

Genesis In The Beginning Part 4

The Cornerstone of Society

Genesis 2:18-25

Memory Verses: Genesis 2:18

MANUSCRIPT

Introduction (Me, We, & the Struggle)

Over the past month we've been looking at the creation account in Genesis chapters 1 and 2. We've seen that there is an all knowing, all powerful, benevolent creator that we call God. El Shaddi, Jehovah, the Lord of all. He is the author and designer of everything we can see, everything we can know about, and of course of the immeasurable amount of created things we don't know about and will probably never know about. And of course, all of this was created through him, by him, and for him! The chief end of all creation is the glory of God! And we've looked at his chief creation, us; humanity, mankind! How he formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into him the spirit of life, creating people in his image. We, like God are triune, consisting of flesh, spirit, and soul. We are not coincidental beings born from chance reactions. We are designed beings born for purpose and meaning. Even before he died, Darwin made it clear that there must be a "first cause," with an intelligent mind apart from man. He even claimed that this belief made him a theist... meaning, he, the man who created the theory which many believe killed God, actually believed in God. Of course the atheist adherents of evolution will ignore this fact, but it makes no difference to me. The evidence is right before our eyes. As Romans 1:19-20 states, what can be known about God is plain, God has shown it to us. His invisible attributes like his eternal power and divine nature, have been made clear to us in the things he has made. The stars, the seas, the mountains, the trees, the birds, the fish, the deer, our pets, and ourselves... It all points to a creator... the creator God, and it's all for his glory!

So God makes man in his own image from the dust of the ground. Adam, man, is the pinnacle of creation. But something is missing. Let's look today, starting in **Genesis 2:18-25**. **Humanity may be the cornerstone of all created things, but Family is most certainly the cornerstone of society!** It is not good for man to be alone. It's not good for the man and its not good for mankind. It's not good for the individual and its not good for the community at large. We do not do good by ourselves. We need help. Some of us more than others.

But that's where we come to the problem at hand. Some of us aren't good at making friends, asking for help, or finding community. Some of us are introverted. Some of us are awkward. Some of us are

outcasts, wall flowers on the fringe of society. Some of us find it hard to fit in. And guess what, God is not unaware of this. In fact, he is created you the way you are to be unique and special.

And so God did something that only God could do... he gave us family! A societal structure of nurturing friends whom you are automatically included with. Family naturally loves you and cares for you regardless of your unique attributes and silly quirks. You cannot easily escape your family, nor can they easily discard you. And of course, there are exceptions to this rule. Some are treated poorly by family. Some are discarded and put up for adoption. I'm not saying that family always works out. But, under God's design, and with Him as the head of the family, the nuclear family, more so than not... is the best societal structure in the world. This morning, as we look at this passage, I want us to recognize this fundamental biblical theme; **The Strength of our Society Is Based Upon The Faith of our Families.**

Teaching (Expand on the Problem, God)

The first thing we need to see here is... **A Faithful Family Consists of a Marriage Between One Man and One Woman.** Get married! Biblical marriage is defined by a few key things here. First, notice I said, Biblical marriage. I must use that phrasing because, though the act of marriage is a biblically defined institution created by God, the world has, as it does with most godly things, redefined it to mean something else. The point is this... **Marriage is a Biblical sacrament defined and created by God. Anything that does not function according to the biblical definition of marriage is simply not marriage.**

Secondly, marriage is a gift given to mankind for help. As I said earlier, we need help. And ladies... not just men. You need help too. I think. Of course help can mean many different things. Lisa needs help opening lids. Isn't that the best men? Don't you just feel like a hero when your wife hands you a bottle that they can't open and you just pop that bad boy open with no problem. You feel like Reacher don't ya? Or Batman. I need help depositing money into the bank or picking up our kids prescriptions. You try remembering 5 kids birthdates. So yes, help in the traditional sense is a big part of it and men and women are uniquely gifted to compliment each other in various ways. We need marriage to help one another. But we also need emotional and spiritual help. We need to help one another by providing love, respect, wisdom, affirmation, forgiveness and grace. Look at what Paul says concerning this in **Ephesians 5:25-33**. Notice that husbands help their wives by loving them unconditionally just as Christ loved the church. How did Christ love the church? Though the church often turns its back on Him, though we are prone to wander, still Christ died for us. Notice that husbands are to love their wives as he loves himself. A good husband recognizes that the wife is his own flesh and to help her and love

her is to help himself and love himself. Notice that husbands help their wives by being the spiritual leaders of their families. It is the husbands job to disciple his wife with the word of God. And lastly, notice that wives help their husbands by respecting Him. The past two semesters of our growth electives, Gary Gray has taught a marriage course called Love and Respect. Without getting into too much detail the premise is that Wives help their husbands by respecting them and husbands help their wives by loving them. When she feels loved, she gives him the respect he needs. When he feels respected he gives her the love she needs. The point is simple... husbands need help from their wives to feel respected, affirmed, and appreciated. And wives need help from their husbands to feel loved, cared for, and needed.

Thirdly, marriage is a union where two people become one flesh. This is very important. It takes two to become one. According to the Bible, woman is so close in nature to man that she had to be taken from man. God took a rib from Adam and made Eve. Now the two come back together as one flesh through marriage. Get this... Biology! Man and woman are uniquely designed for intimate sexual intercourse. It simply does not work the way it was designed to work any other way. Again, mankind has corrupted this and made a mockery of it. But the point the Bible makes clear is that marriage, the coming together of two souls is consummated through the coming together of two bodies made to fit together. This is why sex should be sacred. It is meant for marriage. It is meant for the one you are becoming one spirit with. It is meant for your wife or your husband and no one else. When sex is used as simply a means of pleasure apart from marriage it corrupts both sex and marriage. When sex is seen as a gift specifically for your marriage partner, there is no shame. Sex only becomes shameful when it is done in a sinful way. This is why the Bible here mentions that they were naked and not ashamed. They didn't become ashamed of their nakedness until after they became sinful.

Fourthly, Marriage means multiplying families. We are called to leave our father and mother, find a spouse, and start a new family. You are to reproduce what you've learned in your family by creating another family. When God honoring, God fearing families reproduce into more God honoring, God fearing families, we are building the kingdom of God one family at a time! The point is this. We aren't called to remain with our parents. We are meant to become husbands, wives, and parents with children of our own. **The Strength of our Society Is Based Upon The Faith of our Families.**

The next thing we need to turn our attention to is that... **A Faithful Family Consists of Nurturing Parents and Disciplined Children.** Biblical marriage consists of obedience and submission. The wife must

submit to her husband, the husband must submit to his wife, and they both must submit to God who gives instruction concerning marriage in **Genesis 1:26-28**. Husbands and Wives are to have children. Yes Baptists... sex is good. No Catholics... sex isn't just for procreation. No super trendy mega church... sex isn't just about sex. It's both, its a gift for pleasure and its a gift for procreation. **Being fruitful and multiplying isn't a suggestion. If you are able to have children you should have children.** And I'm going to take it one step further. The Bible tells us how many children to have. **I don't know if you know this or not but we are in a worldwide depopulation crisis. We have a world wide birth rate decrease that is staggering. If it takes two people to make a child then to keep any population stable it would mean every couple would need to have at least 2 children. Math folks, its easy. To multiply and fill the earth, you would need to have more than 2 children. Get it? 2 children stabilizes population, 3 or more grows a population. The birth rate of a society is calculated by calculating how many births per year per 1000 people in the population. When using this process scientists will tell you that... surprise, a birthrate of 2.1 is what it takes to stabilize a population. Okay. The math lesson is almost over. In 1920 the world wide birth rate was 5.0. The world population was growing like a weed. Today the world wide birth rate is 2.3. Less than half. Meaning our population growth has stalled and its not going to get better. For instance, The US birth rate right now is 1.3, Korea & Japan are 1.2, and China is at 1.1. To make this clear... the 20 and under crowd is 33% of the world's population right now. If not another child was born from this point forward... in 80 years the worlds population would be 2.3 billion. If we were to go from 7.5 billion to 2.3 billion in 80 years... thats the total collapse of society! And if the birth rate keeps collapsing incrementally we could see this happening in three to four generations!** So this is why it is important for Christians who can have children to have children. We should have two to repopulate, we should have three to increase population, we should have four for those who can't have children or choose to remain single. **Psalm 127:3-5** tells us that children are a heritage. Blessed is the man who's quiver is full. By the way, a single quiver typically fits 25-30 arrows... so.

There's a quote I found that I love because it's true. **The most precious jewels you'll ever have around your neck are the arms of your children.** So we are commanded to have children and children are a blessing! What's stopping us then? Stop giving into the lies of the devil and the spirit of the age... you don't need to be rich to have children... in fact you don't even have to be wealthy. I've been basically lower class my whole life and God has always provided for my family no matter how big it is. You don't need to have it all together to have children. You will learn... you will figure it out. Becoming a parent is a process that only happens with on the job training! You'll say, well what about those who decide to remain single or those who can't have children? And i've addressed this before. These are

exceptions that God is okay with. You are encouraged to remain single if your ministry demands more of your time than you could ever give to your children. This is why many of the apostles remained single, including Paul. And God is in control of closing and opening the womb. But I would always encourage those who can't have children to adopt children. The bottom line is this. If the rest of the world is too selfish or too self-absorbed to have children... if we Christians take up the banner, take up the call to populate the earth, we will see a resurgence of the Christian faith! Do the math. If Christians outbreed the world, Christians will once again inherit the world! It simply takes obedient Christians to heed the call to be fruitful and multiply!

Have children and train them and disciple them! Again, it doesn't work if you have lots of kids but don't raise them to be Christ followers! In fact, if you aren't going to train your children to be lovers of Jesus and Christ followers and the next generation of warriors for the cause of Christ... then you are actually decreasing the kingdom of God by adding to the population of the enemy. We don't need more pagans... we need more sold-out believers! **Proverbs 22:6** tells us to train them up to be like Christ and it will stick! **The Strength of our Society Is Based Upon The Faith of our Families.**

Application

Why does God want us to marry? Why does God want us to have children? Why does God want us to have strong nuclear families? Look at **Genesis 1:28**. Fill the earth and subdue it... have dominion over it. The point is simple! God wants us to have God-centered families to make a God-centered society. Look around. We don't have a God-centered society, do we? We don't have a God-centered world? Why not? Because we have abdicated our responsibility for millennia to have marriages that glorify God and raise children that glorify God! God knew this from the beginning... the only way to establish his kingdom on earth is through God-glorifying families! This is exactly why the spirit of the age wants to destroy marriage. Divorce... yes, let's kill marriage. Homosexual marriage... yes, let's kill marriage. Feminism, I don't need a man... yes, let's kill marriage. Casual sex with no commitment... yes, let's kill marriage. Porn... yes, let's kill marriage. This is exactly why the spirit of the age wants to destroy the nuclear family. We don't need dad's raising their children. Dad... it's okay to go get the milk and not come back. This is exactly why the spirit of the age is pushing an extreme trans agenda. No men, no women, no distinction between male, female, old, young. We should all be some androgynous neutral person without traditional gender roles cause... if we can kill the image of God in mankind... we can kill the kingdom of God on earth!

Conclusion

The conclusion is simple. Fight against the spirit of the age's attempt to destroy the family! Godly families mean Godly communities. Godly communities mean Godly states. Godly states mean Godly countries. Get married and center your marriage around God. Have children and raise your children to love God. And then do it again, and do it again. This was God's plan from the beginning! **The Strength of our Society Is Based Upon The Faith of our Families**