LESSONS

From The King A SERIES ON MARRIAGE

Covenant Love in Marriage

"I have loved you," says the LORD. "But you ask, 'How have you loved us?' "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals."

Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish. They will be called the Wicked Land, a people always under the wrath of the LORD. You will see it with your own eyes and say, 'Great is the LORD—even beyond the borders of Israel!'

"A son honors his father, and a slave his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?" says the LORD Almighty. "It is you priests who show contempt for my name. "But you ask, 'How have we shown contempt for your name?' "By offering defiled food on my altar. "But you ask, 'How have we defiled you?' "By saying that the LORD's table is contemptible.

When you offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong? When you sacrifice lame or diseased animals, is that not wrong? Try offering them to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you?" says the LORD Almighty. "Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors so that you would not light useless fires on my altar!

I am not pleased with you," says the LORD Almighty, "and I will accept no offering from your hands. My name will be great among the nations from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place, incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty.

Two Questions

1. What sacrifice are you bringing to your marriage?

2. Is it a biblical/God-ordained Covenant or a human contract?

Covenant Love

- Contract
- We protect our rights and limit our responsibilities
- Covenant
- We give up our rights and we pick up our responsibilities.

God is Madly, obsessively in love with you

God's covenant with us has not changed. He loves us

What is covenant love in marriage?

Colossians 3:18

Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Colossians 3:18-19

Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

Mark 10:6-9

"But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. 'So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

What is covenant love in marriage?

- It's a relentless pursuit of your spouse
- No matter what
- Jesus, pursues the disciples, just as God pursued the nation of Israel in O.T.
- A relentless pursuit and love of your spouse from the altar on your wedding day until you die.

Josh's top 10 Practical Rules to have or develop covenant love in your marriage

Top 10 10. Understand that you will get offended in your marriage

- Luke 17 – Offenses will come

Top 10

9. Never let an argument end up with one of you on the couch

- Ephesians 4:26-27 – in your anger, do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry. And do not give the devil a foothold.

Top 10

8. Allow your spouse to have a time to cool off after a heated argument

7. Make up...

Top 10 6. Don't let the past define the future - 1 Peter 4:8 – "love covers a multitude of sins"

5. Go on Dates!

Top 10

4. Remember your wedding day and all the excitement and anxiety of the future held.

3. Make up...

Top 10

2. Remember how God has pursued you and chooses to love you no matter what.

1. Choose to love your spouse the way God love you.

LESSONS

From The King A SERIES ON MARRIAGE