



**The Messiah**

**We**

**Didn't**

**Expect**



# God's Design, and Marriage

## Mark 10:1-16

Mar 10:1-16 And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them. 2 And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" 3 He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" 4 They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away." 5 And Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. 6 But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 7 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, 8 and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. 9 What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate." 10 And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. 11 And he said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, 12 and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." 13 And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. 14 But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. 15 Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." 16 And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

### Mark 10:1-16 Gods Design, and Marriage

- The text tells us Jesus had a custom, what was it?
- The Pharisees did more than ask a question, what did they do?!
- Marriages don't always end "happily ever after", Does Jesus allow for divorce?

- Jesus referenced Moses, how did they play games with their words?
- What did Jesus say was the real root of the problem?
- Jesus then directed them to what precedent?
- What powerful lessons did Jesus teach, indirectly?
- Why would the Disciples turn the children away?
- What does it say that Jesus loved the children?
- What is the overall point of our passage today?

# Mark 10:1-16



**Deu 24:5 KJV** When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: [but] he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.

**Deu 24:5 ESV** "When a man is newly married, he shall not go out with the army or be liable for any other public duty. He shall be free at home one year to be happy with his wife whom he has taken.

## **In last days Forbidden Marriage and Freely marrying will be evident**

**[Mat 24:37-39 ESV]** 37 For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, 39 and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

**[1Ti 4:1 ESV]** 1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,

**[1Ti 4:3 ESV]** 3 who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

# Pharisees came...in order to test him

- Mark 3:2 – And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him.
- Mark 8:11 – The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. (vs 15)

**Mar 10:1 ...And again, as was his custom, he taught them.**

**The Pharisees weren't seeking the truth or love, they were seeking to malign**

**The goal was to adversely affect Jesus' popularity! (What answer would they have given?)**

**Remember, worshippers will surrender to Gods will/teaching. The World will reject it!**

[Mar 8:15 ESV] 15 And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."

[Mat 9:34 ESV] 34 But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

[Mat 12:10 ESV] 10 And a man was there with a withered hand. And they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"--so that they might accuse him.

[Mat 15:12 ESV] 12 Then the disciples came and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?"

[Mat 16:1 ESV] 1 And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven.

[Mat 22:23 ESV] 23 The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question,

[Mat 23:13 ESV] 13 "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.

[Luk 5:30 ESV] 30 And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

[Luk 6:7 ESV] 7 And the scribes and the Pharisees watched him, to see whether he would heal on the Sabbath, so that they might find a reason to accuse him.

[Luk 7:30 ESV] 30 but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.)

[Luk 11:39, 53-54 ESV] 39 And the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. ... 53 As he went away from there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to press him hard and to provoke him to speak about many things, 54 lying in wait for him, to catch him in something he might say.

[Luk 16:14 ESV] 14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him.

[Jhn 7:32, 48] The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him. ... 48 Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in him?

[Jhn 11:47, 57 ESV] 47 So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ... 57 Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

### **Marks account with Pharisees:**

**[Mar 1:23, 27 ESV]** 23 And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ... 27 And they were all amazed, so that **they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."**

**[Mar 2:6-7 ESV]** 6 Now **some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts,** 7 "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins

but God alone?“

**[Mar 2:16 ESV] 16 And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"**

**[Mar 2:24 And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?"**

**[Mar 3:2 ESV] 2 And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him.**

**[Mar 3:22 ESV] 22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." vs.29 blasphemy**

**[Mar 7:5-6 ESV] 5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" 6 And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;**

**[Mar 8:11 ESV] 11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him.**

**[Mar 8:12 ESV] 12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation."**

**[Mar 8:15 ESV] 15 And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."**

[Mar 12:28 ESV] 28 And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

**[Mat 16:1 ESV] 1 And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven.**

**[Mat 22:35 ESV] 35 And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.**

**[Jhn 8:6 ESV] 6 This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.**

[1Co 10:9 ESV] **9 We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents,**

[Mat 4:7 ESV] 7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, '**You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.**'"

[Act 15:10 ESV] 10 Now, therefore, why are you **putting God to the test** by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear?

# Pharisees came...in order to test him

- Pharisees tested Him! – Matthew 16:1, 22:35; John 8:6; Mark 8:11, 10:2





**Genesis opens with God creating Marriage for man!**

**The NT opens with Jesus attending a wedding, invited, and doing His 1st miracle! Or 2nd? Marriage, is a miracle**

**[Jhn 2:1-2 ESV] 1 On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples.**

**The church is the Bride of Christ!!**

**[Isa 61:10 ESV] 10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, **as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.****

**[Isa 62:5 ESV] 5 For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.**

**[Mat 9:15] And Jesus said to them, "**Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.****

**[Mat 22:2-4, 8-12 ESV] 2 "**The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding****

**feast for his son, 3 and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. 4 Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.'" ... 8** Then he said to his servants, **'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9** Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' 10 And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. 11 "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. 12 And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.

[**Mat 25:1, 7, 11** ESV] 1 "Then **the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ... 7** Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ... 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'

[**Luk 12:36** ESV] 36 and **be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once** when he comes and knocks.

[**Jhn 3:29-30** ESV] 29 The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. **The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.**" (John the Baptist)

[**Eph 5:23-29, 32** ESV] 23 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. 24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. 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. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just **as Christ does the church, ... 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.**

**[Rev 19:7-9 ESV] 7 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; 8 it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"-- for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. 9 And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."**

**found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth."**

# “lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”

- Marriage is God’s Design and gift, 1<sup>st</sup> Institution
- Remember the “Mystery of Marriage”!  
– Ephesians 5:31-33
- It is a covenant! More than a contract!



**1st Institution = Before Parents/Family, Before Ethnicities, Gov’ts, Temple or Church**

**Did you know you have been Institutionalized?**

**[Eph 5:31-33 ESV] 31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.**

Marriage is a 3 way covenant! God is more than a witness, He is the Officiant (I'm just His spokesman)

**though she is your companion and your wife by covenant**

**Few relationships or life questions are as personal, painful and ‘permanent’ as Marriage. Both sides always feel justified!**

**Mal.2:2 if you will not take it to heart...lay it to heart...5 He stood in awe of my name.**

**[Mal 2:10-11 ESV] 10 Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we**

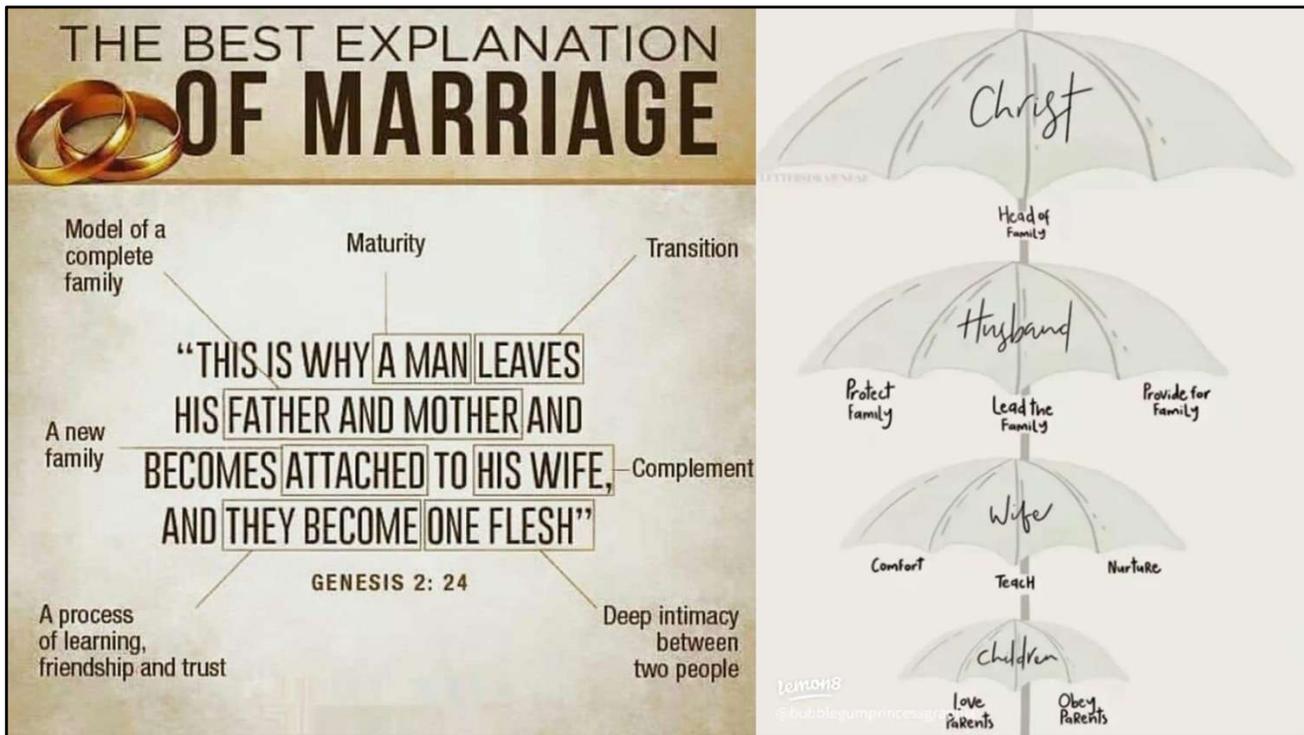
**faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our fathers? 11 Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god.**

**[Mal 2:13-15 ESV] 13 And this second thing you do. You cover the LORD's altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. 14 But you say, "Why does he not?" Because the LORD was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. 15 Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth.**

## “lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”

- Malachi 2:14 – But you say, “Why does he not?”  
Because the LORD was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.





**Model of a Complete family – Father and Mother**

**Maturity – A Man, not a child or merely a procreator**

**Transition – Leaves**

**Complement – His Wife**

**Deep Intimacy – One Flesh**

**A process of learning, friendship and trust – They become**

**A new family - Attached**

**The Umbrella of Gods design and protection**

# Jesus takes Bible/Genesis Literally

- “What did Moses command?” Torah! – Matthew 5:17-20
- Mark 10:6 – But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made the male and female.’
  - Creation (Not Evolution!)
  - Only 2 Genders! Not 70+ OR transgenders!
  - Monogamous Heterosexual marriage! Not SS
  - God officiated the 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, Jesus attended one (John 2)



[Mar 10:3 ESV] 3 He answered them, "What did Moses command you?"

- **Creation (Not Evolution!),**
- **Only 2 Genders!, not 70+ or 100's! OR transgenders!**
- **Monogamous Heterosexual marriage! Not HOMO**

[Mat 5:17-21 ESV] 17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.'

[Jhn 2:1-3, 11 ESV] 1 On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. 3 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ... 11 This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.



Jn.2 Jesus in Cana

# Why Marriage?

- Co-laborers for Christ; Genesis 2:18 – ‘make him a helper’
- Companionship; Genesis 2:18 – ‘not good that the man should be alone’
- Childbearing; Malachi 2:14 – God seeking? Godly offspring

**Co-laborers for Christ**, Partners in Ministry, Gen.2:15, 18 “a fit Helper”, keep the garden

Westminster confession Soli Deo Gloria

Ecc 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

**Companionship** – Not good for man to be alone, Proverbs. 18:24, 31. Eccl.4:6-12

Best friends – completion, rib: from man, caring,

Gen 2:18 Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

**Childbearing, Procreation,**

**Godly seed, Malachi 2, spread of the Gospel**

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.

Mal 2:14-15 But you say, “Why does he not?” Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to

the wife of your youth.

**Caress, Sex, Pleasure**, 1 Cor 7, Prov. 4,5,6 , SOS, “Knew” his wife, Gen.4:1

Pro 5:15-19 Drink water from your own cistern,  
flowing water from your own well. Let your fountain be blessed,  
and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe.  
Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight;  
be intoxicated always in her love.

Gen 4:1 Now Adam **knew** Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.”

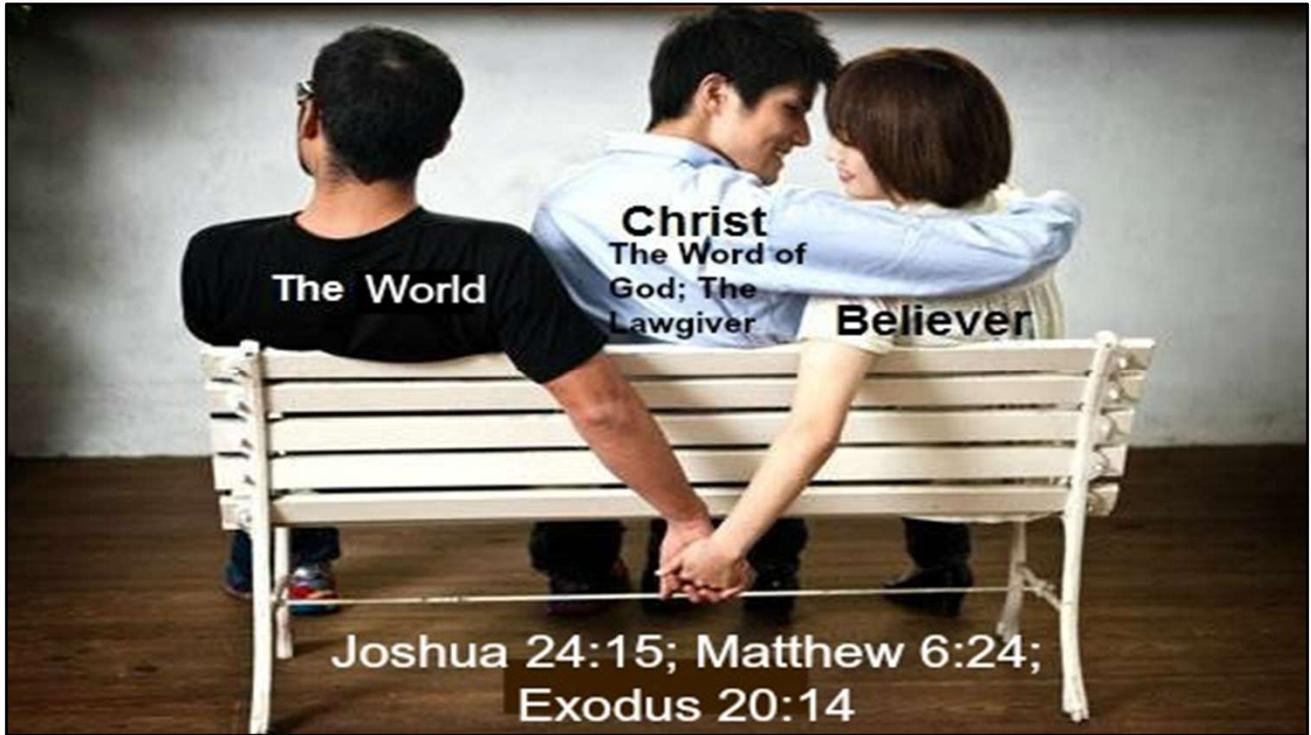
**Charity/Love/Romance**, commanded! Last, most superior 1 Cor 13

Pro 30:18-19 Three things are too wonderful for me;  
four I do not understand: the way of an eagle in the sky,  
the way of a serpent on a rock,  
the way of a ship on the high seas,  
and the way of a man with a virgin.

# Why Marriage?

- Caress/Sex, Pleasure; Genesis 4:1 – Adam knew Eve his wife
- Charity/Love/Romance; Ephesians 5:25 – as Christ loved!





# Marriage exhibits God's love for us!

- Sin is spiritual adultery! – James 4:4-5
- God Loved/Divorced/Remarried Israel/Judah – Jeremiah 3
- Jesus is the Groom, the Church His Bride! – Ephesians 5
- The Prophet Hosea loved Gomer a Prostitute!
- Ruth the Moabitess was Loved by Boaz! Redemptive!!
- Love Never Fails/Ends! (Agape love, not Eros)

## Scandalous love

[Exo 20:4-6 ESV] 4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

[Mat 6:24 ESV] 24 "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

[Jas 4:4 ESV] 4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

[Jer 9:2 ESV] 2 Oh that I had in the desert a travelers' lodging place, that I might leave my people and go away from them! For they are all adulterers, a company of treacherous men.

[Hos 3:1 ESV] 1 And the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins."

[1Jo 2:15-16 ESV] 15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world--the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life--is not from the Father but is from the world.

SoS, Little foxes, Garden

Prov.2:16-19, ch.5, 6:20-35, ch.7, 9:13-17, 12:4, 18:22, 19:14, ch.31:10-

Eccl. 4:9-12, 7:26-29

**[1Co 13:7-8 ESV] 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.**

**[Rom 8:35-39 ESV] 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." **37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.****

**steadfast love endures forever 26x!!! Plus in 8-10 other psalms**

[Psa 136:1-26 ESV] 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for **his steadfast love endures forever**. 2 Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever; 4 to him who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever; 5 to him who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures forever; 6 to him who spread out the earth above the waters, for his steadfast love endures forever; 7 to him who made the great lights, for his steadfast love endures forever; 8 the sun to rule over the day, for his steadfast love endures forever; 9 the moon and stars to rule over the night, for his steadfast love endures forever; 10 to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, for his steadfast love endures forever; 11 and brought Israel out from among them, for his steadfast love endures forever; 12 with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, for his steadfast love endures forever; 13 to him who divided the Red Sea in two, for his steadfast love endures forever; 14 and made Israel pass through the midst of it, for

his steadfast love endures forever; 15 but overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea, for his steadfast love endures forever; 16 to him who led his people through the wilderness, for his steadfast love endures forever; 17 to him who struck down great kings, for his steadfast love endures forever; 18 and killed mighty kings, for his steadfast love endures forever; 19 Sihon, king of the Amorites, for his steadfast love endures forever; 20 and Og, king of Bashan, for his steadfast love endures forever; 21 and gave their land as a heritage, for his steadfast love endures forever; 22 a heritage to Israel his servant, for his steadfast love endures forever. 23 It is he who remembered us in our low estate, for his steadfast love endures forever; 24 and rescued us from our foes, for his steadfast love endures forever; 25 he who gives food to all flesh, for his steadfast love endures forever. 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.



Rev.17-18 The Great Whore

Rev.19 The Bride of Christ/in white

### **The World is the Harlot!**

**[Rev 17:1-7, 15, 18 ESV] 1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk." 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. 5 And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations." 6 And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her, I marveled greatly. 7 But the angel said to me, "Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. ... 15 And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. ... 18 And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth."**

**[Rev 18:3-7, 23-24 ESV] 3 For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living." 4 Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues; 5 for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. 6 Pay her back as she herself has paid back others, and repay her double for her deeds; mix a double portion for her in the cup she mixed. 7 As she glorified herself and lived in luxury, so give her a like measure of torment and mourning, since in her heart she says, 'I sit as a queen, I am no widow, and mourning I shall never see.' ... 23 and the light of a lamp will shine in you no more, and the voice of bridegroom and bride will be heard in you no more, for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery. 24 And in her was**

# Love or Lust?

- What Drives you? – Jeremiah 2:21-28; Hosea 1-3
- Mark 12:30 – Love the Lord your God with all!!!
- Selflessness (Altruistic) or Selfishness? – Philippians 2
- The Pharisees tried to trap Jesus, He showed them His Love and their harlotry!
- You say, “How have you loved us?” – Malachi 1:2

[Jer 2:24 ESV] 24 a wild donkey used to the wilderness, in her heat sniffing the wind! Who can restrain her lust? None who seek her need weary themselves; in her month they will find her.

**Jer 2:21-28** Yet I planted you a choice vine, wholly of pure seed. How then have you turned degenerate and become a wild vine? 22 Though you wash yourself with lye and use much soap, the stain of your guilt is still before me, declares the Lord GOD. 23 How can you say, 'I am not unclean, I have not gone after the Baals'? **Look at your way in the valley; know what you have done-- a restless young camel running here and there, 24 a wild donkey used to the wilderness, in her heat sniffing the wind! Who can restrain her lust?** None who seek her need weary themselves; in her month they will find her. 25 Keep your feet from going unshod and your throat from thirst. **But you said, 'It is hopeless, for I have loved foreigners, and after them I will go.'** 26 "As a thief is shamed when caught, so the house of Israel shall be shamed: they, their kings, their officials, their priests, and their prophets, 27 **who say to a tree, 'You are my father,' and to a stone, 'You gave me birth.' For they have turned their back to me, and not their face. But in the time of their trouble they say, 'Arise and save us!' 28 But where are your gods that you made for yourself? Let them arise, if they can save you, in your time of trouble;** for as many as your cities are your gods, O Judah.

[**Hos 1:2-3** ESV] 2 When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD." 3 So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

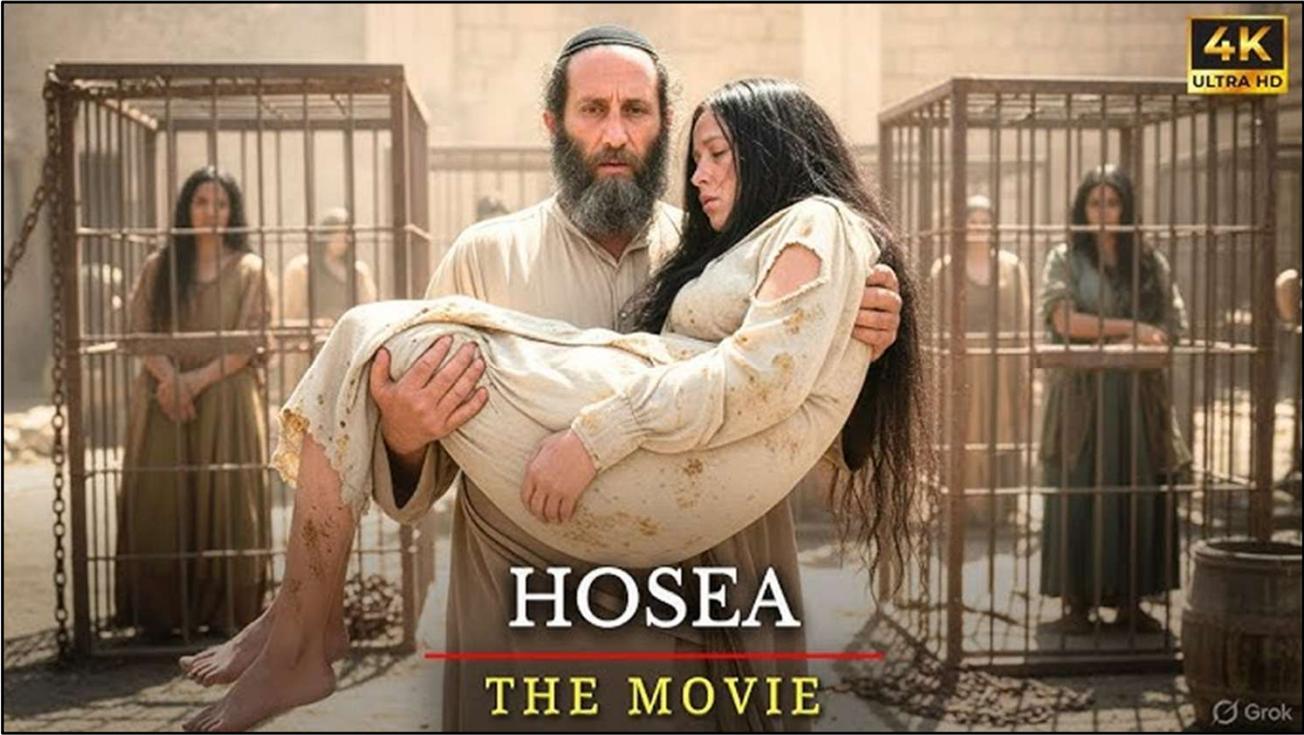
[**Hos 3:1-3** ESV] 1 And the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins." 2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley. 3 And I said to her, "You must dwell as mine for many days. You shall not play the whore, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you."

[**Hos 2:2-3, 5-8, 10-16, 18-20, 23** ESV] 2 "Plead with your mother, plead-- for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband-- that she put away her whoring from her face, and her adultery from between her breasts; 3 lest I strip her naked and make her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and make her like a parched land, and kill her with thirst. ... 5 For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.' 6 Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths. 7 She shall pursue her lovers but not overtake them, and she shall seek them but shall not find them. Then she shall say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now.' 8 And she did not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the wine, and the oil, and who lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal. ... 10 Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and no one shall rescue her out of my hand. 11 And I will put an end to all her mirth, her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, and all her appointed feasts. 12 And I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees, of which she said, 'These are my wages, which my lovers have given me.' I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall devour them. 13 And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals when she burned offerings to them and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry, and went after her lovers and forgot me, declares the LORD. 14 "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. 15 And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt. 16 "And in that day, declares the LORD, you will call me 'My Husband,' and no longer will you call me 'My Baal.' ... 18 And I will make for them a covenant on that day with the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and I will make you lie down in safety. 19 And I will betroth you to

me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. 20 I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD. ... 23 and I will sow her for myself in the land. And I will have mercy on No Mercy, and I will say to Not My People, 'You are my people'; and he shall say, 'You are my God.'”

[Mar 12:30 ESV] 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’

Mal 1:1-2 The oracle of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi. 2 "I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob





**It was a picture of God's love for His people.**

