Sermon

Marriage: A Biblical Perspective *Hebrews 13:4-6*

Jeff Jackson

INTRODUCTION

This morning we are going to begin a series on Marriage & the Family from a Biblical perspective. Fair warning we are going to go places in this series that many will not dare go for fear it will be uncomfortable for either the speaker or the listener, but go there we shall. The reason we have seen such a decline in the family is why we must go there because many have simply avoided the responsibility to teach Biblical principles within the community of the body of Christ on what is true regarding Marriage and the Family.

If we look at many families in the church today they look no different or function no different than the families who don't have Christ. What a sad fact we must accept because we are failing to the world to exemplify Christ in our home as believers. No family will be perfect, but many of us are not even trying to follow the Biblical pattern of the home. We accept less so, therefore, we have less. We wonder why our kids have no respect for the sacredness of marriage because they never found it holy in the home they grew up within. We see many Christians putting on the act, but letting go of the faith.

Paul Harvey, in If I were the Devil

I would convince the young that marriage is old fashioned, that swinging is more fun, that what you see on TV is the way to be, and thus I could undress you in public, and I could lure you into bed with diseases for which there is no cure. In other words, if I were the devil I would just keep on doing what he is doing. (circa 1965)

Marriage is a difficult thing. The Bible even says so...

(Mark Gungor video)

These next few weeks we are going to be looking at the Biblical perspective of marriage and of the family so that we can shed light into our culture by first shedding light into our own homes the foundation of what it means to be a family in God.

Hebrews 13:4-5

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

I. The Sanctity and Sacredness of Marriage

William Shakespeare

God, the best maker of all marriages, Combine your hearts into one.

Genesis 2:23-34

This one, at last, is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called "woman," for she was taken from man.

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh.

II. The Structure of Marriage

Martin Luther

God has set the type of marriage everywhere throughout the creation. Every creature seeks its perfection in another. The very heavens and earth picture it to us.

Whitney Meade

Marriage is such a beautiful relationship and a gift from God. It's God's design, created between a man and a woman.

2 Corinthians 6:14-17

Do not be mismatched with unbelievers. For what partnership is there between righteousness and lawlessness? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness? What agreement does Christ have with Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? And what agreement does God's sanctuary have with idols? For we are the sanctuary of the living God, as God said:

I will dwell among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be My people. Therefore, come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord;

Matthew 7:24-27

"Therefore, everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on the rock. The rain fell, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and pounded that house. Yet it didn't collapse, because its foundation was on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of Mine and doesn't act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, the rivers rose, the winds blew and pounded that house, and it collapsed. And its collapse was great!"

III. The Seal of Marriage

Mark 10:6-9

But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female.

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother [and be joined 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, man must not separate.

IV. The Service of Marriage

Genesis 2:18

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper as his complement."

Pope Francis

Christian marriage is that sacrament which builds up the community of the Church and of society. Marriage has been inscribed in creation's design by God, and, by his grace, countless Christian men and women have lived married life fully.

R.C. Sproul

In Christian marriage, love is not an option. It is a duty.