

For every one
DELUZIO, BUT HAMBURG
1 Peter 3:1-7

THE TWO WILL BECOME ONE

OUR LIFE, OUR CALLING

June 19, 2022

What is marriage?

Marriage was designed and ordained by God himself.

Genesis 1:26-27
- Co-heirs/image bearers
- Male/Female

Genesis 2:18-25
- Helper fit/Leave and cleave
- One flesh/Naked and unashamed

Marriage is a shadow of a truer substance.

Ephesians 5
First called to walk in love.

Ephesians 5:22-24
- Wives called to submit
- Big picture

Ephesians 5:25-31
Men called to love like Christ
-Big picture
-Bible not saying less, but they point to something bigger.

Ephesians 5:32-33
- Marriage is supposed to image gospel
- We look to marriage and draw ideas about God, but we need to look to God to draw ideas of marriage

We are to hold these truths firmly

We should not apologize for what God, the author of life, has ordained.

He did not make a mistake.

Our present skirmishes are not new in church history.

We are to speak these truths humbly

Colossians 4:5-6
- Walk in wisdom

- May speech and conduct be gracious

We need a patient timeline
Orthodoxy does not negate a patient spirit and a kind expectation.

Love hopes all, believes all, endures all...

Why does this matter?

God's intention for marriage and identity doesn't change with time.
The call for Christians within the marriage covenant to image the gospel through marriage is for every marriage in every time

SO...

Good Christians find ways to speak truth in love into current marriage disparities (individual or universal) in order to point us back to what produces flourishing in God's design.

We as God's people ought to hold traditional marriage in high regard.

What is the context?

Societal pressure to live like the culture
Male dominated

Women and slaves flocked to Christianity
More liberty offered than current standing

Immediate context

- Wives with unbelieving spouses, offering hope
- Husbands learning how to lead well
- However, principles applied to all marital relationships.

What are we not saying?

We are not saying it is always right to stay in painful situations.

There are clear, objective cases where abuse is taking place, and these need to be brought to the light that they may be properly dealt with.

Scripture does not condone or tolerate abuse at the hands of others, especially believers, especially within a marriage covenant intended to reflect the glory of God.

We are not saying that one gender is superior over the other.

The language of submission and leadership is never one of competency or superiority when speaking of image-bearers. Instead, this language is meant to describe roles and responsibility.

The bible does not promote a misogynistic worldview. It records misogynistic moments in culture, but does not support them. In its new testament commandments, the Bible is always pushing for more freedom and more support than the current culture offered, all within the framework of God's original design for marriage.

We are not saying each couple needs to take this and figure it out on their own.

- One of the biggest fears when we read passages about marriage is this:
 - I know how it's supposed to be...
 - Who will help me? Who will hear my cry?
 - Who will stand up for me if my spouse won't?
- The church cannot say "this is the standard" and then leave its people to flounder in that circumstance.
 - We are called to walk out our marriage in community.
 - This threatens our idol of autonomy but is the only way to guarantee the marital joy and flourishing of the gospel.
 - We form our own ecosystems of normal, and left unchallenged this will produce harm and not good.

This won't make for good marriages? How's it going out there?

What does this mean for wives?

There is power in embracing your role.
1 Peter 3:1-2 - *Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, when they see your respectful and pure conduct.*

The words mean what they say, but...
Not all husbands, just yours
Likewise/so that point to deeper purpose

Submitting in hard places, previous chapter
This has fruit in every area of life and is the most winsome witness of the gospel.

Godly conduct in the face or hard times is always virtuous and glorifying of God.
Ungodly actions and postures breed deeper resentment and are a poor witness.

This doesn't mean you don't say how you feel!
This doesn't mean you can't ask for help!
But default posture should be godly, viewing husband as head.
This is for benefit of all.

There is beauty in a cultivated soul.

1 Peter 3:3-4 - *Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.*

This is not a verse about strict prohibition, but about what your are spending time, money, and energy to cultivate in your life.

Showing importance of inner beauty, which is precious to all, including God our Father.

Proverbs 31:30-31

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

There is fruit in godly obedience and trust.

1 Peter 3:5-6 - *For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.*

Genesis 18

Did things our way, realigning with God's way.

Throughout history, godly and holy women adorned themselves in imperishable beauty and accomplished great things through embracing their roles.

You are part of this legacy.

God blesses us when we honor the place we have been given.

FRUITFULNESS

What does this mean for husbands?

Our wives deserve to be known and honored

1 Peter 3:7 - *Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way...*

Live - dwell together, commune
Understanding - knowledge.

Do you know her?
Do you live in light of what you know about her?
Do you share life with your wife?

Our wives deserve to be protected and considered

1 Peter 3:7 - *...showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life...*

Do you show your wife honor in word and deed?
Is she valuable to you? Do you show this?

Weaker vessel - primarily speaking of physical strength on average.

In light of this, be mindful of what life is like for her.
Both weak, women weaker.

Your wife is a co-heir of promise.

You have responsibility as the head of the home to love her like Christ loved the church, but she is a child of God just like you.

Easy = I'm in charge here
Hard = I'm called to love like Christ and we are both co-heirs.

Our wives deserve our holy accountability

1 Peter 3:7 - *...so that your prayers may not be hindered.*

If you do not embrace your role to lead like Jesus and die for your wife like Jesus, God does not pick up the line.

Our faith is not siloed in your life.

We must not be two-faced before God or others.
We cannot live a holy life if we are neglecting, abusing, or overlooking our wives, passively or actively.

Life not ordered, prayers not ordered.

Your marriage is not just about you. Your marriage is to draw from and show the gospel. Your marriage is about God and his glory.

Genesis 1:26-27 - Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 2:18-25 - Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Ephesians 5:22-24 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Ephesians 5:25-31 - Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

Ephesians 5:32-33 - This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Colossians 4:5-6 - Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.