

THE SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP

MATTHEW 19:4-6, HEBREW 13:4

Matthew 19:4-6

▶ 4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,'[a] 5 and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh' [1]? 6 So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Hebrews 13:4

▶⁴ Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

Exodus 19:12-13, 23-24

▶ 12 Put limits for the people around the mountain and tell them, 'Be careful that you do not approach the mountain or touch the foot of it. Whoever touches the mountain is to be put to death. 13 They are to be stoned or shot with arrows; not a hand is to be laid on them. No person or animal shall be permitted to live.' Only when the ram's h23 Moses said to the LORD, "The people cannot come up Mount Sinai, because you yourself warned us, 'Put limits around the mountain and set it apart as holy.""

²⁴ The LORD replied, "Go down and bring Aaron up with you. But the priests and the people must not force their way

GENESIS 2:18-24

- ▶ 18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."
- ▶ ¹¹ Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²¹ So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.
- But for Adam^[a] no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs^[a] and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a

GENESIS 2:18-24

- ▶²³ The man said,
- "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."
 - ²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

GENESIS 39:7-10

- ⁷ and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"
- ▶ 8 But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. 9 No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" 10 And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even he with her

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- ▶ (4) The immediate results of Joseph's actions were painful, but the ultimate outcome was the blessing of God.

Exodus 20:14, Deuteronomy 5:18

"You shall not commit adultery"

Exodus 22:16-17 - A man who seduces a virgin must marry her or pay the price of a virgin's dowry.

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- ► <u>Leviticus 18</u> Israel is to distinguish herself from practices of Egypt and Canaan by maintaining sexual purity (vss. 3,24-30). Uncovering the nakedness of a relative is prohibited (vss.6-18), as well as illicit intercourse (vss. 19-23). Sexual sin defiles the people (vss. 24,30) and the land (vss. 25,27,28), resulting in expulsion from the land.

- Exodus 22:16-17 -
- Leviticus 18 -.
- Leviticus 20 Israel is not to "play the harlot" by consulting mediums or spiritists, but they are to consecrate themselves to the God of Israel, who sanctifies them (vss.6-8). Sexual sins and their penalties are spelled out in detail (vss. 10-21). Sanctification is then stressed, so that Israel must not practice the immorality of the Canaanites before them, lest they too be thrust from the land (vss.22-27).

- Exodus 22:16-17 -
- Leviticus 18 -.
- Leviticus 20 -
- Numbers 5 A test is given to determine whether or **not a wife** has been unfaithful to her husband. The consequences of either guilt or innocence are spelled out (vss.11-31).

- Exodus 22:16-17 -
- Leviticus 18 -.
- Leviticus 20 -
- Numbers 5 -
- Deuteronomy 22 When a man accuses his wife of not being a virgin at the time they were married, the parents can show her (blood-stained) garment as proof of her purity. The consequences of guilt or innocence are spelled out (vss.13-21)

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Leviticus 20:6 "As for the person who turns to mediums and spiritists to play the harlot after them, I will also set my face against that person and will cut him off from among his

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- (2) Jesus was speaking to a Jewish audience, while most of the apostles addressed Gentiles.
- (3) The Jewish religious leaders felt highly self righteous because they did not practice this form of sin, but they were guilty of other, more subtle, sins, which were more socially acceptable.

Matthew 5:27-32

> 27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. 31 "It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.' But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a diversed woman commits adultory

Matthew 5:27-32 Matthew 15:19

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- **► Matthew 19:9**
- ▶ I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

▶ (1) The Principle of Sanctification -

- (1) The Principle of Sanctification -
- (2) The Sanctity of Marriage -

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 - ►A. Unity

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 - ►A. Unity
 - ▶B. Intimacy

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 - A. Unity
 - ▶B. Intimacy
 - ►C. Reproduction

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 - ►C. Reproduction
 - D. Fellowship

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(3) The Sanctity of Sex

2 Peter 3:9

"The Lord is not slow in keeping His promises, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting everyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

1Thessalonians 4:16-17

For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

SALVATION PRAYER

Lord, I admit I am a sinner. I need and want your forgiveness. I accept your death as the penalty for my sin, and recognize that your mercy and grace is a gift you offer to me because of your great love, not based on anything I have done. Cleanse me and make me your child. By faith I receive you into my heart as the Son of God and as Saviour and Lord of my life. From now on, help me live for you, with you in control. In your most precious name, Amen.