



UPON THIS ROCK

Upon This Rock Series

Part 4

April 16, 2023

Upon This Rock I Will Build My Marriage

Healthy Churches, Healthy Marriages, Healthy Families

1. Upon This Rock I Will Build My Marriage Because The Lord Established The Perimeters Thereof!

- a. 1 Corinthians 11:2-3, **“² Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you. ³ But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.”**

- b. Healthy leadership always leads to healthy organizations and the same can be said of the Home; when there is healthy leadership and support of the structure of leadership then the home will be healthy and whole. Proper Order in the Home Produces Powerful Outcomes.
- c. Church, Authority flows from the Head down and as such is the point outlined in the Scriptures. Christ is the head of the Man and the Man is the head of the wife. This is clearly and appropriately determined by the Scriptures and yet our society seeks to destroy this construct stating that it is antiquated and moot.
- d. Friends, our society can produce whatever ideology that it seeks to portray but these same ideologies are only applicable in a peaceful and prosperous society. Times of difficulty immediately destroy these social constructs and things return back to the way God designed them. (Ukrainian War)
- e. The Father established the Man, the Husbandman, as the Head of the Home but the home is out of order when there are two heads; anything with two heads is a Monster. My question for all of us today is this, “Is your house in order?” If not, its time to get your home in step with the Scriptures.

- f. Remember, it is upon this rock that we can build our marriages because it is the Lord, and not the world around us, that has established the perimeters thereof.

2. Upon This Rock I Will Build My Marriage Because Intimacy Was Created And Commanded By God!

- a. 1 Corinthians 7:1-5, “Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.”² But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.³ The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.⁴ For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.⁵ Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”
- b. There are three primary points that Paul makes in this passage of Scripture:

- i. Each man should have his own wife and each woman should have her own husband.
 - ii. The husband should give conjugal rights to his wife and the wife should reciprocate in the same manner.
 - iii. The wife does not have authority over her body but rather the husband does and likewise the husband does not have authority over his body but rather the wife does.
 - iv. Seems easy enough right?
- c. But far too many marriages put their intimacy on the back burner (**NOT A PRIORITY**) or they use intimacy as a tool to manipulate their spouse or control one another.
- d. If you are doing this to your spouse, you are in error. Period.
“Well I can’t believe that you are bringing this up in a sermon”.
I’m either going to address it in a counseling session or a sermon so I’d rather address it here and help everyone because I am assured that what I am going to speak into today will impact us all.
- e. Church, why would you ever seek to use something that God created to be a blessing in marriage as a weapon to harm the very person that you stood before God and made a covenant with?

- f. Far too many marriages put their intimacy on the back burner and just expect their marriages to last; ladies and gentlemen, we are failing our families because we are failing in our marriages. Your intimacy should be a daily practice and not be a monthly or yearly visitation. (SELAH)
- g. Friends, intimacy with your spouse should be a regularly scheduled priority and not an option; it should NOT be a rare occasion, it should NEVER be predicated as a reward system and it should NEVER EVER be used to control your spouse.
- h. You must keep your spouse and their needs as priority or the enemy will capitalize on that need and exploit it. Remember the Words of Paul in 1 Corinthians 7:5, the Apostle Paul declares, “⁵Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”
- i. Wives, if you use intimacy as a means of manipulating, controlling, or punishing your husband then you are practicing witchcraft in your home.

- j. Husbands, if you use intimacy as a means of manipulating, controlling, or punishing your wife then you are practicing witchcraft in your home. That is based in Manipulation and Leveraging which has its roots in Witchcraft.
- k. Women of God, get your house in order. Stop depriving your husband; come together again so that Satan doesn't find an inroad to destroy your marriage!
- l. Men of God, get your house in order. Stop depriving your wife; come together again so that Satan doesn't find an inroad to destroy your marriage!
- m. Remember that Upon This Rock I Will Build My Marriage Because Intimacy Was Created By God and is meant to be enjoyed and not weaponized!

3. Upon This Rock I Will Build My Marriage Because Without Jesus, My Marriage Will Not Be Fruitful!

- a. Ephesians 5:25-28, ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ 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.²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.”

- b. I have heard it said in jest that the Man may be the Head but the Woman is the Neck that turns the head; I would have to admit that even I have stated this in casual conversation. But I would like to repent of this statement and share what the Lord has shared with me.
- c. Church, the woman is the not the neck that turns the man's head; the woman is the crown of the man and upon such, the woman rests upon the authority of the man and the woman is the man's responsibility.
- d. The improper description of the woman being the neck seems to suggest notates that the woman manipulates the head and has undermining control; this is simply not what should be practiced nor accepted. Men, your wife is your crown; she is not meant nor designed to be your handler.
- e. My wife is my crown; and with such crown, comes responsibilities of bearing the crown (I bare the weight of my wife because she took MY name / I did not take hers) Men when she took your name, you took her as your responsibility.

- f. One who bears a crown understands that it is the crown that is a symbol of responsibility but true authority lies within the throne and not the crown. And it is with this in mind, that I want to refer us back to our text.
- g. 1 Corinthians 11:3, **“³ But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.”**
- h. Christ is the head of the Man when the Man has been seated in Christ (enthroned upon His authority through redemption) and the woman (the crown) rests upon the man and under the man’s authority and responsibility. Men, your authority is from Christ and your responsibility is to your woman.
- i. Now you all understand why have spoken upon the matters that I have today... it is the Lord who has established the perimeters of the unity of marriage and the positions of authority of which comes with such function. The Man is the head of the home and with this headship comes the ultimate responsibility to lead, guide, and provide.
- j. But it’s not all on the man; the woman has responsibilities to the man and to the home. And if we seek to change what God has ordained then we are an enemy of God.

- k. Regarding intimacy, it is the Lord who designed it, commanded it in Genesis 2, and expects us to tend to the needs of intimacy of our spouse; if your spouse is not your primary objective then your objectives are out of order.
- l. And lastly, if the man is in Christ (godly leadership) and the woman is her man's crown (godly submission and support), Oh what a glorious marriage you will have. Friends, I am not perfect at this nor am I claiming to be; I am simply encouraging you all, as Paul said, follow me as I follow Christ.
- m. All things involving marriage begin with healthy communion and as such, we will conclude our time together today with communion as a church family but also as individual families who today will commit to make Christ and our spouse the two priorities of our daily lives... (communion)