch says, “They were naked, but yet not so. Their bodies were the clothing of their internal glory; and their internal glory was the clothing of their nakedness.”
 - b. But after the fall, God clothed both of them. Gen. 3:21
 - 1) Their eyes were opened and knew they were naked “erom”. Gen. 3:7
 - 2) The wordplay is seen, their original nakedness “arom” and the word cunning “arum” of the serpent, resulted in the nakedness “erom”, which comes from “arom” cunning, falling under God’s judgment. Gen. 2: 25, 3:1, 7
 - c. Yet in marriage the shame is removed, though there may be a slight embarrassment at first.

- 1) Here in is one of the main purposes and connection of the woman being a helper “ezer” and “zera” offspring or seed. Gen. 3:15
 - 2) The preposition comparable to him “kengdo” remember means in front of, how interesting that man is the one of God’s creation that has sex facing each other.
2. The man and the woman were not ashamed, due to marriage.
- a. Due to the fact that God designed marriage for male and female.
 - b. Due to the fact that God created them male and female in purity before the fall.
 - c. Due to the fact that the covenant of marriage is to be marked by steadfast love, faithfulness, confidentiality, forgiveness, patience, tenderness, sacrifice, blessing and comfort.
 - 1) Being completely vulnerable to each other.
 - 2) No one knowing you or about you like your husband or wife.
 - d. Due to the fact that God was directing their lives and how it was to be lived.
 - 1) The man being the one to protect Eve.
 - 2) The man being the one to provide for Eve.

- 3) The man being the one to provide spiritual direction for Eve.

Illustration

“Behold, you are fair, my love! Behold, you are fair! You have dove's eyes behind your veil. Your hair is like a flock of goats, Going down from Mount Gilead. Your teeth are like a flock of shorn sheep Which have come up from the washing, Every one of which bears twins, And none is barren among them. Your lips are like a strand of scarlet, And your mouth is lovely. Your temples behind your veil Are like a piece of pomegranate. Your neck is like the tower of David, Built for an armory, On which hang a thousand bucklers, All shields of mighty men. Your two breasts are like two fawns, Twins of a gazelle, Which feed among the lilies. Until the day breaks And the shadows flee away, I will go my way to the mountain of myrrh And to the hill of frankincense. You are all fair, my love, And there is no spot in you.” Song. Sol. 4:1-7

Application

1. Marriage establishes a monogamous union and a new home, within society.
 - a. Whenever parents meddle with their children’s affairs, overstepping their boundaries, they will cause tremendous problems.

- b. Whenever one mate or both do not set boundaries for their parents, they will suffer the loss, both need to know the standards, so as to honor their God and parents.
 - c. Both will reap the benefit of being one in every way, if they honor God first.
2. Marriage is the foundation and strength of society.
- a. The family home is the key to a healthy society, it is the nucleus of society, the only hope for society.
 - b. The apostle Paul expressed to the Corinthians the importance of marriage in society for moral stability, as well as the pleasure and contentment that is not to be denied in marriage. 1Cor. 7:3-6
 - 1) Their bodies are not their own but their mates. Vs. 3-4
 - 2) They are not to deprive one another except with consent for a time for fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan not tempt them. Vs. 5-6
 - 3) There is to be a great celebration between husband and wife in their sexual love.
 - 4) Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth. As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love. Prov. 5:18-19

3. Marriage after the fall resulted at times in divorce, so Paul also expressed the principles for divorce. 1Cor. 7:10-15
- a. The husband or wife are not to divorce their mate. Vs. 10-11
 - b. Christians who have unbelieving mates are not to divorce them but be faithful, for their mate and children are being sanctified by the saved parent. Vs. 12-14
 - c. “But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.” Vs. 15
4. Malachi revealed the low view and state of marriage among God’s people. Mal. 2:13-16
- a. “And this is the second thing you do: You cover the altar of the LORD with tears, With weeping and crying; So He does not regard the offering anymore, Nor receive it with goodwill from your hands.” Vs. 13
 - b. “Yet you say, “For what reason? “Because the LORD has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, With whom you have dealt treacherously; Yet she is your companion And your wife by covenant.” Vs. 14
 - c. “But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal

treacherously with the wife of his youth.”

Vs. 15

- d. “For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence,” Says the LORD of hosts. “Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously.” Vs. 16

5. Jesus said the following about marriage and divorce. Matt. 19:3-9

- a. “The Pharisees came testing Jesus, and saying to Him, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?” Vs. 3
- b. Jesus took them back to the beginning of Genesis and said, “Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.” and that it was due to the hardness of heart that divorce was allowed by Moses. Vs.6-8
- c. “And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.’ Vs. 9

6. Marriage is the key requirement for spiritual service in the church.

- a. “A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife...” 1Tim. 3:2
- b. “Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.” 1Tim.3:12

- c. “Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, and not unless she has been the wife of one man.” 1Tim. 5:9
- d. “If a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children...’ Tit. 1:6

The celebration of Adam was enjoyed with his mate, as his wife in marriage!

Conclusion

The creation of the woman for the covenant of marriage has been described by:

- I. The declaration about Adam was that he needed a mate, it is not good that man be alone!
- II. The operation on Adam was needed to obtain a mate, God built the woman from Adam!
- III. The celebration of Adam was enjoyed with his mate, as his wife in marriage!